

13th June 2025

Wherwell Primary School Newsletter

Let's Love To Learn And Thrive



**Whole School
Attendance as at:**

13.6.25 96.7%

Target: 97%

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the final half term of the year which is always an incredibly busy one. Yet again we have had a wonderful couple of weeks here at school with the children continuing to demonstrate their fantastic learning behaviours and their enthusiasm for school life. The allotment has burst into life with our radishes, courgettes and lettuces doing particularly well. The challenge now is for the children to remember to water their plants!



Some national assessments have been taking place this week with our Year 4s undertaking the Multiplication Tables Check - 25 questions with 6 seconds allowed for each. I was so impressed at how they approached the test and it was so obvious that every one of them wanted to do their absolute best to demonstrate their knowledge. Year 1 have been working very hard on their Phonics in preparation for the phonics screening check - reading 40 words. This is also the case for any pupils in Year 2 who did not score above the pass threshold last year. As you know, at Wherwell we prioritise reading and every effort goes into supporting children with their phonics as it is the bedrock of reading and writing. The results of both of these assessments, as well as the Year 6 SATs will be shared with you before the end of the year. Don't forget to continue to encourage your children to use Times Table rock Stars to secure these fundamental number facts.



SPORTS DAY

Currently children are busy practising for our Sport's Day which is always a fun test of resilience and teamwork. We hope you can join us on Friday 27th June at 1pm. Gates open at 12.45pm. Refreshments will be available for a small cost. Fingers crossed for good weather!

SUMMER FETE

The date for our school fete is fast approaching. Thank you so much for the offers of help and sponsorship money we have already received. It is not too late to let the PTA know that you can help or that you want to make a donation. The money we receive from PTA events really does make a significant difference to the opportunities and resources we can give your children.

COMPETITION— Brilliant Bugs!

Don't forget to enter our bug sculpting/modelling competition. Entry forms for £1, are available from the school office and there are some fantastic prizes!

Have a lovely weekend, best wishes, Mandy (Head Teacher)



ROBINS



Robins explored our outside environment earlier this week, embarking on a mini-beast hunt around the field and playground. Using magnifying glasses to help them, they found lots of different creatures living around the school!



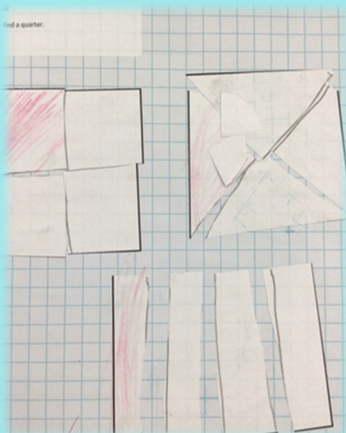
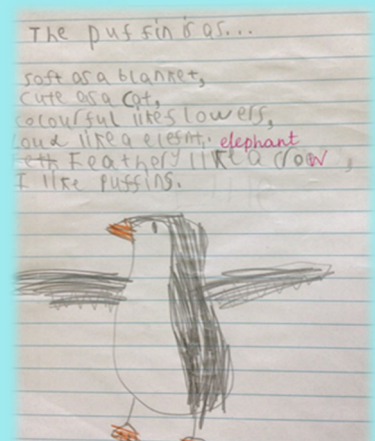
We've been enjoying our last week with our class chicks, Rosie and Charlie. It's been wonderful to see them grow and develop and lots of the children have become much more confident with them, enjoying circle time and even the odd cuddle in their laps.

Next week they will be heading to their new home, where they will no doubt enjoy having more space and lots to explore.



PUFFINS

Puffins have been exploring poetry over the past couple of weeks. We have been sharing poems, listening to poems, writing them and performing them. We have focussed around the topic of birds and have so far produced a shape poem about birds, a simile poem about puffins and an acrostic poem about penguins or toucans!



In Maths we have been looking at fractions and splitting things into halves and quarters. We have also been finding a quarter or half of a quantity.



KINGFISHERS

Kingfishers were very excited to receive a delivery last week containing an exciting egg. We imagined what we thought might be inside the egg and used the rest of the clues in the box to help us.

This box introduced us to our new story 'The Water Horse' by Dick King-Smith which we have really been enjoying so far. We are looking forward to writing our own narratives using this story as our inspiration.



We have also been working on our role playing skills, taking on a character and using our inference skills to decide what we think they would say and how we think they would act.

