

Whole School

Attendance as at:

30.1.26: 96.3%

Target: 97%

30th January 2026

Wherwell Primary School

Newsletter

Let's Love To Learn And Thrive Together



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by thanking you for the many kind congratulatory messages we have received following the publication of last academic year's Key Stage 2 results. We were very pleased and proud to see that these outcomes place Wherwell Primary School among the higher-performing primary schools nationally.

In 2025, 100% of pupils met the expected standard in Reading, 93% in Writing, and 93% in Maths, with 93% meeting the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined. These results reflect the sustained effort of our children, the dedication of our staff, and the continued support of our families. We also recognise that attainment data is just one measure of the rich and balanced education we strive to provide.

It has always been my goal and ambition that children at Wherwell Primary School achieve well academically while also developing as confident, well-rounded individuals. It is a genuine pleasure to move in and out of classrooms each day and see children so focused, engaged and absorbed in their learning, making clear progress and taking pride in their achievements. We aim to offer every child a wide range of experiences, including opportunities in sport, the arts, outdoor learning and the wider community, so that they not only succeed in the classroom but also discover their interests, build resilience and enjoy their learning. We believe that strong academic outcomes are most meaningful when they sit alongside a broad and balanced curriculum that supports the whole child.

Of course, the job is never complete, and I am always thinking of new ways and opportunities to interest the children. New for this year will be a fun week of scientific enquiry as part of National Science Week in March, which we hope will spark curiosity and excitement in every pupil.

At Wherwell, we also believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are vital to ensure children have the best education possible. We recognise that unless pupils attend school, on time every day, they could be vulnerable to underachievement.

What is the impact of good attendance? Good attendance (96-100%) promotes:

Progress and attainment

Social relationships

Emotional wellbeing

Readiness for the next stage in education

Can my child come into school?

It is often the case that children will be prone to coughs and colds at this time of the year. However, they can still attend school in most cases. The main illnesses that result in a child needing to spend time at home are:

- High temperature (38.0 c or above)
- Diarrhoea or Vomiting – can return 48 hours after last bout
- Tonsillitis – return after fever has gone
- Impetigo – return once lesions are crusted or healed, or two days after starting antibiotics
- Chicken Pox – return after all lesions are crusted over (generally 5 days)

If you are unsure if your child should attend school or for information on other illnesses, please contact the school or look at the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/#:~:text=If%20your%20child%20has%20mild,have%20a%20high%20temperature>

I hope everyone manages to stay well.

Have a lovely weekend, best wishes, Mandy (Headteacher)





ROBINS

The Robins had a lovely afternoon recently making clay faces using natural materials on the trees in the orchard. We were very impressed by their creativity!



The children have been very engaged with our Mastering Number maths lessons, and are often found practising what we have learned in their choosing time. This is giving them a fantastic, solid understanding of number.



PUFFINS

In English, the children were very interested to find out what had happened to Mrs Gray's missing scarf. It seemed that it went on an adventure around the school and ended up wrapped around Big Ted in the library! The children have been busy this week writing their own stories about the adventures the scarf went on. They have worked hard to include adjectives to describe the scarf, onomatopoeia words and prepositions.



We have found out this week that we have children in Puffins with super sewing skills! As part of our DT learning unit, the children have been learning how to sew a running stitch. This will help them when they come to make their winter hats next week.



KINGFISHERS



Kingfishers have been very excited about finishing their pouches with Mrs Hill. We have worked hard on our sewing skills to put all the parts together, including a button to fasten it! We are (rightly so!) very proud of all our hard work.

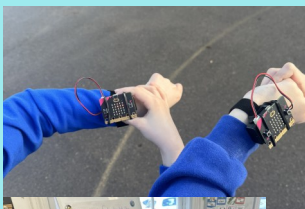


Kingfishers have also been very engaged in our new learning unit about space. We really enjoyed a lesson this week which Tim Peake filmed while he was on the International Space Station. We particularly enjoyed all the tricks he was able to do thanks to zero gravity!



SPARROWHAWKS

In science, we have looked at the effect of gravity on Earth and measured the weight of different objects in newtons.



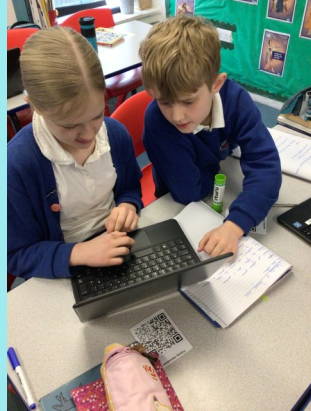
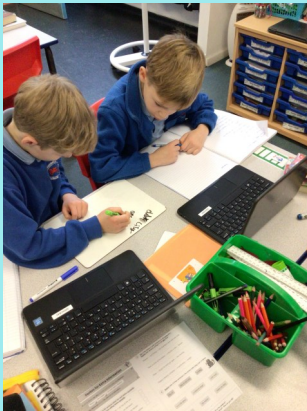
In computing, we have really enjoyed using the micro bits to see what coding can do. Sparrowhawks have been so creative in editing and improving their code. This week, we turned the micro bits into pedometers and ran around the playground to see how many steps we could count.



HOUSE MARTINS

Last week, House Martins really enjoyed exploring various artefacts in our History lessons and thinking critically about what we could learn from them about ancient Greece.

