Wellstead Primary School
Sowing the Seeds of Success



Newsletter - October 2026

Learning Value Focus: Curiosity

Dear Wellstead Families,

Welcome to our October newsletter!

It is certainly feeling much more autumnal now, and it is definitely time for me to be wearing my coat on the gate each morning. I hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful half term break and had the opportunity to create some special memories together as a family. I have already enjoyed hearing some of the children's stories about their adventures, trips away and family activities over the holiday.

This week, I have had the pleasure of welcoming prospective families to Wellstead as they begin to explore local schools for September 2027. I am always incredibly proud to show visitors around our wonderful school and share the many opportunities available to our children. During one of the tours, our Year 4 children were rehearsing together and provided a lovely musical soundtrack as we walked around the building. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase not only our exciting curriculum, clubs, trips and residential experiences, but also the warm, positive atmosphere that makes Wellstead such a special place. Most importantly, visitors were able to see for themselves just how polite, respectful and welcoming our children are every day.

During our recent INSET days, staff spent valuable time continuing to develop our curriculum and teaching practice. We worked with Mrs Guise on developing oracy and talk for learning, considering how purposeful discussion can strengthen children's understanding and further enhance our value of Collaboration. Mr Anderson and Mrs Street invited us to explore ways to ensure subject-specific vocabulary is taught consistently across the school, using dual coding to help children make meaningful connections in their learning.

Last month, we introduced our new learning values, and this half term our focus is **Curiosity**. During Monday's assembly, we explored what it means to be curious and why this is such an important quality for successful learning. The children shared some thoughtful ideas, with our older pupils talking about being inquisitive and eager to learn more, while younger children spoke about asking questions to help them understand the world around them. I challenged everyone to be aspirational and to think of one big question, such as *Why is the sky blue?* or *How do birds know where to migrate?* Do take some time to ask your child about their question and explore possible answers together.

Our children continue to represent the school brilliantly beyond the classroom. Mr Trickett accompanied a group of Year 3 pupils to a Futsal tournament in Eastleigh this week, where they joined several local schools in a competition led by students from Barton Peveril College. While the children demonstrated excellent sporting skills throughout the afternoon, what stood out most was their outstanding behaviour, sportsmanship and respect. Mr Trickett was delighted to report that our pupils were praised for their manners and thanked their coaches without any prompting. They were a credit to the school, and we are extremely proud of them.

As always, thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to another busy and exciting half term filled with opportunities for learning, discovery and success.

Best wishes,

Mrs Amanda Greenwood

Headteacher

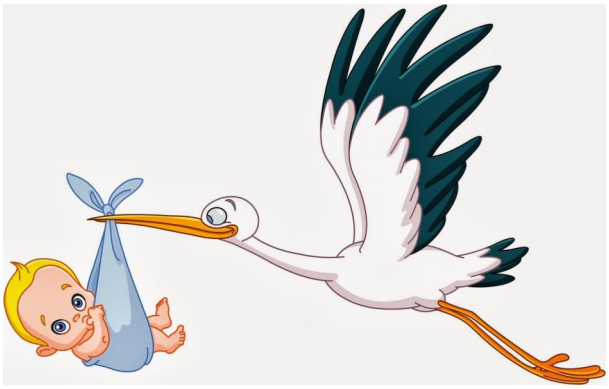


Staffing updates

As mentioned in the last newsletter, Coach Maltby has now left Wellstead and recruitment is underway for a new Sports Coach, with interviews taking place this week and next. We are aware that this has had an impact on our after-school clubs and are doing our best to provide cover wherever possible using teaching staff. Please accept our apologies for any disruption, including occasions where different members of staff are covering clubs or,

unfortunately, where clubs need to be cancelled. We hope to have everything back up and running at full speed as soon as possible.

We are also absolutely delighted to share that Mrs Cross (Corn Class) and Mrs White (Poppy Class) are both expecting new additions to their families and will therefore be taking maternity leave from around Christmas time. We wish them both every happiness as they prepare for this exciting new chapter and take the time they need with their growing families. We will, of course, keep parents informed about arrangements for class cover and continuity of learning nearer the time.



