

Dear parents/carers and children,

Newsletter no 27

Each Friday, I think to myself, 'What a week!' but this is the week, I can truly say it. It has been full and fabulous, with so many fantastic learning opportunities.

On Monday, our whole school arts project got off to an exciting start. Our committee of Year 6 pupils, who will be running the project, met one of the artists who has applied to be our supporting 'artist in residence' later in the year, when the whole school will be involved in creating a piece of ceramic art to welcome visitors to our school. The committee of eight Year 6 pupils gave Susanne a tour of the school, before interviewing her and supervising a clay session with the arts ambassadors from Years 1-6. The children created some lovely clay acorns with Susanne. Well done to the committee, ably led by Amelia and Kaici, for your work on this interview process.



Music Events:

Choir: Abba Concert

We are so proud of our choir who once again did a fantastic job of singing their hearts out and filling us with joy. On Tuesday evening, they performed a selection of ABBA songs with four hundred children at Wellington School. They worked hard practising all afternoon, but their evening performance was still full of energy and enthusiasm. A particular well done to Benjamin and Amelia, who sang amazing solos during the rehearsal in front of hundreds of people. Thanks to all the children for working so hard to learn their words and for their continued enthusiasm, and to all the families who came along to support.



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Report by Ben: On Tuesday, choir went to Wellington School to sing with lots of other schools. First choir did a rehearsal of Abba songs. After the rehearsal, Ben bravely signed up for a solo but sadly didn't get the part. Later parents started filling the room to listen to the concert. After the long day of singing their hearts out, choir went home and went to sleep.

Y2 Singing Concert

On Wednesday, Beech Class presented parents and carers with the nine accapello songs they have been learning this term. The focus of the 10-week programme has been on pitch and learning to sing. Year 2 did a fantastic job. We are looking forward to welcoming many of them into the choir when it is next open to new members.

On Thursday, we had a full day of music starting with our **Rocksteady bands** coming together to give a parents and carers concert – an enjoyable time was had by all.



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Klezmer and Year 4s musical workshop

This afternoon, the whole school took part in a Klezmer inspired music assembly. Klezmer is a Jewish style of music and the children learnt about different instruments before hearing several pieces, joining in with clapping, and dancing. Then Hawthorn Class had the opportunity to take part in an extra music workshop and concert yesterday as part of Somerset Music's Year of Klezmer: which is a celebration of this lively and engaging Jewish music that originated in Eastern Europe. The children worked with a Klezmer trio called Hop Skotshne to practise and perform on their ukuleles alongside children from other schools at Holyrood Academy.



Report

by Alfie: Yesterday afternoon, a ukulele workshop happened at 1.30pm. There were three musicians playing. One had a ukulele, one had a violin, and last but not least, one had an accordion. We had to do clapping and foot stamping and we sat and listened to the greatest music ever!

Report by Adley: On Thursday, year 4 went to Holyrood. We practised and the other schools joined in. Some were playing guitars, ukuleles and glockenspiels. It was Yiddish music from East Europe.

On Friday, as part of their learning about Judaism, and in particular about Shabbat, Willow Class and Hazel Class got together to share some challah bread, sing a song with some lyrics in Hebrew and enjoy one another's company. Thanks to Mr Park and Mrs Symes for providing the delicious - and beautiful - loaves.



Curriculum Evening: 27th April

After the Easter break, we will be holding a Curriculum Evening for children and parents/carers. Please save the date Thursday 27th April. Further details will be sent home after the break. This will

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be an opportunity for children to show their families around our historical timeline and to sit and listen to information about our curriculum offer.

Warm Spaces

With the Summer Term approaching we have now closed the initiative. A very special thank you to Devon Helyar for volunteering to run it each week.

Y6 SATs Meeting 30th March

Thank you to the parents and carers who attended the year 6 SATs meetings this week – we hope you found these useful. The slides from the meeting have been sent out today. Message from Mrs Hewitson – the Year 6 children have some Easter holiday homework!

Safeguarding: Please find attached a flyer 'Helping children and young people with managing device stress and anxiety.

FSM Vouchers: Parents and carers of children in receipt of benefit related free school meals should have received an email yesterday with details of the vouchers to cover the holiday.

TTRS – Y4 Well done!

Attendance: Year 1 are the attendance winners this week!
This week our attendance is 95.17%. Thank you to everyone for coming to school unless they have a high temperature or poorly with sickness and diarrhoea.

Late into school: Any pupils arriving late at school need to be signed in at the office by parent/carers on arrival.

Whole School Year to date attendance

Sessions	Sept 2022 to date	%
Attendances	46557	95.17
Authorised Absences	1913	
Unauthorised Absences	271	
Possible attendance	48921	
Lates	247	

Gold Card Dancing – I am sure that a few children may have mentioned to parents and carers about the gold card dancing in the office, here are three of this week's gold card winners!