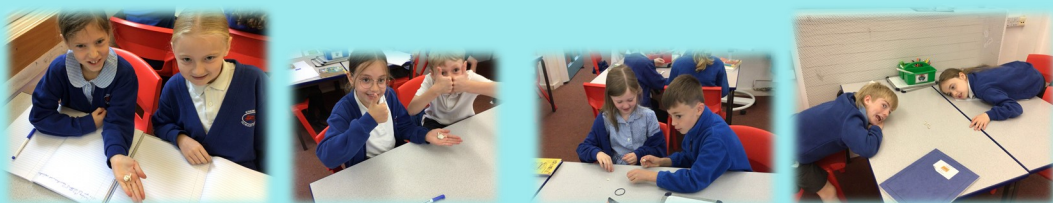


SPARROWHAWKS

At the end of last half term, Sparrowhawks went to the watercress railway line and had a great time taking a trip on the railway and exploring what life was like when the railway line was built.

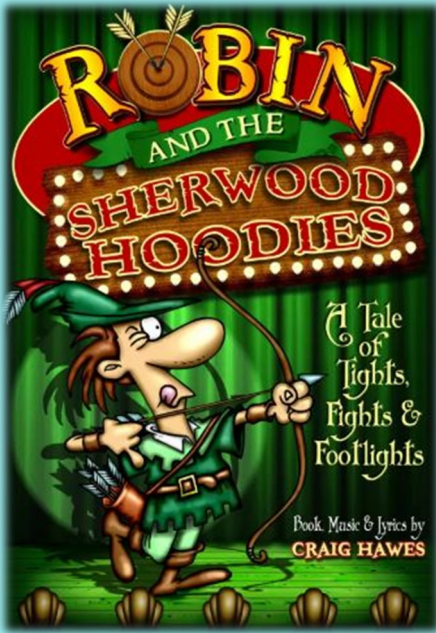


Back in the classroom, the excitement continued as we dived into our new English book, *The Night Gardener*. This magical story follows a mysterious gardener who transforms a gloomy village with incredible topiary creations, bringing hope and happiness to its people. To spark their imaginations and inspire their writing, the Sparrowhawks became artists themselves—crafting their own enchanting mini sculptures!





HOUSE MARTINS



This week in Housemartins the Year 6s have been away on residential at Runways End, so it has just been Year 5 with multiple teachers, including Mrs Shahinian, Mrs Hill, Mrs Tully and Mrs Creese. We have been working in groups on presentations about ancient civilisations. These include the Ancient Maya, Ancient Egyptians, Shang Dynasty and the Ancient Suma.

We have also been rehearsing for the Housemartins and Sparrowhawk's play, Robin Hood & the Sherwood Hoodies (see poster opposite). Mrs Elmslie has been teaching us the songs for our show, which both year groups have been loving so far!

Written by Grace and Noah



Safeguarding Concern

Hampshire County Council Safeguarding Team have asked us to pass on concerns surrounding this character, called Jeffy, whose videos are easily found on YouTube. The channel behind Jeffy has over five million subscribers and the videos get millions of views. The character is supposed to represent a neuro-divergent child but despite the child-friendly animation style, SaferSchools report finding videos portraying sexual content, nudity and other inappropriate material. You can view SaferSchools' information on the subject by using the link below. We have also added this link under the On-line safety section of our website which you will find under the Parent tab. You will find details of what to do if you suspect your child may have viewed these videos.

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2023/11/09/safeguarding-update-youtube-cartoon-jeffy/>

My Happy Mind

On a more positive note, the children are coming home this evening with their own QR code to access the My Happy Mind Parent App. Here you will find tips, tricks and activities to help boost a positive mind set and improve self-esteem and confidence. This is a real opportunity to spend some quality time with your child, or perhaps your child and an older sibling could use a bonding moment? Please do dig the card out of your child's book bag this weekend, sit with your child while they explore the app and stick the QR code on the fridge ready for next time you all need a moment of calm, connection, or a positivity boost.



Play Park Fundraiser



All documented on Instagram. You can find the posts and videos by searching for Wherwell Royals

Over 200km covered and over £1,000 raised towards improving our play park but we'd love to raise more and you can still donate:

If you can then please head to GoFundMe and search: Wherwell Playing Fields Fundraiser

Adam's Fundraiser

We are all in awe of what Adam Faye is doing to raise extra money for the Wherwell Playing Fields which also benefits the school. If you have a couple of minutes and a few pennies to spare, please do donate (see poster opposite). If you prefer to donate cash, drop it into the school office and we'll make sure it finds its way to Adam. Keep up the great work Adam!

(Editor...I'm off for a little down after just thinking about what Adam's body is going through!)

Friends of Wherwell School Fundraisers

Analysis of the Government spending review on Wednesday indicates that schools will receive a real terms funding increase of only 0.9% per pupil. Fundraising has always been used to boost school budgets but in recent years has become an increasingly essential element of schools financial planning. Every pound helps, so your support of the Friends of Wherwell School and the events they organise are much appreciated! Why not get your child to have a go at the Brilliant Bugs competition opposite? We loved the creativity of the egg competition at Easter time and can't wait to see what the children have up their sleeves for this one - we're sure they will be *un-bee-lievably* brilliant!