A message from the Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

We'd like to introduce ourselves as the new Co-Chairs of the Governing Board at Wellstead. We are Silas Bingley and Marsha Dearlove, both Governors and parents of children at the school. We took up the role of Co-Chairs at the start of this term and are pleased to be serving the Wellstead community alongside a dedicated team of Governors.

As Governors, we care deeply about the school and the experiences of all children who attend. It is a privilege to share this role, and we look forward to working together to support the school and act in the best interests of pupils, families, staff, and the wider school community.

Through future newsletters, we hope to share a little more about the Governing Board, what we do, and some of the work taking place behind the scenes to help Wellstead continue to thrive.

Best wishes

Silas Bingley and Marsha Dearlove

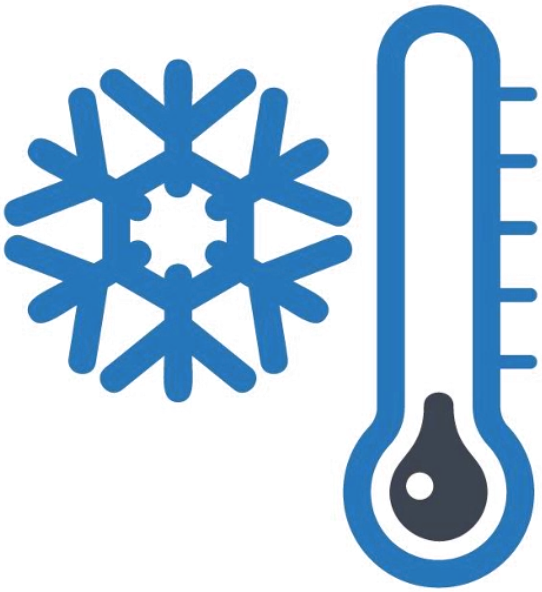
Co-Chairs of the Governing Board



Cold weather!

The temperature has dropped significantly over the past few days. Please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat, as they will be outside during break and lunchtime each day, as well as taking part in outdoor learning activities.

For more information about our winter uniform, please visit our website: https://www.wellsteadprimary.co.uk/uniform-information



Hampshire Local Area SEND Inspection

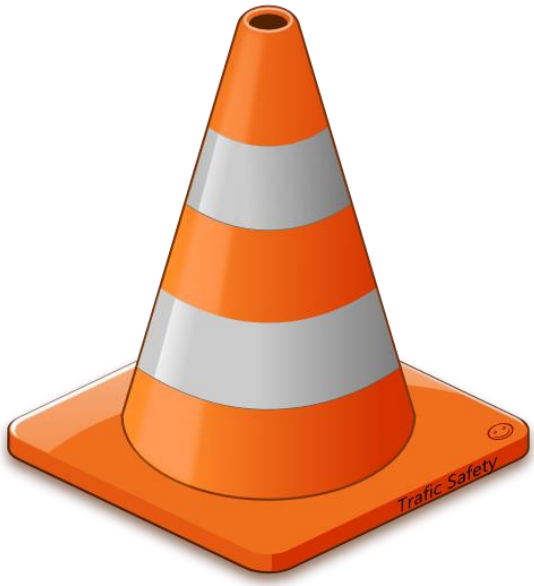
Hampshire is currently undergoing a **Local Area SEND Inspection** led by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC). This is not about our school but about Hampshire, and the inspection focuses on how effectively education, health and social care services work together to support children and young people aged 0–25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

As part of the inspection, Ofsted and CQC want to hear from **children, young people, parents / carers and practitioners and professionals working with children and young people with SEND across education, health and social care services** and have asked that

this questionnaire Complete the Ofsted/CQC Area SEND survey is completed by as many people across Hampshire as possible.

