

Whole School

Attendance as at:

24.4.26: 96.2%

Target: 97%

24th April 2026

Wherwell Primary School

Newsletter

Let's Love To Learn And Thrive Together



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school, and welcome to the summer term. We hope you had a lovely Easter break. This term we will be making the most of the brighter days and getting outside as much as possible, both on the school site and further afield for some interesting and exciting trips. We have so much to pack into the Summer term and so much to look forward to. Keep an eye on the diary dates on the last page .

Happy retirement Patsy!

I would like to say a massive thank you to Patsy Pritchard, who has retired from Wherwell for the second time! She kindly returned to the office when we needed support and has been truly amazing. Incredibly, Patsy has been at Wherwell since 1997! Patsy has been consistently cheerful, dedicated, and hardworking, making a lasting impact on us all. While it's goodbye from the office, we're delighted that she will continue to be involved with the school in her role as Clerk to the Governors. We hope Patsy enjoys many well-deserved trips away with her husband, Bob, in their campervan, along with more time to relax and pursue her hobbies. Perhaps she will come back and entertain us with her ukulele playing!



Welcome to Mrs Allmark

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Helena Allmark to the admin team. Although this is only her second week, it is already clear that she will fit in wonderfully with the Wherwell team and be a great asset in the office, working alongside Miss Young and Mrs Marsden. I'm sure you will all get to know her soon, but to begin with, she has written a little about herself.



I'm a mum of two young boys and married to Ed. We live in Andover, though I'm originally from Donegal in Ireland, a place that will always have a big piece of my heart. Our family wouldn't be complete without Roo, our lively dog, a mix of poodle and red setter who keeps us all on our toes. I've a keen interest in rugby and Formula 1, I especially enjoy the England/Ireland rivalry during Six Nations.

I've been a teacher for 14 years where I have loved helping children learn and grow. After many rewarding years in the classroom, I'm now excited to be starting a new chapter in my career, with a fresh opportunity in Wherwell and all the possibilities that come with a change of direction. I'm really looking forward to meeting you all, do pop in and say hello.

Finally, I would like to say a very warm welcome to our new families who have joined us this term.

Have a lovely sunny weekend,

Best wishes, Mandy (Headteacher)



ROBINS

There has been much excitement in Robins this week due to the arrival of our six eggs! They are safely keeping warm in the incubator and we have all made our predictions about how many of them will hatch. The majority of the Robins are hoping to see all six hatch in a few weeks' time. We've started a count down from 21 days and are crossing off each day that passes.

Over the coming weeks we will start to learn about the life cycle of a chicken and will channel the children's enthusiasm into opportunities to write and enjoy some creative activities.

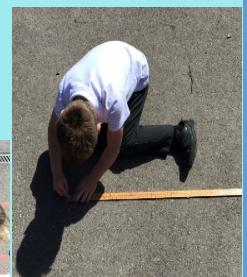


We have all been enjoying the sunshine and making the most of our outdoor play area to build, role play and practise our catching skills. The children have enjoyed getting started on our PE topics of athletics and gymnastics, and have shown a great talent for balancing!



PUFFINS

In Maths, we have been finding out about length and height. We measured our shoes using cubes and then we measured each other using whiteboard pens! We then moved on to using rulers and metre sticks to help us. We even measured the length of the playground and found out that it was 48.5m long!



In Science, we have started to talk about plants. This week, we looked at the main parts of a plant and even got to see the roots after Mrs Gray carefully dug up one of the tulips from the playground. We talked about what each part of the plant does and why it's important.



KINGFISHERS

SECRET READER!

Kingfishers have been extremely excited because this week, we have launched our secret reader. Miss Upton has asked for a range of people linked to Kingfishers to come in and read us a story over the coming weeks. This could be parents, grandparents or maybe even a staff member or two! We don't know when a secret reader will arrive but when they do, we drop everything to listen to the story they have kindly brought for us.



Miss Upton has instructed our secret readers to keep their identity a secret even from their own children/grandchildren which has resulted in some very surprised faces this week! We have enjoyed great stories such as 'The Koala who Could' and 'How to Hide a Lion'. If you would like to be a secret reader, please get in contact with Miss Upton.



Thank you so much to all our kind volunteers. So far we have been thrilled to welcome Kayleigh's mum, William's Grandmother and Blake's mum - without your support, this would not have been possible! We have plenty more secret readers to come so watch this space...



SPARROWHAWKS

Year 4 and 5 have had a fantastic time at Tile Barn in the New Forest. They have been enjoying many activities such as fire lighting, rock climbing, archery and cooking their own pizzas outside to name a few. Here are just some of the photos but many more can be found on the website in the children's section. I am sure that they will come home tired, with the wrong clothes and plenty of washing for you but also full of stories of the adventures they had – once they've had a sleep!



