

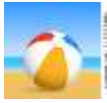
Wheatcroft School



End of Term Newsletter

July 2022





Mrs Miller's Message



As we come to the end of this academic year I would like to say well done to all of our pupils who have achieved so much in so many different ways. I hope that you were able to celebrate their successes through their end of year reports. Following two years of interrupted education and still this year having to work in bubbles for the first half of the year, I believe our children have achieved great things.

Despite the restrictions at the beginning of the year, we have certainly made up for it during the summer term. Our minibuses have been well used with trips to Southend on sea, Shepreth, Cedars Park, Bushcraft to name a few. Our year 6 cohort had a wonderful time in Norfolk experiencing a range of activities both on and off the water as well as gaining skills in looking after themselves and developing some independence.

It has been lovely to share some of our musical talent with you through our Yr5 music festival and our guitar, woodwind, piano and keyboard assemblies. As well as this, we have been able to welcome you to our class assemblies which are always a fantastic way of giving our children the opportunity to speak in front of an audience and they of course love sharing their learning with their families.

Our PTFA have worked extremely hard this year to organise and arrange many events to keep raising the much needed funds for our school. My thanks go out to Mr & Mrs Pierce as the chairs for organising the PTFA and to all the many parents who give up their time to ensure these events can happen. Despite the need to cancel some events across the year, the PTFA, with your support, have managed to raise a fantastic amount of money and I know they will look forward to sharing this with you at their next AGM.

It was really special to invite parents and carers in to our transition day, particularly those of you who haven't had the opportunity to step into school for a while. Our children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their work and classrooms with you and I hope that you were able to take the opportunity to meet their teachers.

A huge thank you goes out to the school staff who show their dedication to our children each and every day, I wish them and their families a restful summer break. Thank you to all of our parents, carers, grandparents and governors who have given up their time to help in school in many different ways such as reading, small groups and trips. The children really do benefit from your support.

On behalf of the Wheatcroft community, we wish you all an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you all again in the new academic year.

With very best wishes

Mrs D Miller

Headteacher



Summer in Nursery



In nursery this term, we have enjoyed learning about 'Growing Plants' and 'People Who Help Us'. We had a visit from a police officer who told us about his job. We have also been learning about 'Under the Sea' and loved role playing as pirates.



We had fun celebrating the Queen's 70th Jubilee at our Nursery tea party and learnt more about animals at our class trip to Cedars Park Nature Centre. We participated in the Foundation Sports Day and loved the bean bag race, dress up running and welly boot throwing! We have also joined in a range of activities in our weekly forest lessons. We have been enjoying the warmer weather and noticed the changes outdoors that summer brings.



Reception 1



In Reception we have had a very busy term taking part in sports day and going on our first ever school trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park. We thought it was really fun to go on our school minibuses.



We have really enjoyed learning about under the sea and working as a team making posters about seahorses. We have made lots of pictures of sea creatures and designed and written about a mermaid. In maths we have been adding and subtracting, telling the time and learning about money.



We have had lots of fun playing in our outdoor area especially our sandpit, water trays and the mud kitchen. In History we learnt all about the Queen and celebrated the jubilee with the rest of the school.



Learning Outside the Classroom



We have enjoyed a huge range of opportunities to learn outside our usual classrooms – trips, events, visitors, competitions and residential.



Getting out and about helps us to experience new things, challenge our own understanding, improve our skills and above all it is great fun to learn with our friends and teachers!



Reception 2



Reception 2 have had a fantastic summer term. We have continued to explore the forest each week and bring our learning outside of the classroom. We particularly enjoy playing with the parachute.



This term we went on our first school trip, visiting Shepreth Wildlife Park. The children loved going on the minibus and seeing all of the different animals. We had a fascinating talk all about animal habitats and learning about invertebrates/vertebrates.



This term the children also took part in their first Sports Day. They had great fun throwing wellies and racing alongside each other.



