



Wilburton CE Primary School Newsletter

16th



2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Stark impact of lockdown on children's learning at Wilburton Primary School

During the first few weeks of term, teachers have been assessing children for where they'd normally expect them to be at the start of the academic year. Standardised tests in reading and maths have been given, and general reviews of writing by the class teachers. This is uncomfortable reading, but no surprise - many children have lost learning as a result of not being in school, learning socially with others. This table shows the percentage in each year group that are working at the expected standard for the beginning of their year:

	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Maths	48%	33.30%	30%	50%	47%	41%
Reading	9%	16%	50%	80%	50%	47%

Writing figures are similar, with particular issues in punctuation, grammar, spelling and writing stamina. Whilst we wouldn't normally expect all children to be at the expected level, the figures are much lower and show the scale of the challenge ahead. **I am outraged at the education that has been stolen away from your children - this is not their fault! We need your help!** In school the teachers cannot spend 10-15 minutes with each child individually every day reading, practising spellings, learning number facts or times tables. But this would make a huge difference to your child. Let's work together, and help us to help your child recover as quickly as possible. If you invest this time, changing your routine if necessary, your child will get the reward. If we are determined, there will not be a lasting impact of this terrible pandemic on children's education. More than ever before, teachers need your support. They know what's at stake and are working incredibly hard for your children. Meanwhile, please keep practising social distancing and other aspects to ensure cases in our area remain low and children can stay learning at school. We are confident that with the new curriculum, the commitment of staff and your support together we can get children back on course to reach their full potential.

Classtime or Facetime?

CORONAVIRUS HASN'T GONE AWAY

We don't want our school to close.
Following safety measures at home will help keep our classrooms open.

For further updates and information check our websites which will be regularly updated www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk
www.peterborough.gov.uk • www.gov.uk

Helping to support with learning and school

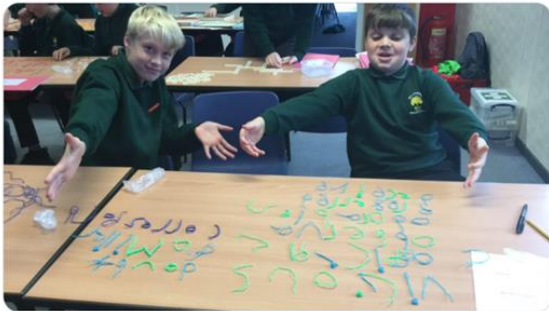
One of the unfortunate effects of our Covid control measures is that you don't get to come into school, and it's been hard for you to know about what your children are learning. We want to address that, so you feel more informed, and so will be taking the following steps:

- We are rolling out Tapestry Online Learning Journals for children in EYFS, to share learning and next steps between school and home. We are setting up the system now and it should be ready for after half-term.
- Our brand new school curriculum will soon be published on our school website. We are so proud of this, and it is a major new school improvement. Children are learning from it now and over half-term I will have some time to publish it online so you can see the knowledge and skills children are learning in each topic.
- Each week we're going to send to parents a short video from one of the classes, sharing with you a flavour of what children do.
- We've set up a photo album facility to share photos with parents more easily.
- We're making a big effort to send a Tweet every day to share one thing from the school day - please follow us **@WilburtonPri** Here are some from this week:



Wilburton C of E Primary @WilburtonPri · 30s

Here's an idea - Sensory Spellings in Hedgehogs Class this morning: doing something different and physical to help remember individual letters. photos.app.goo.gl/3343i92FmU3i1d...



Wilburton C of E Primary @WilburtonPri · 1m

See-saw fun at Forest School this afternoon :-)



Wilburton C of E Primary @WilburtonPri

Squirrels Class have created 'happy' paintings inspired by Picasso's 'Rose' Period (1904-1906). Our paintings, some of which are portraits, use similar colours.



Wilburton C of E Primary @WilburtonPri · 1s

Fantastic PE session for KS2 groups this afternoon in both sun and rain - maximum effort from everyone to improve fitness :-)



Local Authority Budget Consultation

This Tuesday evening I attended the LA Budget Consultation Meeting for 2021-22. Thankfully, this year I didn't need a long drive to Huntingdon, and could attend via Zoom. However, the depressing message hasn't changed. The Local Authority are in very difficult times: their education budget is £28.5 million in deficit. It is clear the current model isn't sustainable, and yet we have to do the best we can with the resources at our disposal.

