



Dates for next 2 weeks:

Date	Event	Who	Details
Saturday 20th	Messy Church	All	St. Mary's Church 3.00-5.00pm
Monday 22nd	Kilve Residential – Parents Meeting	Owl class	5.00pm @ Wedmore School
Tuesday 23 rd	Swimming	Hedgehog	2.00pm @ Kings of Wessex
Friday 26 th	PTA Movie Night		3.30-5.00pm School Hall
Tuesday 30 th	Swimming	Hedgehog	2.00pm @ Kings of Wessex

Dear families

we have enjoyed two new clubs this week - art club started after school on Wednesday, the children loved creating prints of imaginary creates. It was a pleasure to see the children so engrossed in creating amazing art, we will be displaying the work in school before sending home next term. If your child is interested in this club, we plan to run it next term to meet demand! Lego club also started on Thursday lunchtime, anticipation levels were very high! Our beautiful mural in the library is coming along well, we will invite everyone in to see when it's finished. Thanks again to Jo Spicer for her time and effort with this. The sensory space has been named by the children - "Relaxation Room" was the number one vote from the children. Thanks to Dawn Starley who continues to work on creating a calming space within the school, also to those parents who have donated items. We are very proud to be part of a thriving village community and grateful for the help and support we receive.

Best Wishes

Shelley Kent
Headteacher

PTA Committee:

Do you have duplicate or unwanted gifts from Christmas, or do you have a glut of chocolates, boxes of biscuits or wine that you can't find cupboard space for? The PTA are **collecting raffle prizes** for the upcoming quiz night on Saturday 3rd February! If you have anything that you would be willing to give, there is a **large box located by the door to the school office where donations can be left**. As ever, thank you so much for your support!

Fun Movie Night – Friday 26th January. More details to follow next term.

Quiz Night- At Wedmore village hall on Saturday 3rd February! Tickets can be purchased through your ParentPay account.

Messy Church:

"Messy Church returns to St Mary's on Saturday 20th January 3 - 5pm: lots of craft tables, a bible story and songs followed by afternoon tea (any offers of a plate of something would be gratefully received). The theme is 'Noah and a New Start'"

All are welcome, under 12s must be accompanied by an adult."

Clubs this term

Recorder Club Mondays 3.30 – 4.15pm
(Y2 – Y4)
Hockey 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 2023/24

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

Burnham Book Festival:

Burnham Book Festival are running a **free writing competition** for short stories and poetry. There are cash prizes for all age groups and the best work will be published in an anthology. The closing date is **4 March**.

We received some really great entries from local children last year and were delighted to help them see their work in print. Please see poster and competition information sheet attached.

Lego Club:

Very exciting Lego Club has returned on Thursday lunchtimes with Mrs Samuels and the children are enjoying being creative with the Lego!



Sensory Space:

Sensory space

As part of our whole-school commitment to wellbeing and inclusion we will be creating a dedicated Sensory space in school over the coming weeks with the support of the Wedmore First School Parent/Carer SEND Support Group.

Sensory spaces are calm, therapeutic areas where children can be supported to self-regulate safely and effectively to help them feel ready to return more comfortably to learn in the classroom. It's therefore not only a space for respite but also to learn new skills for coping. This will be an important part of our targeted provision for children who find it difficult to regulate their feelings and we will continually reflect on its use over time to ensure it is best meeting the needs of our school community.

We are looking for donations of any no-longer used/wanted sensory resources you may have that could help make this space a lovely sanctuary in school for our children with sensory/physical or social/emotional needs. Anything you may be able to pass on, from a fidget toy, books about feelings, fairy lights, rug/mat, poster, light up or sound toys, to soft play equipment and beanbags would be very welcome.