KS1 Southend

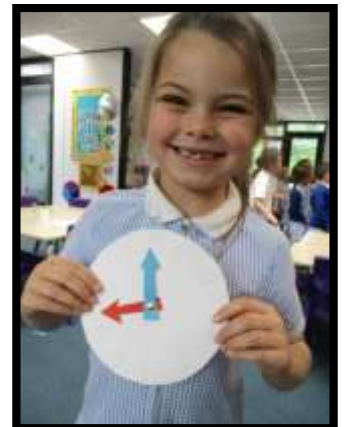
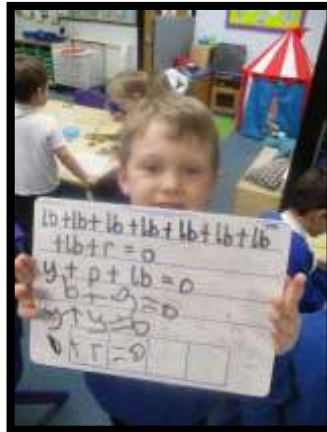




Year 1 Summer Term



This term we have had fun exploring our topic all about the Seaside. We looked at the different physical and human features of the coast. We also learnt about different fish in the sealife centre and created information texts about them.



This term we also enjoyed celebrating the Commonwealth Games and had children from secondary schools come into teach us some games. It has been a great term and a brilliant end to Year 1.



Year 1-2



Year 1-2 have had such a fantastic year working on so many interesting and enjoyable topics. Here are some summer highlights.



We had a brilliant day when we visited Southend and during the day went to the Sealife Centre, on the train on the pier and ate a delicious ice-lolly on the beach. We really enjoyed all of the events on our KS1 sports day.



Year 2



In Year 2, we have been learning all about the seaside. We have found out about different coastlines and the seaside in the past.

We have had a busy summer term, full of exciting activities and experiences. We have taken part in many sports themed activities, including going to Wodson Park. Here we learnt the skills needed to play different sports. We also had different secondary schools come in and teach us athletics and games skills.

We also enjoyed a trip to the seaside. We went to Southend and ate ice-lollies on the beach! We learnt about different fish in Sealife Adventure and took a trip on the train down the pier. We came home and wrote excellent recounts about our day.



We have really enjoyed all of the different opportunities we have had this summer term. We are looking forward to a well-earned rest and will see you after the holidays!



School Council



In Walk to School week, school council reps recorded who travelled to school sustainably each morning. Our school council chairperson thought it would be a great idea for everyone to run the daily mile each day during Walk to School week.



In school council meetings, children have enjoyed reflecting on the work they have done in their Jigsaw Journals.



School Council ran the Coconut Shy stall at the summer fete. They worked hard, had fun and raised lots of money for the school!



Year 3



Year 3 have had another busy term full of learning and fun. We thoroughly enjoyed our Museum trip and the all of the sports days!



In English, we have loved reading 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and we have created some fantastic work based on the story. In maths, we have been exploring decimal fractions and we used our knowledge to create a model of Mr Griffin that was 0.1 of his actual size.



In design and technology, every child wrote their own pasta recipe and used this to make fresh egg pasta and a delicious tomato sauce.



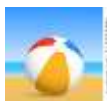
SPORTS



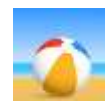
We celebrated National Sports Week with lots of extra PE activities. We had Presdales and Richard Hale students leading lots of fun activities as well as holding our very own Commonwealth Games Baton Relay. We have attended lots of sporting events this term including Dynamo Cricket, Everyone in, Year 2 development day and the WWWWodson Games. We had a successful week of phase sports days too, with red team being the overall winners.



Thank you to all the staff and parents who have made it possible for us to attend our weekly swimming lessons at Fanshawe pool, driven us to events, run clubs and supported our teams this year.



Year 3 / 4



We have had a fantastic busy, hot and very enjoyable end to the academic year in 3/4. There have been many highlights!



"I liked playing kick rounders... kicking the ball as hard as I could!"

"I enjoyed going to Hertford Museum, learning more about the Romans and looking at the artefacts."

"I enjoyed solving division using 'bus stop method'."

"I loved Sports Day! There were so many different events."

"Making pasta was fun and tasty!"



