



## Dates for next 2 weeks:

Week commencing 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023			
Date	Event	Who	Detail, Timing and Venue
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming	Owl Class	2.00pm at Kings of Wessex
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Forum-Phonics	All	Rescheduled phonics 5.30pm at the school
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Topic Afternoon	Parents/Carers Yr3 & Yr4	Hedgehog - <b>2.40pm</b> Owl – <b>2.50pm</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-Bullying Week	All	<b>Odd Sock Day</b>
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming	Owl Class	2.00pm at Kings of Wessex
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for new parents 2024-2025	New parents 2024-2025	10.00-11.00am in the school hall followed by a tour of school.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need		Further details to follow
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need	All	PTA Cake sale after school in playground

Dear families

I wanted to start by saying how pleased and excited I am to have the opportunity to lead Wedmore First School Academy as Acting Headteacher. I have loved being part of things since starting last September, working with the staff team, children and families has been a privilege and I am thrilled to be taking things forward in this capacity. We have already achieved a lot and will be focusing this year on developing reading, maths and SEND provision. I am keen to find out how children and parents are feeling about SEND provision in particular, questionnaires have gone out and we will be holding a follow up coffee afternoon in a few weeks to discuss SEND and Inclusion. The last session was both positive and useful for me, I hope others thought so too. I'll send out the date of this when is confirmed with Ian Squire.

Our School Council have become an integral part of school life, their role broadly is to help shape decisions to improve things. We have voted, after discussion, and have made a change to improve play and lunch times - all children can now play on both playgrounds (it's no longer split into key stage 1 and key stage 2). The children have asked for more football, this is now taking place on the side playground with the larger front one used for all other children. The children themselves pointed out that this has to be safe and so we have agreed ground rules. Ensuring the voice of the children is listened to is something we are keen to develop and are very proud of our school council members.

Best wishes  
Shelley Kent

### Harvest:

This harvest we are delighted to be supporting the Cheddar Valley Food Bank. If you are able to donate some non-perishable items, that would be fantastic and they need to be in school by 8th of November.

### Phonics Forum:

We will be looking at phonics and reading, how it is taught at school, how you can support your children at home and the impact phonics and reading has on the rest of the curriculum.

### Clubs this term

Recorder Club Mondays 3.30 – 4.15pm  
(Y2 – Y4)  
Football Club Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm  
(Y3 –Y4)  
Singing Thursdays 3.30 - 4.15pm  
(Y2 – Y4)  
Drum Club Friday 2.45 – 3.15pm  
(Y1 – Y4)

### Term Dates 2022/23

Term dates can be found [here](#)

### Absence Reporting

Please phone 01934 712643 (option 1) or email  
office@wedmorefirstschool.org.uk  
before 9.15am  
(on each and every day of absence)

Wedmore First School Academy  
Blackford Road, Wedmore, Somerset BS28 4BS  
Main Office: 01934 712643  
Email: [office@wedmorefirstschool.org.uk](mailto:office@wedmorefirstschool.org.uk)

### **Data Collection Sheets:**

Please can we remind you that if you have not yet completed the Data Collection Sheet for your child / children to do this as soon as possible and return them to the office.

### **PTA Information:**

#### **£100 raised for the PTA**

The PTA would like to extend their heart felt congratulations and thanks to Rachel Jacobs who, last month, completed the Bath Half Marathon, raising £100 for the PTA.

Rachel said: "when I signed up for the Bath Half Marathon, I knew I wanted to fundraise so chose the PTA and Cheddar Food Bank, both worthy and local causes. I was an amazing day and the atmosphere was incredible. Thank you to all those who donated!"

Thank you so much Rach for supporting the PTA and for your amazing achievement!

#### **Preloved Christmas Jumpers**

Our preloved Christmas Jumper collection is underway! Please leave your clean, well-cared-for Christmas jumpers in the box (situated at Reception/Office) – more information about sale dates will be sent out follow shortly.

### **Wedmore Theatre:**

Their Christmas production this year is the fairy tale Snow White and is being staged in Wedmore Village hall at the end of November – the cast includes a number Wedmore First School's past students. It's a family show with both evening and matinee performances. Please see the attached poster for further information.

### **School Calendar Events Dates:**

Please [click here](#) to view our Calendar Event Dates for the school year.

