

Wheatcroft School



End of Term Newsletter

April 2022





Mrs Miller's Message

What a lovely way to end our spring term with our PTFA Easter Egg Hunt! The children thoroughly enjoyed hunting for the eggs to be rewarded with their eggs. My thanks go to the PTFA for organising this great event for our children. World Book Day was a great success too and it was wonderful to see the enthusiasm for books and reading from our children. A particular highlight of the day was when we carried out our cross phase paired reading sessions. Having opportunities like these when the children buddy from pupils in different year groups really shows their caring and supportive nature for each other. Thank you to Mr & Mrs Pierce and all the PTFA representatives who have helped us continue to raise our much needed funds for the school. Please remember our PTFA AGM on Friday 29th April at 2:30pm.

I know you will agree with me when I say how wonderful our Lower Key Stage 2 production of Peter Pan was. This production was very poignant to us as a school as it has been our first live performance for two years. The quality of the children's acting, singing, dancing and stage presence was superb and I am extremely proud of them all; we were so pleased to be able to share it with you. My thanks go to all the staff in the LKS2 team for their commitment to supporting the children.

We have really enjoyed welcoming parents back into the school this term, thank you for giving your time to support the teachers in so many ways. Our Governors have also been a huge presence this term and have supported us so well through champion assemblies, working with groups of children and through working parties and meetings. My thanks go to them for their continued support to the school.

Our house captains have been a real asset to the school and have shown great commitment to their roles. As well as meeting with me to discuss ideas to encourage team points, they have set a really good example to others. They have taken on tasks without being asked such as sorting out the lost property and are always offering their support to others. It has been really impressive to see how they support our lunch time staff with the younger children in the dining hall and many of them have received achievement awards for their efforts. I look forward to organising some inter-house events with them in the summer term.

The end of this term will see some staffing changes as we return after the Easter break. This term we were pleased to welcome a new member to our MSA team in Miss Allenden who has settled into her new role really well. We are always sad to say goodbye to anyone from our Wheatcroft team. Miss Peffers will be leaving us to spend more time with her family. The year 5 class will be taught by Mrs Naziris during the first half of the term who will then be joined by Mrs O'Brien as she returns from maternity leave after June half term. Miss Starling has taken the decision to leave us at the end of April to work closer to home to offer her young family more support. The Nursery children will be taught by Mrs Bevan and Mrs Collins will continue to work alongside her. Our school office will be sad to wave goodbye to Mrs Anderson who has been fortunate to secure a job as Senior Support Officer for Hertfordshire County Council. Mrs Anderson has worked at Wheatcroft for 10 years and will be greatly missed by the office team. We wish all our departing staff the very best as they leave us.

As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our school community for their continued support towards educating the pupils of our school. Thank you so much to the Wheatcroft staff team for their continued commitment to our school and children; I am sure you will join me in wishing them a well-deserved restful Easter with their families and friends.

On behalf of all the staff at Wheatcroft, we wish you all a very Happy Easter and look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 20th April .

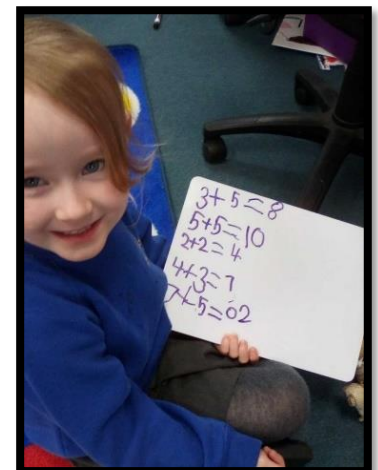
Yours sincerely
Mrs Miller
Headteacher



Spring in Foundation



We have had a really fun and busy term in Reception learning about Traditional Tales and People who help us. We also enjoyed World Book Day, Well-being week and Science week.



In Nursery this term, we have enjoyed making the most of the colder weather by investigating ice and how it changes. We have also explored our topic of transport which we have continued in forest school as well.



Spring in Key Stage 1



This Spring we have had great fun learning about Beatrix Potter.

We have had a very creative term with lots of hands on experiences such as creating our own quiches and natural art out of clay.



During this term we have got to know some of the older children. Some of the Year 6 children have been doing a fantastic job of running Lego club with the Year 2 children. They have set challenges and helped with the builds. It has been good fun for all!

We wish you a Happy Easter and are looking forward to the Summer Term.



LKS Production - Peter Pan



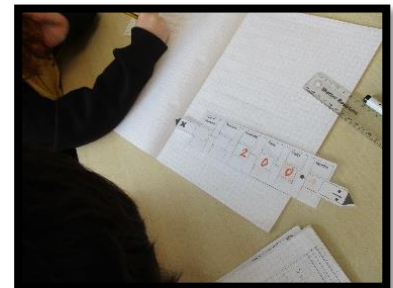
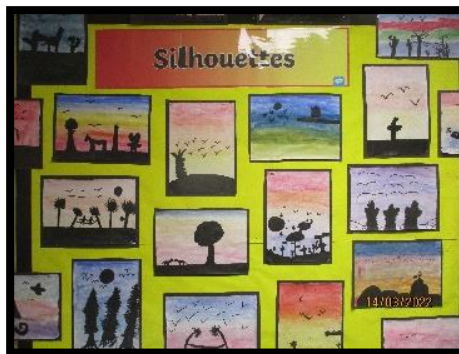
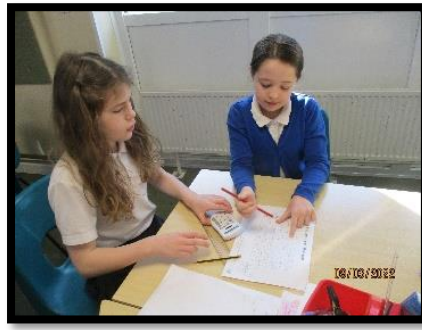


Lower Key Stage 2



Spring has been an extremely exciting term for Lower Key Stage 2.