Celebrations

Platinum Bags

Y2: Rosa, Ella & Alfie for super writing about Wilf's new friend and the kingfishers from the Lost World. With special mentions also to Tabitha, Samuel, Jacob & Issy.



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Y4: Isabel for a fantastic report on the Easter story. Alaska for DT make a moving pneumatic toy.
 Y5: Spencer, Billy, Sophia, Tyler, Oscar B, Eli, Erin & Ruby B for their amazing clay design artwork.

Hazel Class finished their latest art project today by glazing their painted fruit-inspired pots. Mrs Whiffin is so proud of them!



Handwriting pens

Willow Class: Cameron.

Hawthorn Class: Alana.

Hazel Class: Kai R.

Yew Class: Jacob.

Behaviour for Learning Celebrations:

Acorn Class: Elsie for showing resilience and determination when things don't go her way. **Jenson** for his passion and enthusiasm for school and for learning – keep that fire burning Jenson!

Oak Class: Lauren for being motivated and engaged in her learning and writing a beautifully descriptive piece about animals in literacy. **James** for always being motivated and engaged in his learning. He has written some super narrative this week about different animals.

Beech Class: Evie for keeping going in maths when she is finding something difficult. **Seb** for keeping going with his handwriting –fantastic progress 😊

Willow Class: Robyn for using subordinate clauses to make her writing more engaging, super job!

Leo for thinking his method through clearly when working out fractions.

Hawthorn Class: Jack for taking responsibility and always showing excellent behaviour and modelling a great attitude to learning. **Amelia** being a risktaker and for going for a solo part in the choir's performance at Wellington School, so brave! **Ben** for being a risktaker by auditioning for a solo part in the choir's performance. **All of Year 4** for being amazing during the Klezmer workshops and performing brilliantly at Holyrood school. Fantastic, I'm so proud!

Hazel Class: Calum for being motivated and engaged - for trying his best and approaching everything with a positive and cheerful attitude. **Abi** for being motivated and engaged - for always showing interest, thoughtfulness, and a desire to do her best, no matter what the task or the subject.

Yew Class: Charlie G for being such a kind and supportive Rockstar buddy! **Loren** for improved focus on checking her work, being careful and editing her spellings.

Sporting Spirits

					
Jacob - Y6	Clayton – Y3	Calum - Y5	Paige - Y4	Kai R - Y5	Alaska - Y4

KS2 Girls' Football Development Sessions Yeovil

Over the last month, Effie, Amelia and Alana from Year 4 have been taking part in the Yeovil Football Club Development scheme. This programme was designed with fun at its core, to increase participation without a focus on competition. The girls had a great time focusing on different skills and even won the school some equipment! This opportunity will be open to all KS2 girls again next year, please register your interest when the form comes out.



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Report by Alana: For the past five weeks Amelia, Alana and Effie from year four went to Huish Park training for football with other schools. The girls got medals and were given a football and target goal for the school.

Kind regards



Tracey Hart, Headteacher

Attachments: Summer term clubs. NOS: Managing device stress and anxiety. Fun time flyer. Yeovil Country Park flyers.

Reminders:

Free School Meals

With family circumstances forever changing at the moment, please access the FSM application through the link below. It is easy to complete and will identify whether you are able to access them reasonably quickly.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/free-school-meals/>

If you have recently become unemployed but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals. Please phone 0300 123 2224 for advice.

Dates:

Celebration assembly each Friday for anyone able to join us. Please enter school through the front office gate at 11.45 am and sign in at the office. It would be lovely to see more parents each week. Following on from Parent Forum, once a month, we will hold the assembly in the afternoon: the next afternoon assembly will be Friday, 5th May.

Book Worms Club - A reminder that on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes we run 'Book Worms' club in the Library. This is a great opportunity for your child to read with an older child or adult. Children can go to the library from 1.15 - 1.45 pm.

Swimming Y5 & some Y6:

Y5: 20/04/23. We now have an extra swim on 27th April due to the mix up this week, there is no extra charge for this session.

Residential Visits

All medical forms were due back on 10th March, please send these in so we can plan the trip, plus a reminder of the payment schedule as payments should total now £133: 30th Nov: £13; 16th Dec: £20; 21st Jan: £20; 10 Feb: £20; 28 Feb: £20; 17 March: £20; 31st March £20 & £50 to be paid by 21st April.

- **Y5 Pixies Holt Residential 24th – 26th April 2023.**
- **Y3/4 Magdalen Residential 5th & 6th October 2023 – for present Y2/3 children.**

Zog Performance at the Octagon Theatre Visit Wednesday 19th April.

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