



Wheatcroft Primary School



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Start of Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term, I hope that you were all able to enjoy your Christmas and New Year with family and friends. Although the spring term is a short one, this hasn't prevented us from packing in many exciting teaching & learning opportunities for our children which you can see from our key stage paragraphs below. Our children have come back ready and willing to learn, and we look forward to sharing their successes with you in our upcoming parent consultations in February. Please remember that any help you can provide us as a school has a positive contribution to all of our children in their learning and wellbeing. If you hold a DBS and have any amount of spare time, please do speak with your child's teacher or email through the office; your help will be very well received.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Miller

Head teacher

Foundation Stage

Mrs Woodier, Mrs Bevan, Mrs Smart, Miss Acierno

We hope you had a lovely holiday and Happy New Year. This term will be another busy one in EYFS. Nursery will be starting their weekly forest school lessons, more information will follow on Tapestry and Reception will continue their Forest school lessons on Mondays. Please make sure your child has forest school clothes with them to change into. Please make sure PE kits are in school all week as we may have opportunities for extra PE sessions this term. Our regular PE days are Friday for Nursery and Thursdays for Reception. We will be looking at Traditional tales and People who help us this term. We will be continuing with our daily Supersonic Phonic Friends lessons learning new sounds and tricky words. Reading books and homework will continue to be sent out on Fridays, but please return these on Wednesday. Please look at our curriculum map for this term which has information on the key skills and topics we are covering.

Key Stage 1

Miss Brown, Mrs Hickman, Miss Jones, Mrs Leishman

Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday. We have lots of exciting things planned for your children this term. Our main topic will be 'Explorers'; looking at famous explorers, where they travelled and using this to help us with our mapping skills in Geography. In Science we will be focusing on animals and their habitats. We will explore different habitats, how animals have adapted to these habitats as well as how they survive there. We will also look at classifying animals by what they eat and begin to explore food chains. We will be learning about omnivores, carnivores and herbivores. In RE we will be exploring Palm Sunday, alongside this in PSHE we will be thinking about how to be healthy and our 'Dreams and Goals'. In Computing we will be looking at information around us and how we can use it. In Music we will have the opportunity to learn how to play the ocarina and look at how to read a musical score. As always, your child will need all their clothing, personal items and PE kit named, and have trainers in school every day. We will continue to set homework on a Thursday, spellings on a Friday and change reading books on Wednesday. Thank you, in advance, for all your support.



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Lower Key Stage 2

Mr Wackett, Mr Griffin, Miss Morris

Happy New Year! We begin with an exciting topic – China. Many of our lessons link to this topic, giving the children a good understanding about the country and culture. They will learn how to locate China on the World map and look at how its climate differs from ours. We will learn about the Shang Dynasty and celebrate our own version of Chinese New Year. In English, we will read and study 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman. During Design Technology, we will taste and make our own Chinese food. In Science, we will study flowering plants and their seeds as well as learning about different states of matter (*solids, liquids & gases*). In French, we will be looking at the story of Petit Chaperon Rouge (*Little Red Riding Hood*) and writing our own versions. We will use the programme 'Scratch' in computing to edit and manipulate animations. For Maths, we will continue our work on the four operations – add, subtract, multiply and divide – as well as extending our knowledge of measurement and geometry. Lastly, we have our LKS2 production to organise and perform! A busy and exciting term; if you can help us in any way then please contact the class teachers, thank you.

Upper Key Stage 2

Mrs McLeod, Mr Marshall, Mrs O'Brien, Mrs Waller

Welcome back to UKS2! We hope you all had a lovely break and are well rested and ready for all the opportunities (and better weather!) Spring term will bring. As ever, in English, we begin our learning with our essay writing skills: Year 6 will enter the Rotary Competition writing about their future careers and Year 5 will be reflecting on the best day of their life. Later in the term, we will study Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and our Art/D&T work will use a variety of techniques with fabric to represent the story in a visual form. In Maths, teaching will continue to cover all areas: number, shape, data and space including a variety of fluency and problem solving / reasoning tasks. Computing will involve spreadsheets using google sheets: we will learn how to use them to sort and filter large amounts of data and to complete quick calculations for a purpose, e.g. budgeting. Our History focus is explorers and we will learn about a number of famous names from History right until the present day; in English we will also look at Ernest Shackleton's journey and consider whether it was a success or not. In Geography we will be looking at rivers and the water cycle; a trip is planned to Hartham later in the term to support our work on identifying features of a river and the impact of living beside one. That's just a small snippet of our plans; we are looking forward to working with you all this term.



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Wheatcroft Primary School Spring Term 2023

Date	Activity
5 th January	Start of term
10 th January	Sept 2023 Intake Reception Tours
13 th January	Y3 Retune Workshop
18 th January	School Nurse Y6 TLM/NCMP
30 th January	10:00 Air Ambulance Assembly
31 st January	Nursery Sept 23 Intake tour
7 th February	9:15 School Nurse Reception Screening
13 th – 17 th February	Half Term
21 st February	Nursery Sept 23 Intake Tour
2 nd March	Y1 trip to Aerozone Stanstead
9 th March	Year 2 Aerozone Stanstead
14 th March	Y6 Natural Flair Parents Workshop
24 th March	9:00 School Nurse Reception Screening
28 th March	6:00 Y3 / 4 Production to Parents
29 th March	1:30 Y3 / 4 Production to Parents
31 st March	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt 1:30 Close for Easter Break
17 th April	INSET DAY
18 th April	Start of Summer term