We have had World Book Day, Science week and worked really hard and had lots of fun practising and performing our production of Peter Pan!



The pictures above show you a variety of what we have been learning this term. We have painted silhouettes, learnt about Anglo Saxons and even been on a mini-beast hunt!

We wish you all a lovely Easter break, from LKS2 ☺

Jack to the Future!

We would like to say a huge well done to Jack in Year 3/4 for winning the BBC Sounds Rising Talent 8-11 year old category of the Young Audio Awards! This is such an amazing achievement and a well-deserved acknowledgement for all his hard work; we are all so very proud of him!

Jack began his podcast, Jack To The Future, during lockdown in 2021 following a short stint on a local radio station. The fortnightly podcast is all about the future and making predictions about what may happen. Jack interviews a range of children and adults from different walks of life. The podcast was one year old at the end of March and to date, Jack has spoken to over 28 adults and children about lots of different topics- from the future of reading, mental health, English, Maths to recycling, sustainable clothing, food and deforestation.

Jack applied for the BBC Sounds Rising Talent Award in the 8-11 year old category of The Young Audio Awards back in January. The Young Audio Awards are supported by both commercial and BBC radio.

<https://linktr.ee/Jtothefuture>

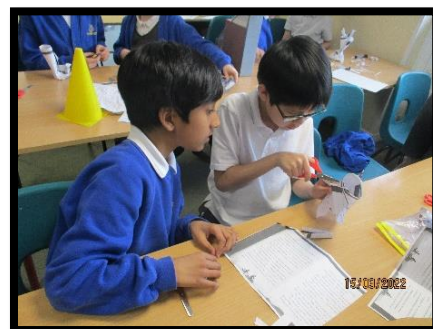




Upper Key Stage 2



What another busy term! We have all enjoyed World Book Day, Science Week and Year 6 have attended a Maths workshop and completed the Mini Police programme. Both years have attended sports events – what a busy time we have had!



Next term, we are looking forward to lots more, especially our Year 6 Norfolk Trip and Year 5 Cuffley - Bushcraft trip.

Congratulations to our Year 5 Maths team for making the finals of your Maths Challenge. Next term we look forward to the final of the Maths challenge, we also have the Year 6 Rotary Essay finals.

Well done to everyone for your continued hard work, we wish you a restful break.



Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great this term to see Parents and Governors coming into school as volunteers and children experiencing live events!

One of them being World Book Day, for many children this was their first experience of dressing up and a book sale. The costumes were amazing! Thank you for all the effort that was put into them, I spent the day in the hall at the sale and the children came in a class at a time. They were so excited and it was lovely to sit with them and share their enthusiasm for books. Many thanks to the PTFA for organizing it, they raised just over £400.

Another live event happened this week with LKS2 performing Peter Pan to parents. Many thanks for a fantastic production and thank you to the staff for all their hard work.

We welcomed two new co-opted Governors this term, Jan Myers and Leon Brown. We need a Parent Governor and nomination forms will be going out shortly. If you would like to discuss what is involved in being a governor then please contact the office to arrange a meeting with one of the Governors.

On the 1st March our School Improvement Partner (HIP) spent the day in school. I attended his feedback which was very good, he had obviously had a busy time visiting all classes and talking to children, staff and the SLT.

The Governors have established a Curriculum Working Party. They are invited to a meeting with members of staff to look at the curriculum, assessment and progress. This term we looked at Science and EYFS. By having these meetings more Governors have a greater understanding of the curriculum.

We were sad to hear earlier this term of the sudden death of John Drewery. He had been a Governor for many years and only left the Governing Body last July. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family.

A big thank you to all the staff at Wheatcroft School for their hard work and commitment to providing the best education for your children.

On behalf of all the Governors can I wish you a Happy Easter.

Yours Sincerely

Judith Sparks



John Drewery

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the sudden passing of Mr John Drewery, a truly dedicated Wheatcroft Governor.

John had been involved with Wheatcroft for over 20 years, since his eldest son began his Wheatcroft journey. John's three children were pupils of the school and during their early years of education, John was an active member of the PTFA and could be seen at many functions, sometimes juggling, which was a hobby he and his younger son enjoyed together.

Through his work as an architect, John spent the majority of his career working on school projects; he brought these skills and knowledge to the Governing body on which he served for many years on the resources committee and later as Chair and Vice Chair. He would give experienced and astute comments to proposals for changes to the building and would be full of questions to contractors, architects and builders using his insightful knowledge to ensure this helped Wheatcroft to improve the provision for our children.

John believed learning should be interesting and enjoyable and he was keen to support active and outdoor learning, caring very much about the environment. He spent several weeks over the years accompanying school Journeys to Norfolk, Wales and the Isle of Wight. He brought his own extensive wildlife knowledge and enthusiasm to many activities and was infamous for his dancing at the disco on the Year 6 journey, identifying wild birds, juggling and circus skills.

John will be remembered dearly by all Wheatcroft staff, past and present, as a generous, caring and enthusiastic member of the Governing body whose commitment and engagement really helped support the leadership team at Wheatcroft.

Our thoughts, prayers and love go out to his family.

