



Wivelsfield Primary School and Nursery

South Road, Wivelsfield Green, RH17 7QN



Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope all our new parents and carers are now feeling very much part of our happy community and your children have settled into life at Wivelsfield School. Although we're all in need of rain for our water supplies, at school we were delighted that the dry weather continued for so long, meaning the children continued to enjoy playing together on our lovely field, right up until this week.

Attendance

Thank you to everyone who ensure their children attend school as much as they can. Attendance remains a focus of the DfE, and how well schools manage and encourage attendance is scrutinised at several levels beyond the school itself. We have set a whole school target of 96% and at the moment we are just meeting it with 96.4% to date. Some children struggle emotionally to come to school; if this is affecting your child's attendance, please do talk to us - we are here to help.

Owls 2025 Leavers' Gift

Thanks to the generosity of our parents and carers of Owls 2025, we now have a lovely new bench on the playground. Pupils can use this at breaktimes when they prefer to do a quiet activity, or just sit and chat. It has the added bonus of being fully inclusive, with access for a wheelchair.



Community Links

At Wivelsfield we are proud of helping our children to understand the importance of supporting the wider community.

This term, rather than holding a coffee morning, we held a cake sale after school for McMillan, where we raised £221. Thank you to everyone who made or bought cakes and biscuits for the sale.

A couple of weeks later, we celebrated harvest, with different assemblies for our younger and older children. At these assemblies, the children brought their harvest gifts to the hall where they performed songs and poems related to autumn and harvest. Well done to all our young performers, and especially to our new Robins for being so confident after just a few weeks in school. Thank you to all of you for your generous gifts which, this year, were donated to Haywards Heath Community Foodbank.

Sports News

Our new sports coaches are settling in well to Wivelsfield School and children are enjoying their lessons. I have seen Owls Class doing some lovely innovative dance work!

Miss Gough reports:

Our pupils took part in the Cross-Country competition at Chailey School alongside six local schools. The top 20 runners in Years 5 and 6 qualified for the next round—congratulations to Mia, Marlowe, Callum, Nathan and Ben for securing their places! A big well done also to Jaxon, William, Freya, and Bella who finished in the top 20 in the Year 3 and 4 races. We're so proud of everyone who took part, and we'd like to thank all the parents for their fantastic support on the day.

Sadly, the football tournament for our Y5/6 pupils was cancelled because of the torrential rain last Monday. Chailey School hopes to host it in Term 3.

School Trips

Across the school, teachers try to plan experiences that will enrich the children's learning, so they are inspired and enjoy the different subjects. This enrichment may be school trips, visitors to the school, or special days with a range of activities planned by their teachers.

As part of their learning about our local community, Hedgehogs Class went on a village walk from the school to the church. There, Rev. Christopher Powell helped the children to learn more about the church before joining them for a picnic in the lovely autumn sunshine in the church grounds.



Miss Kelly planned another memorable visit to The Globe Theatre in London for Owls Class, which was led by Miss Henley, due to Miss Kelly being unwell on the day. The children had a wonderful time and took part in workshops on the theme of The Tempest.



Thank you to Miss Henley and all the staff and volunteers who accompanied Owls, for giving them a memorable day.

Meanwhile, Otters Class ventured to Lewes Castle. Miss Gough writes:

This term, Otters class visited Lewes Castle, where we took part in an exciting storytelling workshop, exploring myths and legends as inspiration for our own writing about Beowulf.

The children also had the opportunity to examine fascinating ancient artefacts, including studying Anglo-Saxon weapons to understand how they defended themselves in battle, and jewellery to learn about craftsmanship in Anglo-Saxon society. It was a fantastic day.

Thank you to all our volunteers who give up their time to help accompany children on these visits. Without your support, we would not be able to go.

Bikeability

Well done to our Owls Class who successfully completed their bikeability training last week. I always enjoy seeing the children grow in confidence in their cycling ability throughout their training week, and this year was no exception. I was also delighted by the consistently positive reports about the children's behaviour from the trainers.

Thank you

A huge thank you to Mr Witham, whose company, Motor Data Solutions, has donated lots of cream crackers and bread sticks for our Robins to enjoy at snack time. There is still free fruit available every day, but it is now recommended that schools also provide a higher calorie snack to give our active young learners all the energy they need to see them through a busy and active day!

Thank you also to all the parents who supported our book fair, either helping to sell the books, buying books or both! The book fair not only brings the joy of reading into the spotlight for families, but also benefits the school. We earn money from every book sold to buy books to replenish our libraries and class book shelves and this year earned in the region of £560 worth of books.

One final shout out - this time to thank Chris Godsmark, who is a dad of children in Robins and Wrens, for all the time he has spent clearing our somewhat sad looking raised beds. He has further work planned to restore them to their former glory before the Green Team and other children get busy planting and growing.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

Reminders

Please make sure to supervise your children closely in the car park at the end of the school day. There is always a little bit of traffic movement, including our school bus, and a couple of weeks ago a member of staff saw one of our younger children dash out between two parked cars. Luckily there wasn't an accident and we don't want any!

Autumn, and its associated colder weather with wind and rain, has arrived with a vengeance. Please make sure your children always have their coats with them. We go outside for breaks as much as we can and a lovely start to the day can easily change by mid-morning.

Thank you.

Open Morning and Wrens

If you know anyone with a pre-school child who might be interested in joining our Reception Class next September, please let them know that our Open Morning is on **Monday 10th November**. Details of how to register are on our website. We have a few spaces left in Wrens Nursery for January. We take children from 2 years, so if you know of anyone looking for nursery provision, we would love to welcome them to our community.

Have a lovely October break and if you are celebrating Halloween or Bonfire Night, have fun and keep safe. We look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 3rd November** for Term 2 with all the excitement of the run up to Christmas!

With warm regards,



Helen Smith
Headteacher