

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

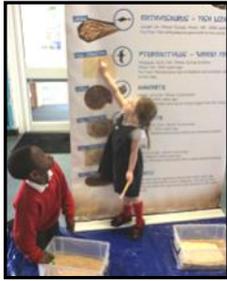
WE'RE GOING ON A FOSSIL HUNT ...



This morning our Reception children assumed the role of professional palaeontologists and went on a fossil hunt, courtesy of *Life Long Ago*. They searched through large boxes of sand, gently brushing away the sand to discover the fossils that lay beneath.



The most fascinating artefacts included a Triceratops nose horn, a flattened dinosaur egg, a pregnant spade fish, an Allosaurus' skull and a tail spike from a Stegosaurus. What a fact filled morning! The children can't wait to use their knowledge and continue to ask questions about prehistoric life.



INVESTIGATING INVERTEBRATES

This week, the children in Year 4 have been outside exploring the grounds looking for invertebrates. They looked under rocks and on plants and used *pouters* to collect the small creatures. They then decided to investigate what habitats the invertebrates preferred. They used boxes to create contrasting environments such as wet/dry, dark/light or sand/soil and left the animals over lunch to see which side they would prefer. The results are in - drum roll please - the creatures they found preferred damp, dark soil, just the type of conditions the children found them in outside.



We are Family

The hall was fit to bursting on Thursday morning as we welcomed hundreds of people to our Family Day Assemblies; it was lovely to see so many of you here to support your children. The children delighted their audiences with songs and poems and, for some classes, stories of happy family memories. What a wonderful family celebration and thank you to Team Wray Common for working together so well to put together truly memorable performances for everyone to enjoy. Happy Family Day!



PARENT INFORMATION PAGE

PUPIL VOICE

At Wray Common, we pride ourselves on our children having a voice. We value their views on every aspect of school life and nurture a culture where all children feel listened to, valued, respected and empowered. As a result, their well-being, their learning experiences and the quality of teaching is continually enhanced.

How?

We have a range of paths through which children let their voices be heard:

- half-termly Soapbox Assemblies when children debate school-related issues with a view to seeking solutions
- "Thinking Thursdays" every week when children explore and reflect upon broader social, moral and cultural issues
- elected School Councillors across the school who represent their class views and engage in decision-making
- shared generation of class charters at the beginning of the year
- trained peer mediators active during lunchtimes to support children in developing conflict resolution skills and support children's engagement
- Physi-Fun leaders in infant playground to promote active engagement and physical development
- Embedded "Restorative Approach" to support conflict resolution and restoration of relationships
- trained Digital Leaders to support high quality inclusive IT lessons
- trained Sports Leaders to promote high quality inclusive PE lessons
- a pedagogical approach to teaching and learning which values the importance of TALK across all lessons every day
- "Worry Boxes" in every class
- "Worry Buster" (Mrs Marrant) accessible to all
- vote on which charity should be supported during summer term every year
- a structured high-quality, PSHE (incl e-safety) curriculum which promotes assertiveness and the importance of telling trusted adults when concerned
- House Assemblies planned for and delivered by children focussing on the development of Values
- Celebration Assembly when children nominate other children/adults who have demonstrated Wray Common Values
- open door policy of Mr Murphy, Mr Huelin and Mrs Brackenbury
- children questionnaire, at least annually, carried out by Mr Murphy
- range of targeted interviews/questionnaires carried out by leaders during the year
- engagement in recruitment of staff
- periodic targeted interviews by Governors of Wray Common

An Example...

Area for Improvement Identified:

After sharing the results from children's questionnaires and data about behaviour incidents and accidents, we sought solutions about how to improve behaviour and reduce accidents during lunchtimes.

Solution-focussed thinking:

After discussions and debate at Soapbox Assemblies and School Council meetings, some decisions were made and solutions put in place:

- School Council monitor behaviour during lunchtime every week
- Michelle (head chef) reports to the School Council about behaviour, attitudes and tidiness in the dining areas
- School Council review weekly behaviour and accident data
- Decision made to maintain den-building activities
- Decision made to suspend permission to climb trees (after too many child in breach of agreed expectations)
- The School Council deliver weekly report at Celebration Assembly which highlights successes and areas for development against our Wray Common Values and Wray Common Citizen criteria. They also agree and share a score out of 5 (which children eagerly anticipate!)

Impact

- 42% reduction in serious behaviour incidents at lunchtimes
- 47% reduction in numbers accidents at lunchtime
- 11% increase in number of children who say that other children are kind and respectful towards them at lunchtimes

The Cycle Goes On...

Our area for development moving forward, as a result of children's questionnaires last week, is to increase the percentage of children feeling that there is enough to do during lunchtime. The children have already reflected upon and shared their views about how this might change... it turns out this may very well be in their own hands!

Written in consultation with 6R



Congratulations to everyone who was involved in the wonderful Arts Soiree last week. The packed audience was treated to beautiful performances from the choir and also impressive numbers from our new Year 6 choir; both groups demonstrated what is possible when we work together as a team towards a shared goal. As we say at Wray Common, "Practice makes Progress" and we are very proud of the progress all our musicians are making. Some brave children stepped onto the stage to perform solos, which takes real courage whilst others represented their year group, showcasing learning straight from the music classroom. We heard Year 2 singing and playing the spirited 'I Wanna Play in a Band' and Year 4 performing 'Blackbird' by The Beatles with great musicianship. It was wonderful to see dances, hear creative writing and witness the outcome of child-led groups, such as *Dude 6*, the Year 3 band. We were impressed with the violin playing and wowed by the professionalism of both Musical Theatre groups. Thank you to all of you who continue to support your children in their musical involvement and especially to those who attended the Arts Soiree.



