



## Dates for next 2 weeks:

Week commencing 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2023			
Date	Event	Who	Detail, Timing and Venue
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Meeting	Duck Class	With Rhiannon @ 3.30pm
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Nativity Performance	KS1 Parents	2.00pm in the School Hall Further information regarding tickets to follow.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day	All	Supporting Save the Children Charity
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Nativity Performance	KS1 Parents	6.00pm in the School Hall
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Fair	All	5.00-7.00pm in the Learning Zone
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery & Reception Nativity		2.15 – 3.30pm Main School Hall
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch & Father Christmas	Whole School	Please see details below if you wish to book Christmas lunch for your child
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Carol Service	KS2	St. Mary's Church 6.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wedmore By Lamplight	Singing Club	St Mary's Church 5.15pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Panto – Cinderella organised by the PTA	Whole school	9.30am Held in the School Hall
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Buffet Lunch	Whole School	12.00-1.15pm in the School Hall
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Christmas Party	Whole School	1.30-3.30pm in the School Hall Wear your sparkles!
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of School		

Dear families

It's already December and the Christmas tree is up! This term has flown by, we are now on a countdown to Christmas (10 more get ups!)

Thank you to parents who took the time to fill in a questionnaire at parents evening, I've had a look through them all. There are definite themes within the responses, I am pleased that so many parents are happy with what we do here. In terms of areas for development, we had feedback from some parents asking for spellings to be sent home. As part of our phonics scheme, children learn and apply their learning of the sounds in words in their reading and writing every day. Some children who need it also have extra support several times a week to ensure they are secure in their understanding, which is also great, but the scheme does not recommend sending home spellings. We are very happy with the phonics scheme we now have in place and the results are very good but we also feel that it would be even better if we could supplement it with a spelling programme. Mrs Tratt, our phonics lead, has identified a programme which would run alongside our phonics scheme and we are looking to launch this in the New Year. Watch this space! There was a question aimed at parents of children with SEND, asking if they felt the right support was in place. Many people ticked the "No" box, this is likely to be because the parents responding don't have children with SEND (the number of questionnaires supports this.) If you have any concerns about your child's learning or support, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or myself. We are here to listen and are keen to ensure we work together for the best possible outcomes.

Best Wishes  
Shelley Kent

### 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](mailto: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)

### **Gym Festival:**

Ten of our KS2 girls attended the Gym Festival at Hugh Sexey Middle School on Wednesday and they had a great time.



### **Christmas Jumper Day:**

This year for our Christmas jumper day we are supporting Save the Children Charity- if you would like to donate to this vital work, please [click here](#)

### **Wedmore by Lamplight:**

Wedmore by Lamplight kicks off on Wednesday 13th December as ever with the children's Crib Service in St Mary's. This year it is starting at the earlier time of 5.15pm with singers from Wedmore, Weare and Sexey's Schools, should be wonderful. Any Children who want to help bring up the Crib figures just need to make themselves known when you come in. All are Welcome.

### **Santas Grotto:**

Don't forget if you wish to book a time to visit Santa in his grotto, the sign- up sheet is in reception.

### **KS1 Nativity Tickets:**

Tickets for the Key Stage 1 Nativity have been issued. Each family has been allocated four tickets in total. Two tickets (red) for the afternoon performance on Tuesday 5th and two tickets (green) for the evening performance on Thursday 7th. Any young children attending must be able to sit on a lap or they will need one of the allocated tickets. There are no spare tickets. The tickets are the programme and you will need to bring them with you on the day/evening for entry.

### **St Mary's Church Fair:**

St Mary's is having a Christmas fair **THIS** weekend, **Saturday 9.30am - 12pm**. There will be lots of lovely things to buy for the adults and a toy stall and lucky dip for the children! Bacon rolls and coffee and cake on offer too!

### **Medication Update:**

Due to the high increase in cost, from January 2024 we will no longer be able to provide pain relief medication should your child become unwell during the school day.  
If your child is under the weather and you think they may need to receive pain medication, please may we ask that you bring a bottle of liquid paracetamol or ibuprofen from home to school. This will be safely stored for their use.  
We have some space in the medicine drawers in the office. There is also some space that I cleared in the filing room!  
We can sort a plastic box/crate to store them... Thank you for your understanding and co-operation with this.

### **Christmas Dinner:**

Don't miss the school Christmas Turkey Dinner on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. **Please note there will be NO sandwiches available on that day.** If you would like your child to enjoy this scrumptious dinner, all you need to do is **book the main meal on that date on ParentPay and ignore what the menu says just for that day** (Tuesday and Wednesday main meals will be swapped around). Please remember to provide a packed lunch if your child does not wish to have the Christmas Dinner.

