



Wivelsfield Primary School and Nursery

South Road, Wivelsfield Green, RH17 7QN



Newsletter

June 2024

Headteacher: Helen Smith BA Hons, NPQH
office@wivelsfield.e-sussex.sch.uk www.wivelsfield.org Tel: 01444 471393

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the ground finally drying up, the children are loving making full use of our wonderful field at break times and lunch times. In the first couple of weeks, before it dried enough to get the tractor and mower on site, the football pitch resembled a field ready to cut for a hay crop, but we at last have it more like a playing field all marked with lines for summer sporting activities.

Sports Days

Make sure to save the date for our school sports day on **Friday 14th June**. This day is always great fun, with Robins and Key Stage One competing in the morning and the older children in the afternoon. Between the two sessions, you are invited to join us for a picnic with your child, but if you are not able to, they can sit with their friends and we will look after them as usual. If it is wet, or the ground conditions are slippery and dangerous, or so hot that it would be a health risk to hold the event, we have a reserve date of **Friday 21st June**. Wrens have their own sports event on **Wednesday 19th June**.

Letters with more details about these events have already been sent.

Forest School

We were very sad to say goodbye to Miss Vince as our Forest School Leader a few weeks ago. We have been fortunate to recruit Miss Hill (Miss El), an experienced and fully qualified Forest School practitioner, as our new leader. We will let you know as soon as Forest School can start again.

Curriculum Enrichment

Robins and Rabbits had wonderful days out at Washbrooks Farm and Drusillas. Robins enjoyed seeing lots of different farm animals, whilst, to enrich their topic 'On Safari', Rabbits learned about animals who live further afield as well as taking part in safari workshops.



Meanwhile, led by Hands on History, Foxes, Otters, Badgers and Owls all enjoyed workshops in school, being transported right back to the times of the Stone Age, Mayans, Ancient Egypt and Ancient Greece.



This term, Otters are visiting Anne of Cleaves House in Lewes, whilst Hares and Herons will be off to the Sealife Centre to enrich their learning about Under the Sea.

Robins Egg Drop Challenge

The Robins team set the children the challenge of making a protective case to look after an egg that Miss Parris was going to drop from a very high height - as high as the very tall Miss Parris could reach!



Over all, they had about 6 successful drops, sadly the rest did crack, but everyone had a lot of fun making and trying it out!

Spring Fair

Thank you to Stella, Katie and all of the wonderful PTA for organising the Spring Fair. The sun shone and everyone who came had a great time enjoying refreshments and stalls and watching the children exert themselves on the bouncy castle, the inflatable challenge and, of course, playing football under the expert eye of the Tiny Tekkers team.

The PTA raised around £1600, all of which goes towards equipment and experiences that help make your child's time at Wivelsfield the best it can be. Thank you PTA.

Staffing News

In Term 6 we welcome first Mrs Awcock, then later this term, Miss Hughes back from maternity leave. Neither will resume any class responsibility until the new academic year.

In the next couple of weeks, I hope to be in a position to let you know the names of teachers responsible for the different classes next year.

Singing and Music Concerts

Children who learn piano with Mrs James impressed their audience before the break with their playing in a concert they gave for their family and friends. Ranging from years 2-6, they confidently played a variety of pieces that they'd worked hard to prepare and enjoyed the applause (and sweet treats!) at the end. Pieces ranged from 'Mamma Mia', to 'Für Elise' by Beethoven to 'Astronomia' from the ABRSM exam syllabus. Well done to all!

Some of our choir members sang at the school fair. They sang their hearts out and treated everyone to songs from stage and screen. 'My Sweet Baby' from the film Dawn of the Nugget and 'Any Dream Will Do' from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat were particular highlights. The children have been developing their harmony skills and taking on solo parts too! (Choir is open to children from years 3-6 and rehearses every Tuesday lunchtime. New members always welcome. Please contact the school office/Mrs James if your child would like to join.)



Driving and parking near the school

A few parents have contacted me recently, concerned about driving and parking near the school. They are concerned about the safety of both adult and child pedestrians, as well as other road users. The conversations have been about a few of our parent/carer drivers reversing onto the roundabout by the school entrance, or not being mindful of speed restrictions or traffic regulations near the pedestrian crossing. Please, please be careful! We have many children walking into school through both the pedestrian and main gate and an accident doesn't bear thinking about!

Also, when parking, please may I ask that you remain careful not to block any driveways of nearby residents, or restrict access for any emergency vehicles. Unfortunately, I imagine parking will become more tricky with the development having started off South Road. Thank you in anticipation for your cooperation with both these issues.

Sunny Weather

This term we should see lots of sun and less rain! Should this be the case, please remember the essentials of a named hat, water bottle and plenty of sun cream applied before the start of the school day. You are welcome to send your child with a bottle of sun cream for **them to apply themselves** should they need a top up in the day. Because of the risk of allergies, this must not be shared by peers and we do not allow spray sun tan lotion because of the risk of it accidentally getting into eyes. There are slightly different arrangements for Wrens (please speak to a member of the team if you need clarification).

Because of the risk of injury, we cannot allow the children to wear toeless sandals in school, even in hot weather,

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

School Dog

I have recently been joined at home by Rhea, a beautiful spaniel puppy.



She will be joining me on some of my working days in school and once she is settled and confident, I will introduce her to the children. She will sometimes join me (on a lead) when I walk around the school. Rhea will have a lovely comfy bed in my office and while she is learning the Golden Rules of being a dog at Wivelsfield Primary School and Nursery, she will also have a crate (her den) to stay in if needed. There is no need for any child to interact with her if they are nervous of dogs or suffer from an allergy.

There are recognised and well-documented benefits to having a school dog and it is becoming increasingly common for schools to have one. After several years of us saying how lovely it would be to have one at Wivelsfield, we have finally taken the plunge! Please do get in touch if you have any concerns.

INSET Days

our final INSET day this year is on **Friday 28th June**, when the school is closed for children.

Monday 4th September, is confirmed as our first INSET day for the next academic year and we will let you know others very soon.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, or any other member of the senior leadership team with any query or concern. Either Miss Glassock, Mrs Cosgrove or I are available outside at each end of the school day for a catch up. If you need a longer, or confidential, conversation please get in touch with the office to make an appointment to see one of us.

With warm regards,

Helen M. Smith

Helen Smith
Headteacher