



Wivelsfield Primary School

South Road, Wivelsfield Green, RH17 7QN

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope by now all parents and carers new to the school are beginning to feel very much part of our happy and busy community.

Staff News

Later in Term 2 we are delighted that we will be welcoming Mrs Sally Golding as an additional midday supervisor and afternoon teaching assistant, along with Miss Bethan Hamilton, who will be joining our Kingfishers After School Club team.

Miss Kelly will take up her position as Hedgehogs Class teacher in January, but will be visiting several times next term to work with Mrs Hancock and get to know the children.

Outdoor Classroom and Garden

The outdoor classroom and garden are now all but complete and we are looking forward to putting them to full use. Soon after our October break we will be 'planting' our garden of remembrance to mark the end of World War One, but following that we want to start using the raised beds for gardening.



I am very keen to start a Gardening Club again, either at lunchtime or after school. Please let me know, or someone in the office, if you would like to lead a club, or know someone who might want to. If the leader had

good knowledge and skills, and was prepared to make a regular commitment, we could discuss this being a club that children paid a small amount to come to.



Wivelsfield School in the Local Community

I was very sad to miss this year's Harvest Celebration, but I know from all the very positive feedback, how much you all enjoyed the harvest music, songs and poems performed by the children. Thank you to all the class teachers for helping the children prepare to perform so well, but special thanks must go to Mrs James and Mr Hards for the time they spend with the choir and orchestra to enable them to perform to such a high standard. Thank you also to all of you for your very generous contributions: we had a wonderful collection of food to give to Burgess Hill Foodbank.

Another thank you – this time to everyone who supported the MacMillan Coffee Afternoon hosted by Otters Class, either by donating cakes or enjoying a cup of tea and cake before afternoon collection.

Thank you also to the PTA for serving teas and coffees. We raised a wonderful £334 for this worthy cause. Well done Otters team and the PTA!



...and the Wider Community

Within the wider community we support Sierra Leone and below is a thank you to all of you from the Parish Link Committee:

Many thanks to all those who put items in the suitcase in the foyer. These will be taken out to Sierra Leone early in the last week of October. We are currently supporting 13 children in their secondary school education, which is not provided by the State. Recently we sent £1200 to support these children for the next year.

This amounts to roughly £92 per child and includes fees, uniforms and basic equipment such as school bags and writing equipment.

This may not seem much by our standards, but the average annual income of those in work (by no means everyone) is only around £350. As a result most children in Sierra Leone are never able to go to secondary school. Any help that Wivelsfield can give is most gratefully received.

At Christmas the money raised from the post box and performances will go to support our work with Sierra Leone.

Sport at Wivelsfield School

This term has been a busy term for sport. Earlier this month some of our Year 5s trained as play leaders. At least twice a week, these children organise a range of different activities for the rest of the school community, and especially the younger pupils, to enjoy at lunchtimes. Members of Badgers Class who did not take part in the first training will have the opportunity to be trained later this year.

Key Stage 2 pupils have also been out taking part in football and cross country competitions arranged for the local primary schools. Members of each team should be congratulated on representing the school. A special mention must go to the Year 3/4 football team who won the 'Sportsmanship' award at the Peacefields Football Festival and to Thomas Lawson, George Robinson and Josh Cornwall who all qualified for the area finals of the cross country. At this area competition, Thomas Lawson was first out of 68 competitors and will now run in the regional final next spring. **Well done Thomas!**



School Uniform

We are always proud of how smart our pupils are at Wivelsfield School. Details of the correct uniform are on our website, so please look there or ask us if you are unsure of any requirements. Please may I particularly draw your attention to: 'grey shorts, trousers, skirt or pinafore dress' (not black), and also that long hair should be tied back. This not only looks smart, but is also safer in a school environment.

Toys in School

A gentle reminder also, that unless permission has been given by a class teacher, your child should not bring toys into school. If they do, it can cause arguments and there is always a risk that they may get lost or damaged.

Thank you for supporting us with both uniform expectations and not bringing toys to school.

School Improvement Priorities

Every year the school focuses on a range of priorities. At the end of this newsletter is a list of the main areas we will be working to develop this year.

Also at the end of this letter are some photos from our art day today. Thank you to Miss Parris for organising the whole day, to all of you for the bottles and especially to the volunteers – without you we could not have had such an enjoyable and successful day.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable October break and look forward to seeing many of you at the Wivelsfield Big Bang this evening.



Kind regards,

Helen M. Smith

Helen Smith
Headteacher





School Improvement Priorities 2018 -2019

Effectiveness of Leadership and Management

- To further distribute leadership effectively across the school through developing senior and middle leadership skills of those new to the role.
- To further develop school to school support as a driving force to raise standards.
- To develop a consistently high quality environment in all areas that inspires and reflects the work of the school.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- To ensure teachers new to the school develop good and outstanding practice in order to further raise standards in all subjects.
- To ensure that all teachers plan lessons that consistently engage and challenge all groups of learners through creative teaching, including outdoor learning.
- To embed the milestones assessment system as an effective tool to monitor progress and attainment within, and at the end of, the school year.

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

- To develop best practice in teaching and monitoring online safety.
- To develop a whole school approach to Mental Health and Emotional well-being.
- To ensure the attendance of any persistent absentees improves in comparison with 2017 – 2018.

Outcomes for Children and Learners

- To ensure all children make good or better progress in mathematics across the school, with a particular focus on Years 3, 4, 5 so attainment remains better than national and progress scores at end of Year 6 continue to improve.
- To ensure better progress in writing so there is further improvement in progress scores at the end of KS2.
- To ensure children who exceeded the Early Learning Goals at the end of EYFS attain at a high level at the end of Key Stage One.

Early Years Foundation Stage

- To further develop the EYFS outdoor environment so it supports learning even more effectively in all areas of the curriculum.