### **Christmas Buffet Lunch:**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December it will be the Christmas Buffet Lunch and therefore, if your child requires a school lunch, please login to ParentPay and book their choice of sandwich ie; cheese, ham, tuna or salmon. **There will be no hot lunches on this day.**

### **'The Big Ambition' from the Children's Commis:**

The Children's Commissioner has launched [The Big Ambition survey](https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition) to understand what children want ahead of the next General Election. Please share this link or QR code with young people so they can have their say: <https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>.



### **Santa Fun Run:**

The Rotary Club have organised a Santa Fun Run to raise money for Weston Hospice Care on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, please see the attached poster for further details.

### **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:**

In Duck Class this week we have been talking about our teeth. We have had lots of activities out, but the most popular has been our toy teeth with brushes and toothpaste to make them all clean. We have been talking about how to keep our teeth strong and healthy and have enjoyed our Pepper pig goes to the dentist story.

We have also been getting in the Christmas spirit with decorations, nativity practice and the boogie beat party. Carrie brought along Rudolf to sing songs, read a story about the growing Christmas tree, and even had flying snowballs on the parachute. Only 2 weeks to go until the Christmas break so look out for more Christmas things from us!

### **Robin Class:**

This week in Robin Class we have been busy learning about different ways of representing a number from 2 - 5, we have used cubes, stickers and painting blocks to show all the different patterns we know. We are becoming super readers learning lots of common exception words and new digraphs which we are independently using in our play. Not long to go until our nativity play so we are also busy practising and singing during any spare moment. Finally we have learnt about St Andrew the patron saint of Scotland, learning that he was a fisher man, they wear kilts and we have made some yummy shortbread too.



### **Deer Class:**

The children have been getting their final prep ready for our Nativity performance next week! Positions have been learnt and songs are being perfected and we can't wait for you all to see! Despite the cold weather, the children had a great PE lesson this week. We focused on our team work and catching skills. We challenged ourselves to see how many claps we could do whilst the ball was in the air! In Maths, the children have been learning about writing expressions. We have discussed how we can write an addition expression in more than one way as we still get the same 'whole' answer! Keep up the great work Deers!

### **Rabbit Class:**

Rabbit Class have been busy painting and decorating gift tags to sell at the Christmas fair. They look great so please come and buy some to label your Christmas gifts! The nativity is going well and the children have made me so proud learning their lines. Please continue to practice these over the weekend as our dress rehearsal is on Monday. In maths the children have been adding multiples of 10 to two-digit numbers using their knowledge of numbers and place value. In English, the children have been innovating the story of Little Red Riding Hood. They have had some excellent ideas for settings, characters and villains!!

### **Fox Class:**

Fox class have had another lovely week! The children have also been working really hard in their phonics this week and have been keen to participate in these lessons. In maths we have also been working on adding a multiple of ten to a two-digit number, some of us have found this a bit tricky this week but they showed some amazing resilience and were able to find the answers eventually!

We have also been practising really hard for our Nativity which is next week, we hope you'll love it as much as we do (the children are so excited!!). Not only this, but we have also started to prepare for the Christmas Fair which is on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December; the children have been getting very crafty and have been making things to sell at the fair! Christmas is nearly here!

### **Hedgehog:**

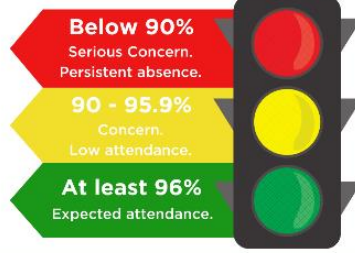
This week Hedgehog class have written AMAZING river shape poems full of the most fantastic descriptions! We are very proud of their hard work and can't wait to publish them! In science, we looked at lots of different types of rocks and planned and carried out an investigation to find out which were permeable (let water in). We all found that chalk was the least permeable rock as it absorbed the most drops of water. We found that marble and granite were the least permeable.

### **Owl:**

This week has been filled with fun for Owl class. We have been busy in English, 2010 creating our own worlds behind a portal and have been planning our own portal story. As part of our electricity topic in science, we created circuits to test what is an electrical conductor and what is an insulator. Finally, we now have a special visitor in Owl class called Buddy the Elf who will be Santa's special helper throughout December!

# ATTENDANCE

Every day counts!



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