Parking Reminders

A reminder about safe parking and driving at drop-off and pick-up times: Thank you to the many families who help to keep our school community safe by walking to school, using the Park and Stride or parking considerately and driving with care. We kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of local residents, avoid parking on pavements, zig-zag lines or across driveways, and refrain from stopping in areas that may obstruct visibility for children crossing the road. Please allow a little extra time for your journey and drive slowly near the school site. By working together, we can ensure that every child arrives at and leaves school safely. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



Humanities and Arts day at University of Southampton

Explore, create and discover at Arts and Humanities Day this November

Get ready for a fun-filled family day with the University of Southampton! **Arts and Humanities Day** returns on **Saturday 14th November 2026, 10:30 – 16:30**. The event is **free and family-friendly** and takes place at the Southampton Cultural Quarter, in Sir James Matthews Building and 1 Guildhall Square, in collaboration with John Hansard Gallery, Mayflower Studios and Southampton City Art Gallery.

With **more than 40 activities to choose from**, children, teens and grown-ups can explore archaeology, music, art, history, design, fashion, games and much more. The event features engaging hands-on activities, exciting workshops, inspiring talks, exhibitions and live performances.

Arts and Humanities Day is part of the University of Southampton's annual **Southampton Arts and Humanities Festival**.

Plan your family day out, book your tickets and discover what's on at www.southamptonartshumfest.co.uk



Thank you!

Thank you to all parents for your generous Harvest Festival contributions to the Hedge End Food Bank. You filled two car boots full of packets and tins, which were gratefully received and will go towards supporting families in our local community. We greatly appreciate your kindness and support.



Dates for your diary



November

5th November - Sparkle Spectacular themed lunch

11th November - Climate Unity Conference (Virtual) Yr 5&6

13th November - Children in Need non-uniform day (dress in yellow, spots or Pudsey themed)

18th November - Individual school photos

26th November - PoW non-uniform day

27th November - INSET Day

December

3rd December - Year 6 trip to Hampton Court

4th December - PoW Christmas Fayre

7th December - Year 2 Christingle (evening)

10th December - PoW Christmas discos and Christmas Jumper Day

15th December - Christmas dinner

16th December - Year 1 Nativity (PM)

17th December - Year 1 Nativity (Eve)

18th December - Pow Santa Visit and last day of term

January

4th January - first day of the Spring Term

Next Year's Term dates and currently agreed INSET days can be found on our website at: https://www.wellsteadprimary.co.uk/term-dates-and-inset-days

Holiday Sports Clubs

Please remember that any groups or clubs that we signpost on our newsletters are not checked by the school and are therefore included for your information only, not as a recommendation. Please be sure that you make your own checks as to qualifications, quality and safeguarding before you decide to sign up. I have attached a leaflet from the NSPCC that might help you with this.



Local events, clubs and opportunities

Families can play tennis for FREE at Bursledon Recreation Ground every Saturday, 12pm to 1pm with Barclays Free Park Tennis, open to all ages and abilities with rackets and balls provided. Weekly coaching for juniors and adults also runs all year: the first session is free, and the code NEWROUTINE30 gives 30% off the first month. Book a free place:

https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BursledonRecreationGround/Coaching/Summary/d3b34bc6-2b74-43f4-a596-c7cf2e39e944

Girls Cricket

GIRLS DYNAMO CRICKET - FREE SESSIONS FOR GIRLS 8-11 YEARS OLD - JANUARY 2027

We are excited to share that Fair Oak Cricket Club will be running 8 FREE sessions of girls cricket aimed at those who are fairly new to the game, to help them learn a new skill, make friends and enjoy sport in a fun a friendly environment. Sessions are all run by fully qualified and DBS checked coaches, and start in January 2027.

GIRLS DYNAMOS CRICKET

AT FAIR OAK CRICKET CLUB

GIRLS DYNAMO CRICKET IS FOR GIRLS AGED 8-11 WHO ARE LOOKING TO GET INTO CRICKET, OR CONTINUE AFTER ALL STARS. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

AGES 8-11

STARTING SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY

1:30-2:30PM @ WYVERN COLLEGE, SO50 7AN

8 WEEKLY SESSIONS FOR FREE!



SCAN THIS TO SIGN UP:

ENTER CODE DGMYH
TO REDUCE THE COST TO £0

OR EMAIL:
FAIROAKCCJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM

DYNAMOS CRICKET

Est. 1947
Fair Oak Cricket Club