Year 4



In June we went on a trip to The Hertford Museum. We've been learning about the Roman Empire in History and we enjoyed a workshop about Roman artefacts. After the workshop we had a picnic in the park and enjoyed a game of rounders.



In Science we've been exploring magnets and creating our own experiments. The children particularly enjoyed investigating which materials were magnetic and why they were magnetic. During May we took part in a Junior Medic workshop. We learnt about hazards at home and how to dress a head or hand injury with a bandage.



PTFA



The Summer Term has been the first time in 3 years we have seen a full programme of PTFA events. It was wonderful to welcome Simon Says Magic to wow the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One Children, who were all utterly captivated by him and his pets including a very cheeky dragon! The Key Stage Two children enjoyed dancing with their teachers.

We hope you have all enjoyed Lolly Fridays, a huge thank you to the parents who run this each week. Congratulations to Sid on winning the photography competition this year and thank you Mr Todd for judging it.

Did you enjoy the Summer Festival? We certainly did. Thank you to the amazing team of four who planned and ran the event and to all the helpers who made it possible. It was a very special afternoon full of games, music and tasty treats. A special thank you to the year six students who ran their stalls and were an absolute credit to the school.

For the next academic year we would like to have lots of events for all the family. Please save the 18 Sept for the Family Fun Run and Picnic, details will follow. We need a team to run the Christmas Fair, could it be you? If we can't get a team together, we won't be able to have a Christmas Fair. Please email if you can help us.

Thank you to all our super volunteers and to the teachers who help us out. The funds we raise really do make a difference.

Jo and David Pierce
PTFA Joint Chair



MUSIC

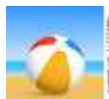


Some pupils from our Year 5 cohort performed as part of the Herts and Ware Music Festival at the Ware Drill Hall. It was so lovely to see them come together to perform with other primary schools. They worked hard to learn their songs from Paul Burrell's Cantata 'OutThere' and performed to a high standard. Well done to Eve for her brilliant narration.

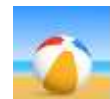


Our peripatetic teachers and their pupils have enjoyed performing through assemblies. If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument, please contact the school office for more information.





Year 5



The Summer term has absolutely whizzed by in Year 5. We have been busy going on our residential to Cuffley Camp and been keen sport people going to Wodson park to commemorate the Commonwealth Games.



In English we investigated poetry and wrote our Memories of Cuffley Camp. In Maths we have been revising fractions, decimals and percentages and took part in a Murder Mystery to find out who made the most mistakes and therefore was the murderer.



We have also really enjoyed our different topics and especially our Computing day where we were able to make our own stop motion animations. In Art we have looked at landscapes, making observational drawings and also using computer programmes to design our own sustainable home. This has linked to our Geography topic on London, its structural changes and the impact of the green belt.



House Captains



House Captains are chosen through an interview process in which they write a letter of application and are then asked questions about their suitability to the role.



The house captains chose to arrange a house fun run this year to encourage pupils to earn points for their teams. They displayed great organisation skills and spoke well when giving the instructions to the teams. There were many shouts of encouragement from them as they watched our children (and staff) run around the field.



We have been impressed by the leadership qualities and commitment the house captains have shown this year and their caring nature towards the younger children. They have carried out a number of tasks in their role including speaking in front of prospective parents, supporting the younger children in the dining hall and generally setting a good example to others.

Well done house captains!



Summer in Year 5/6



Another term has flown by in Year 5/6 and the year is coming to an end. One of the highlights of the term was sports day. A variety of events were enjoyed by all with our class putting in some outstanding performances. Much of the past few weeks have been taken up preparing for our West End style production of The Amazing Adventures of SuperStan. Our year 5 children tirelessly practised their dance to the tune of Amazing Girl and sung like nightingales to a plethora of songs. Our year 6 children took on a variety of performing roles and help produce a seamless and professional production.



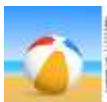
In English, the children have written some wonderful parody style poems highlighting environmental issues.

Our Geography topic has examined the factors which have led to the change in London's population and skyline. Furthermore, we have created pie charts to represent data, used the digital programme Sketch Up to dabble with architecture and refined our rounders skills in PE.