If you have anything you are able to contribute (no matter how big or small!), would like to join Wedmore First School Parent/Carer SEND Support Group or have any queries about the Sensory space please get in touch with Dawn Starley - 07730654926 or dawnstarley@icloud.com

Do you know anyone who might be interested in training to teach?:

Come and meet **Five Counties ITT providers** and find out about our training programmes. Routes into Primary and Secondary. Local school partners and placements. Friendly trainers! Information about applying and funding.

Thursday 18th January

4.00-5.30pm

Broughton House,

Blackbrook Park Avenue,

Taunton, **TA1 2PR**

just off Junction 25 of the M5

Somerset Youth Singers:

Somerset Youth Singers has been helping develop not just the vocal skills of young people, but also boosting their mental health and wellbeing through singing together. We're keen to see numbers grow and see more young people in Somerset benefit from all that singing can offer. Please see attached flyer for more 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:

Please note we have a vacancy for a part-time HLTA at Wedmore First School, follow the link below for more details.

<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:

What a cold and frosty week! We have been hunting round the garden for ice and have tried our own experiment of putting different size pots of water outside to see which would freeze, some animals even got frozen into the water! This has led to many discussions about the weather and Jack Frost. Even though it has been cold, we have visited the park this week as part of our what's in Wedmore topic, this has been great fun for all! Finally, we have been looking at weight in maths and rhyme in literacy.

Robin Class:

We have had a fun week in Robin Class, jetting off on an aeroplane to explore Europe, looking at the different types of landscapes compared to where we live. We have been developing our map skills learning about Rosie's walk and going on our own adventure around our school using our positional language. Finally we have been finding out about Chinese New Year, the year of the dragon.



Deer Class:

Deer Class have had another busy but excellent week! We have been continuing our maths learning focusing on First, Then and Now stories. They have also learnt important new vocabulary: augmentation and represent. The children then had a go at creating their own first, then and now story. In music, the children have been busy learning how to play the African drums. In Art, the children have been continuing learning about Nerys Levy. This week, the children used paints to create an Antarctic colour pallet which they can then use in their final piece! Super work Deers!



Rabbit Class:

Rabbit Class have been busy learning about castles and writing a non-chronological report about what they have learnt. This has linked to our history this week. We have started our new maths unit about money where the children have been finding the total of different coins in pence and pounds. We have been learning about printing and made our own prints for a castle wall. We wrapped up warm in forest school this week and the children enjoyed the outdoor activities. The children paired up with children from other classes for our buddy reading session.



Fox Class:

Fox class have had another amazing week of learning. This week in English we have been working hard to write our own non-chronological reports about castles, the children have managed to use some amazing sentence starters in their work. In maths we have also started a new unit on money, so far we have learned all about the different coins and how much they are worth, and we have also practiced counting in pence. The children have also started to create their own castles in art using printing, they started off by creating the wall of their castles and then next week they will be cutting out the shape of the castle and adding some more details.

Hedgehog:

Year 3 have had a brilliant week this week! We have been writing our own myths which include our own mythical creatures. We can't wait to be able to share them with you! We went swimming on Tuesday and did brilliantly and on Wednesday we impressed Mr Coggins with our balancing work in gymnastics. We are excited about getting the big equipment out next week! For our topic we have continued to learn more about The Ancient Greeks and enjoyed finding out all about Athens and Sparta and what life was like there! We were surprised to learn that in Athens, women had to ask permission to leave the house! We also learnt all about what the Ancient Greek Olympics were like! They found out about the different sports that they competed in and again, were surprised to find out that women weren't allowed to watch, let alone take part! Although their favourite fact was that athletes completed naked!



Owl:

This week in Owl class we have continued our myth topic and have focused on using dialogue within them. We have continued our coordinates topic in maths, where we have been translating shapes and finding their coordinates. In science we conducted a chocolate melting experiment, where the children found the melting point of chocolate. What an exciting week!

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.



Attendance: A top fact to know

And it is never too late to benefit from good attendance:

More than half (54%) of pupils who were **PA (persistently absent) in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs**, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years. 2

2: Missing Children, Missing Grades | Children's Commissioner for England (childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)