To celebrate brilliant bugs this summer we are holding a bug sculpting/modelling competition! To enter, children need to make a bug using whichever medium they prefer, for ex. clay, wire, fabric, cardboard, wood etc. Prizes awarded for the best bugs as follows:

- A Lola Beautiful Bugs art set for the overall winner in KS1 & KS2
- 1st prize for each class - £10 voucher for Waterstones
- 2nd & 3rd prize for each class - watercolour paint sets

Entry forms available from the school office for £1 following half term and these forms need to be returned with your entry. The competition closing date is Monday 7th July, prizes awarded before the end of term.

Additional Notes:

1. We would like the models to be permanent (so no play-doh please!)
2. The model should be no bigger than an average shoe box.
3. Could models be submitted inside a box to protect them and ensure they do not get damaged when they travel to and from the school site for judging.



KS1 athletics

A massive well done to the KS1 Athletics Team who came 3rd against six schools within our cluster. Everyone showed great resilience and got to participate in running, standing long jump, throwing, javelin and an obstacle course. A massive thank you to the parents who helped transport us to and from King's Somborne



Free & Discounted Drama Opportunities

Confidence Building Fun

Try a Free Drama Class

— This is a fab class! It was mentioned at Katie's parents' evening that her confidence in class seems to have grown so I am delighted. Jane Spurgeon



Try Perform for free and claim a £40 discount

Today, your child took part in a Perform drama, dance and singing workshop – a unique mix of activities designed to bring out every child's true potential.

Our small classes ensure lots of individual attention by our experienced teachers – hand-picked for their warmth, energy and professionalism. They'll focus on your child's engagement in the activities rather than their precision, and be with them every step of the way to guide, inspire and encourage.

As well as having fun at Perform, your child will enjoy real benefits: greater confidence, improved concentration and an increased awareness of what they can achieve.



perform.org.uk



Your nearest Perform venues

See more at perform.org.uk/venues

Perform Andover

Mondays at 4pm
Andover Leisure Centre, West Street, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 1QP

Perform Winchester

Saturdays at 9.30am and 11.15am
Holy Trinity Parish Church, Upper Brook Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8DG

Perform Winchester

Thursdays at 4pm and 5.05pm
Holy Trinity Parish Church, Upper Brook Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8DG

Perform Chandlers Ford

Mondays at 4pm
Chandlers Ford Methodist Church, Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, SO53 2GJ

Perform Romsey

Tuesdays at 4pm
United Abbey Reform Church, The Abbey Hall, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8EL

Your £40 introductory discount

Your child can enjoy a free trial class at any Perform venue. Sign up on or before the expiry date to claim your special discount. Call 020 7255 9120 or visit perform.org.uk/free

DISCOUNT CODE

WHER200625

EXPIRY DATE

20-Jun-25

The discount code cannot be applied retrospectively. Visit perform.org.uk for full terms and conditions.

020 7255 9120

Diary Dates

Activity	Date
Robins Trip to Hillier Gardens	Friday 20th June
New Year R Stay and Play Session 1	Wednesday 25th June, 1:30pm - 2:30pm
Non Uniform Day in exchange for a bottle for the school fete	Thursday 26th June
Sports Day	Friday 27th June
Speak out and stay safe NSPCC (Year 2)	Tuesday 1st July, 1:15-1:45pm
Speak out and stay safe NSPCC (Years 5 & 6)	Tuesday 1st July, 2-3pm
Summer Music Concert - Instrumentalists , choir, recorders and orchestra. Parents of performers are welcome	Wednesday 2nd July, 2:00pm
New Year R Stay and Play Session 2	Wednesday 2nd July, 1:30pm - 2:30pm
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 2nd July, 3:30 - 7pm
Parents' Evening	Thursday 3rd July, 3:30 - 5:30
Summer Fete	Sunday 6th July
New Year R Stay and Play Session 3	Wednesday 9th July, 1:30pm - 2:30pm
Year R to Year 5— Moving On sessions	Wednesday 9th July 1pm - 2.50pm
Sparrowhawks/Housemartins—dress rehearsal to whole school	Thursday 10th July
Inset Day	Monday 14th July
Sparrowhawks/Housemartins performance to parents	Tuesday 15th July, 6pm
Sparrowhawks/Housemartins performance to parents	Wednesday 16th July, 6pm
Year 6 Parents v. Year 6 Children Rounders	Thursday 17th July, 1:30pm
Year 6 Leaver's Assembly, Year 6 parents only	Friday 18th July, 2.15pm
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 22nd July