This has been very much the aim this year. Schools are funded for class sizes of 30 children - effectively the funding for 30 children pay for the teaching staff and resources for one class. We have 120 children on roll. Last year the Local Authority told us clearly that we needed to run four classes, with good reason: we had an in-year deficit of £56, 842. I knew that doing this would not be in the best interests of our children this year, and worked hard to present an alternative plan to governors. Applying to every funding grant I knew of, I managed to find £25, 598 in one-off grants. We trimmed spending in as many areas as possible, reduced staffing hours and training, combined roles to increase job demands, and I took on more regular teaching hours. We couldn't manage to sustain five classes every day (we are still overspending), but we could do enough to support five classes for every morning of the week, covering all English and Maths. We are all making big sacrifices to do as much as we can to provide the best possible educational provision with the resources we have each year. Our commitment to this is unwavering.

Re-start of School Library Project and Easy Fundraising

We have set a target date of Easter 2021 for installation of our new school library. The WSA are driving fundraising, and have lots of great events planned for you to support! We are a significant way there with fundraising.

If you are doing online shopping (perhaps for Christmas), please use the Easy Fundraising Website link.

You can now support Wilburton CE Primary - Ely on #easyfundraising! When you sign up as a supporter, 4,300 shops and sites will donate for free, every time you shop online. This includes all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat and many more!?

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wilburtonprim>

New Parent Governors

I am delighted to inform you that we have two new Parent Governors.

They are:

- **Chris McIntyre**, a secondary school Geography teacher of 16 years standing. He had a daughter in Year 6 last year and has a son in Year 3 at the moment.
- **Louisa Tipler** (Shipp), with 20 years' experience in education, teaching Middle School (years 5/6/7) before becoming an Educational Psychologist. She has a son in Year 1.

Thank you Chris and Louisa for responding to the call and volunteering your time and expertise.

House Captains

Voting has taken place in each house and we are proud to announce this year's house captains from Year 6. Here they are looking very smart!



At last week's celebration assembly, Reception children were welcomed into their new houses – these are listed in the table below.

<p>Neil Armstrong (1930-2012) Captains: Archer, Harry</p>	<p>Quentin Blake (1932-Present) Captains: Macey, Bailey</p>	<p>Ada Lovelace (1815-1832) Captains: Ciara, Thomas</p>	<p>Lizzy Yarnold (1988-Present) Captains: Suki, Liam</p>
			
<p>Grace Lucy A Lexi Liliane Ella</p>	<p>Louis Isla Escala Lucy B Lacey Mae</p>	<p>Mary-Kate Sophia Harry Molly Brodie Reuben</p>	<p>Nathan Harrison Fred Austin Joe Florence</p>

Best wishes,

David Aston
Headteacher



Stars of the Week



Date	Fieldmice	Squirrels	Foxes	Owls	Hedgehogs	Lunchtime Stars
11/09/2020	Edgar	Thea	Florence	Chloe	Lacey	
18/09/2020	Joseph	Greyson	Daniel	Riley	Freddy	Edward Elizabeth
25/09/2020	Isla, Louis	Mya	Steve	Lilly Matt	Archer	Austin Ena
02/10/2020	Ella	Scarlett D	Jacob	Elizabeth	Ciara	Ella Faye
09/10/2020	Molly	Greyson	Annie	Alex B	Harry T	Scarlett D Tyler
16/10/2020	Harrison	Toby	Douglas	Poppy	David	Grace Hermione

Birthday List

Since the beginning of term and for the next the next 4 weeks

Jorja	Class 4	01/09/20
David	Class 5	04/09/20
Thomas	Class 5	04/09/20
Alfie	Class 4	09/09/20
Mya	Class 2	09/09/20
Reuben	Class 1	09/09/20
Thea	Class 2	12/09/20
Marnie	Class 2	12/09/20
Adele	Class 5	15/09/20
Archer	Class 5	25/09/20
Abby	Class 3	01/10/20
Monique	Class 4	05/10/20
Harry	Class 5	05/10/20
Felix	Class 2	07/10/20
Scarlett W	Class 2	07/10/20
Fred	Class 1	09/10/20
Harrison	Class 3	10/10/20
Madeleine	Class 2	13/10/20
William	Class 5	17/10/20
Isla	Class 1	20/10/20
Macey	Class 5	02/11/20
Mary-Kate	Class 1	04/11/20
Poppy	Class 4	05/11/20
Daniel	Class 3	05/11/20
Elizabeth	Class 4	06/11/20

Dates for your diary:

22/10/20: WSA Non-Uniform Day

23/10/20: Inset Day – School Closed
October Half Term Begins

26/10/20-30/10/20: October Half Term

02/11/20: Back to School

03/11/20: WSA AGM 8.00pm