More from Year 4 and 5 at Tile Barn



HOUSE MARTINS

House Martins have been enjoying plenty of outside time this week in the sunshine! We've thoroughly enjoyed making a start on our cricket unit in PE, and have showcased some fantastic teamwork during our sessions. Furthermore, in Science, House Martins have been learning about the Circulatory System. We used red and blue cones to act out deoxygenated blood being pumped to the lungs, gaining oxygen and returning to the heart, before being pumped to the rest of the body. We changed pace to represent the speed of the blood flow at different points, depending if we were in an artery or a vein.



T

Poetry Writing Competition



Theme: School Life at Wherwell

This term, we are excited to launch a poetry competition to capture the memories, friendships, and everyday moments of school life at Wherwell.

📄 Entry Forms will be available at Reception and Entry Fee is £1
Deadline for submitting poems: 11th May and should be returned to school office.

Prizes:
🏆 Overall Winners (KS1 & KS2): £25 Waterstones voucher
🏆🏆🏆 Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in each class

📄 Special Feature:
All poems submitted will be compiled into a printed book, available for parents to purchase for a small cost at the Summer Fete and thereafter.

Guidance:

- Maximum poem length: 200 words
- Poems will be judged anonymously and we will be looking in particular at originality of voice, creativity, emotional impact and the structure and sound of the poem.
- Handwriting and spelling will not be judged so parents can assist with this if necessary.



SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY 7TH MAY 2026

YR R, 1, 2 - £5/TICKET

3:30PM - 4:15PM

YR 3, 4, 5, 6 - £6.50/TICKET

4:30PM - 5:45PM

- TICKET INC: ENTRY, HOTDOG, SQUASH, SWEETS, GLOWSTICKS

THURSDAY

7

MAY

HAREWOOD FOREST RUN

FUNDRAISER FOR Wherwell SCHOOL PTA
& PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION



10 KM / 5 KM / KIDS 2 KM

MONDAY 4th MAY 2026

ENTER ONLINE NOW

WWW.WHERWELLSCHOOLPTA.UK



POWERED BY MUDDY RUNNERS

YEAR 5 TASTER SESSIONS



2026 DATE & TIME OF EVENTS


 At 09:30am-12:30pm

 Thursday 11th June - Child & Parent session



 Thursday 18th June - Child & Parent session



 Monday 22nd June - Child session only



Register and book a place using the QR codes!



May Camps



4-14
years



26TH MAY - 29TH MAY



Early Bird Prices

| | DAY | WEEK |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Breakfast Club (08:00 - 09:00) | £5.00 | £20.00 |
| Day Booking (09:00-15:00) | £31.00 | £139.50 |
| Extended Club (15:00 - 16:00) | £5.00 | £20.00 |
| Extended Club (15:00 - 17:30) | £10.50 | £42.00 |

BOOK NOW

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bookings@phcamps.co.uk





Diary Dates

| Activity | Date (New Dates in red) |
|--|--|
| Harewood Forest Run | Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday |
| Disco | Thursday 7th May |
| Year 6 SATS | Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May |
| Year 4 Swimming - details to follow | Wednesdays - 20th May, 3rd June, 10th June, 17th June & 1st July |
| Sparrowhawks trip to Salisbury Cathedral | Thursday 14th May |
| House Martins Parent share | Tuesday 19th May at 2:50 |
| Robins Parent share | Wednesday 20th May at 8:55 in the hall |
| Kingfishers Parent share | Wednesday 20th May at 2:50 |
| Puffins Parent share | Thursday 21st May at 9 in the hall |
| Sparrowhawks Parent share | Thursday 21st May at 2:50 |
| INSET DAY | Friday 22nd May |
| Half Term Holiday | Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May |
| Times Table Check - Year 4 | During week commencing 1st June |
| 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 |
| New Year R Stay and Play session 1 | Wednesday 17th June 9-10 am |
| New Year R Stay and Play session 2 | Wednesday 24th June 9-10 am |
| Sports Day | Thursday 25th June, pm |
| Summer Fete | Sunday 28th June |
| Kingfishers Trip to The Sustainability Centre Petersfield | Monday 29th June |
| New Year R Stay and Play session 3 including presentation for parents | Wednesday 1st July 9-10 am |
| Parent's Evening | Wednesday 1st July and Thursday 2nd July |
| INSET DAY | Monday 6th July |
| Last week of clubs including football | Week beginning 6th July |
| House Martins and Sparrowhawks Performance | Tuesday 14th July 6pm |
| House Martins and Sparrowhawks Performance | Wednesday 15th July 6pm |
| Talent show, finalists | Monday 20th July PM |
| Year 6 water fight and leavers lunch | Tuesday 21st July |
| Year 6 Rounders: Parents Vs children | Wednesday 22nd July |
| Last day of term | Wednesday 22nd July at 3:10 |