### **Pupil Premium:**

Just a remind you that the school receives funding for free school meals and more. This helps eligible children reach their full potential both academically and socially. If you think you may be entitled to this, please visit the following link and complete an application.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/free-school-meals/>

### **Vacancies:**

<https://wessexlearningtrust.co.uk/vacancies/>

### **How to stay safe online:**

We recommend the following links for advice on how to help your children stay safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

### **Safeguarding:**

Please [click here](#) for regular updates on the SCC safeguarding website

### **WLT Attendance Policy 2023-2024:**

Please [Click here](#) to read WLT Attendance Policy 2023 – 2024

## This Week in . . .

### Duck Class:

This week we have launched into our new topic 'Superheroes', we are focussing on real life superheroes. We have had lots of discussions around people who help us and why someone might need to call 999. The highlight of our week was the visit from Kayleigh the police officer who came in to talk to the children, she also had a special surprise and the children were able to see a police car!



### Robin Class:

Robin Class have had a great first week back, we have explored pumpkins, looking at different colours, sizes, cutting them up and scooping out the seeds, and finally making them into pumpkin soup. Our new story this term is called Stuck in the Mud and the children have been amazing story tellers, using actions to retell it as a class. In our number work we have been learning about who has more of an object with the help of Zoe Zebra. We have been enjoying our outdoor area and exploring it with the seasonal and weather changes that are now happening with lots of fantastic conversations and learning new vocabulary. Finally we have learnt all about bonfire night and how to stay safe ready for the weekend!



### Deer Class:

Deer Class have had a great first week back after half term! The children have begun looking at their new text in English which is an information text. We have looked at questions and how we know when a question should be used and in groups, we identified sentences which needed a full stop and which needed a capital letter. In Geography, we begun our new topic hot and cold places. We learnt about the difference between maps and globes. We then had a go at locating the North Pole, South Pole and the Equator on the map.

### Rabbit Class:

Rabbit class have had a busy first week back at school. We've been sharing half term news and writing about it. Our new topic 'Mexico' has been introduced and the children are comparing the village of Wedmore to that of a small village 'Tocuaro' in Mexico. The children had a great time collecting leaves and making rainbows in forest school this week. They worked really well in pairs and small groups to produce some really lovely pieces. The highlight of the week has to be our trip to Carymoor environmental trust. The children visited the waste transfer station which really wasn't small nice at all!!! They learnt about landfill sights and how recycling is so important to help our environment. They were amazed at how recycled materials could be used to make different things. We certainly didn't let the weather spoil our day!



### **Fox Class:**

Fox class have had a fantastic first week back after half-term - they've been telling me all about the things they have gotten up to during their break and it sounds like they had a great time! We also celebrated Halloween this week and I even had some pumpkins outside the door for the children to see. This week the children have started our new geography topic which will explore how our lives are different from those in a small Mexican village called Tocuaro.

This week in Fox class we also went on our school trip to Carymoor Environmental Centre. Despite the weather, the children had an amazing day. We learnt all about the 3 r's of recycling and it got the children to think about how they could reduce, reuse and recycle objects or materials at home rather than just throwing them away. The children also got to go into a waste tunnel and explore the different types of rubbish that were thrown away from the 1970s - 2000s and how this has changed. However, the waste tunnel also taught them what a VHS and cassette tape is!!



### **Hedgehog:**

This week Hedgehogs have started their new English unit, looking at the text 'How to wash a woolly mammoth!' At the end of the unit, they will be writing their own set of instructions about how to wash an animal of their choice - we can't wait! In PE, we have been listening to a variety of classical music and working together to gather initial ideas about the journey of a river, and how this could be conveyed through dance. The children have had lots of ideas and Miss Low is already very excited! Finally, the children produced some amazing colour wheels using fallen autumn leaves in their Forest schools session!

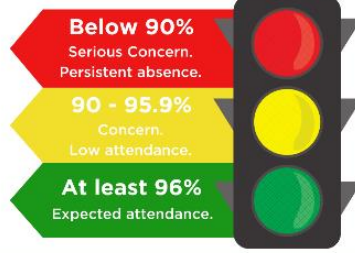


### **Owl:**

Owl class has had a very busy first week back. In math, we have started our new topic of perimeter. In English, we have started persuasive writing and have created persuasive posters for holidays in Spain and Italy. Owls had to find where the Mediterranean is on a map and name all the countries that are a part of it. Finally, in science we were discussing all about what electricity is and how it is made. What a great first week back!

# ATTENDANCE

Every day counts!



Expected attendance means having no more than seven days off this school year!