In English, House Martins are working towards writing an information text about ancient Greek city states. This week, we've really enjoyed using our new laptops to carry out research about each of the city states. We've found out some fantastic facts - including about early flushing toilets!



The Big Spell

On Wednesday morning, two Year 3 children and two Year 4 children went to Stockbridge Primary School to take part in their 'Big Spell' event. We were very excited to visit and take part with seven other schools. The children were given spelling lists to learn, and when we got there, we took part in a range of different spelling-themed games.

A large part of the reasoning for this was because spelling is a huge priority for us as it is so vital, not only in our English lessons, but as a life skill. Another reason for this event, was to encourage collaboration between different schools and to work with children who we would not normally encounter. For this reason, our groups were mixed up and we competed with children from some of the other schools in groups of four.

We played a range of games such as hangman, speed spelling, and find the odd one out where we had to identify the word that was spelt wrong in a list but also correct it.

We had a fantastic time at this event, and of course, we also enjoyed the cake that was provided by Stockbridge Primary!

A huge thank you to Mrs Turnbull who not only helped to transport us, but also joined us for the event and found herself in charge of counting up all the scores! Without her help, our children would not have been able to participate.

A huge thank you also goes to the children who participated - Kayleigh, Mirav, Everly and Fergus. They represented us beautifully and their enthusiasm was infectious. Well done Team Wherwell!



BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



Wherwell Primary School

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS (THERE IS NO LIMIT).

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

*The more we weigh the more we pay!
Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit*

Please return your Bag2School on:

Wednesday 4th March 2026 by 9am



01609 780 222



www.bag2school.com



helpdesk@bag2school.com

1940S FEBRUARY AT THE MUSEUM

ARMY FLYING MUSEUM



16th to 20th Feb

make the most of your annual pass and avoid the gloomy weather!

Join us for an action packed half term week of Home Front style activities

Be sure to pick up your ration book and trail when you visit!

DIG FOR VICTORY!

get into the 'dig for victory' spirit and plant your own seeds

WE'LL EAT AGAIN

cookery demonstrations

OBJECT HANDLING

learn about day to day life on the Home Front

RATIONING

would you go hungry?

EVACUEES

what would you pack in your suitcase?

1940S TOUR

advance booking required

Plus - Gramofun and Historic Knits on the 19th

Check out our website for daily activities and timings

armyflying.com 01264 781086



KIMPTON HOLIDAY CAMP



BOOK NOW

EARLY BIRD RATES END MIDNIGHT 1ST FEBRUARY

Kimpton, Thruxton & Fyfield School, Kimpton SP11 8NT

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February

Breakfast Club: 08:00 - 09:00

Camp Day: 09:00 - 15:00

Extended Club: 15:00 - 16:00

Extended Club: 15:00 - 17:30

BOOKINGS FROM £28.50

BOOK ONLINE AT WWW.PHCAMPS.CO.UK

Childcare vouchers & Tax-Free
Childcare payments are accepted.



Young Artists' Summer Show 2026

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4-18 living and studying in the UK.

Students can submit one artwork for consideration which will be judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals. Selected artworks will be displayed at the Royal Academy of Arts either onsite or online. The RA will award prizes for inspiring artworks.

How to enter

From 5 January 2026, teachers will be able to register their school. Next, teachers and parents/guardians can submit artworks via the RA website until 4 March 2026.

Important dates

5 January - 4 March 2026

Registration and submission open

May 2026

Judging

14 July 2026

Online exhibition opens

14 July - 30 August 2026

Display at the RA open

Our school is registered, and parents and carers can now sign up to submit artwork

RA Royal Academy of Arts

Sign up and find out more

royac/youngartists

@royalacademyarts

Made possible by Robin Hambro

Diary Dates

Activity	Date
Kingfishers Trip to Winchester Science Centre	Tuesday 3rd February
SH and HM drama workshop (Ancient Greeks and Ancient Egyptians)	Tuesday 3rd February
House Martins Parent Share	Tuesday 10th February, 2:50pm
Robins Parent Share	Wednesday 11th February, 2:50pm
Sparrowhawks Parent Share	Wednesday 11th February, 2:50pm
Puffins Parent Share - in school hall	Thursday 12th February, 9:00am
Kingfishers Parent Share	Thursday 12th February, 2:50pm
Half Term Holiday	Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February
INSET DAY	Monday 23rd February
Bag2School Collection	Wednesday 4th March
World Book Day - details to follow	Thursday 5th March
Whole School Science Activities	Monday 9th March - Friday 13th March
School Disco	Thursday 19th March
School Reports sent home	Friday 20th March
Optional Parents Evening: regarding reports	Thursday 26th March
Last day of term	Friday 27th March
First Day of Summer term	13th April
Years 4 & 5 Residential Trip to Tile Barn	Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th April
Harewood Forest Run	Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday
Year 6 SATS	Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May
INSET DAY	Friday 22nd May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May
Class photographs	Tuesday 2nd June
Year 6 Residential Trip to Runways End	Monday 8th - Friday 12th June
Year 1 Phonics Screening	Monday 8th - Friday 12th June
INSET DAY	Monday 15th June
Sports Day	Thursday 25th June, pm
Summer Fete	Sunday 28th June
Kingfishers Trip to The Sustainability Centre Petersfield	Monday 29th June
INSET DAY	Monday 6th July
House Martins and Sparrowhawks Performance	Tuesday 14th July 6pm
House Martins and Sparrowhawks Performance	Wednesday 15th July 6pm