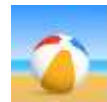


Our year 6s had their trip to Norfolk where they participated in a range of outdoor adventurous activities. Earlier in the term, year 5 went had a magnificent time at Bushcraft learning how to survive in the wild.

As the year comes to a close, I wish all of our year 6s a successful transition into secondary school and our year 5s a safe and fun summer.



Year 6



What another busy term it has been! We have been so busy with trips, visitors, transition and our production of 'The Amazing Adventures of Superstan' – we hope you enjoyed it!



As well as keeping up with our learning, we have had an e-safety workshop from Simon Balle and worked with Presdales and Richard Hale students for PE. We have also enjoyed reflecting on our time here by writing our Memories of Wheatcroft – look out for them in our Records of Achievement!



Finally, we would like to say a big well done and good luck to all Year Six students. It has been a pleasure to work with you all and you should be very proud of all you have achieved. You have come so far and we know you will continue to do well. Goodbye and we wish you all good luck with love from all the adults in the UKS2 team – we can't wait to hear what you get up to!

The Amazing Adventures of Superstan



Greetings from Proton Park! UKS2 are very proud of our production and hope you all enjoyed it. Remember to always keep your anti-gravity pants & super-secret formula to hand and beware of gobstoppers!



Green Bees



This year, our Green Bees have started the process of applying for the Eco-Schools Green Flag accreditation. This is an international accreditation that has recognised and rewarded young people's environmental actions for over 25 years.

Our Wheatcroft Green Bees have been busy looking into how we can best support our school to be as eco-friendly as possible. We have undertaken a comprehensive survey into what we do well and how we can improve. It turns out we have already been doing lots of amazing things. Our Green Bees make sure all white paper is recycled weekly, any litter on or around the playground is picked up and they actively make sure that wherever possible electric items such as white boards and lights are switched off when not in use. We have held regular meetings and we are very proud of how they have conducted themselves.





Message from the Chair of Governors



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would on behalf of the Governing body like to thank all the staff at Wheatcroft School for their hard work and dedication.

For many children this year has been a first for them and I have had the privilege on going on school trips and seeing the enthusiasm and excitement among the children. The return of the school plays this year was a highlight. The Year 5/6 play this term was fantastic and their leavers song brought tears to my eyes! I would like to wish our Year 6 pupils all the very best as they move onto the next stage of their education.

The feedback from our Schools Improvement Partner has been very positive this year and we received high praise about many aspects of the school.

The Governors continue to have a full Governors meeting each half term and the Finance and Premises working party meet before the full Governors meeting. As I have mentioned in a previous newsletter, we established a Curriculum working party this year and they meet regularly with the staff. At our last Governors meeting we said goodbye to Peter Apostolos. Peter has been a governor at Wheatcroft for many years and he took the lead in Health and Safety and also went on many of the residential trips as well as getting involved in football. A big thank you to Peter for all his many years on the Governing body.

A big thank you to all of you for your support and to the PTFA who raise so much money for the school. The Summer Fete was very well attended and had a great family atmosphere.

Wishing you all a very happy summer holiday. Enjoy this precious time with your children.

Kindest regards

Judith Sparks

July 2022



Term Dates



Autumn Term 2022

Monday 5 th September	Start of Autumn Term
Monday 24 th October - Friday 28 th October	Autumn Half Term
Monday 28 th November	Occasional Day – School Closed
Wednesday 21 st December 1:30pm	End of Autumn Term

Spring Term 2023

Thursday 5 th January	Start of Spring Term
Monday 13 th February – Friday 17 th February	February Spring Half Term
Friday 31 st March 1:30pm	End of Spring Term

Summer Term 2023

Tuesday 18 th April	Start of Summer Term
Monday 1 st May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	Summer Half Term
Wednesday 19 th July 1:30pm	End of Summer Term

School Inset Days are:

Thursday 1 st & Friday 2 nd September
Monday 17 th April 2023
Thursday 20 th July
Friday 21 st July 2023

Autumn Term 2023

School will not commence before Monday 4th September 2023