YEAR 5 GO ON AN EASTER JOURNEY

On Monday this week, Year 5 were invited by Sparkfish, a local Christian organisation, to go on an Easter journey with them. The children travelled to Reigate Park Church to watch a re-enactment of the Easter Story. Here are the thoughts of three of our children:
 "I really enjoyed learning about the different characters that were involved in Jesus' life," Roxie 5TE

"It was great - I like that I was part of the crowd following the life of Jesus," Lee 5B

"I loved how the characters really got into their role and performance," Daisy 5B



SCHOOL LED CLUBS

School led clubs have now been allocated and letters for the individual clubs were emailed home yesterday. Please complete the permission slips and return the payments to the school office by Wednesday 24th April. Payments can also be made via Tucasi.



RANGERS REPORT

This week at Rangers we have been putting our performance skills to the test as part of our "Greatest Ranger" theme. Our Rangers used their comedic and miming abilities to demonstrate our values.

Don't forget that new session dates for next half term are now live. It's also not too late to book your child's place at Camp Glide this Easter.



NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Our Year 6 Netball team went to St. Bede's School on Wednesday afternoon to take part in the *High Fives* Netball Tournament. Our team played brilliantly and made it through to the semi-finals where they were just pipped to the post by St. John's who were the eventual winners. Congratulations to the team for your great team-spirit and thank you to Mrs Peach and Mrs Morley for their great coaching skills.

WEEK COMMENCING 1st APRIL

- Tues 2nd Caterpillars Class Assembly 9:00 am.
Ladybirds Class Assembly 2:30 p.m.
- Wed 3rd Friends Easter Trail (after school)
- Thurs 4th Friends School Discos
KS1 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.
KS2 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.
- Fri 5th Last Day of Term
Celebration Medals Assembly (invited parents only) 12:40 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL FINISHES EARLY ON FRIDAY 5TH
 KS1 1:35 p.m. KS2 1:40 p.m.



HONOUR BOOK



1S	Monty	For challenging himself in Maths by using addition and subtraction calculations to find the missing number.
	Albert	For great effort when writing his recount of Year 1's visit to Nower Wood.
	Jaxon	For his amazing writing using a prepositional phrase.
1VG	Vivaan	For brilliant effort when solving problems in Maths.
	Zac	For putting such effort into his writing. Wow!
	Harry	For trying really hard with his writing. He slowed down, and wow, what a difference!
1W	Ameera	For creating a challenging algebra puzzle for 1W to solve.
	Charlotte	For having a fantastic attitude towards problem solving in Maths.
2C	Henry	For using all the key features of a diary when writing about flying Stanley as a kite.
	William P	For using all the key features of a diary when writing about flying Stanley as a kite.
	Felix	For a brilliant diary entry about his visit to the Arctic. The extra details he added made Mr Carter feel like he was actually there.
2E	Henry D	For using his writing toolkit to write a fantastic diary entry all about Flat Stanley.
	Danae	For using her toolkit when writing a diary entry.
3F	Phoebe	For her fantastic reasoning in Maths using 3F's sentence stems.
	Mert	For his independent writing about Year 3's Wakehurst Place trip.
	Vainavi	For working on her partitioning method to find change using money.
3LS	Zack	For insightful and well thought out answers in Book Club. Great to see you evidencing from the text, Zack!
	Vaishu	For fantastic use of vocabulary and 3LS's tools in their <i>Warning</i> story. Great suspense - Mrs Laing didn't want to stop reading!
	Tyler	For a super recount of Year 3's trip to Wakehurst Place. Amazing work!
	Christel	For using her toolkit to support her recount writing. Well done!
3R	Jack L-S	For proof reading his writing and nailing his punctuation - keep it up please!
	Nathan	For a huge improvement in his handwriting.
	Lily	For contributing some great ideas in class.
	George	For brilliant recount writing about Year 3's trip to Wakehurst Place.
4E	Dilafroze	For her enthusiasm in her work, demonstrating super use of her CAPTURE skills.
	Kylan	For his enthusiastic attitude and interesting questions in Geography.
4M	Marina	For excellent perseverance with her <i>Warning</i> story.
	Jasmine	For her incredible <i>Warning</i> story. What lovely vocabulary!
5B	Ruby	For working extremely hard in all writing sessions - your hard work is paying off, Ruby!
	Sasha	For great perseverance with her learning about percentages.
5TE	Jackson	For giving his all during 5TE's singing sessions.
	Adam	For his brilliant contributions to all class discussions.
6B	Bea	For excellent contributions in Maths lessons.
	Rosie	For excellent contributions in Maths lessons.
	Eliot	For great focus in his spelling practice and for his contributions in reading lessons.
	Hajrah	For great focus in reading and offering thoughtful contributions.
6Br	Beth	For responding to feedback to create precise descriptions in her suspense writing.
	Lucas	For amazing use of vocabulary to add detailed description in his writing.
	Isabella	For super focus leading to success with challenging co-ordinates and translation questions.
	Oliver	For putting so much effort into improving his writing stamina.
6R	Oliver	For his truly amazing suspense writing - your use of language is amazing, Ollie!
	Ben	For doing so well to work hard on his presentation - what an improvement!
	Liam	For writing a great introduction to his non-chronological report using his toolkit.

Well Done!

FRIENDS' FUNDRAISING

MOTHER'S DAY SALES - A huge thank you to everyone that supported the Mother's Day sales in school this week - just over **£660** was raised for the school.

EASTER TRAIL - Don't forget to come along to the Wray Common Easter Egg Trail on Wednesday next week, straight after school pick up in the big playground. The cost will be £1 for the trail and £1 for Easter crafts - younger siblings are very welcome. Let's hope it's a lovely sunny afternoon.

FRIENDS DISCOS - A reminder that the school discos are on Thursday next week. Reception, Year 1 and 2 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. £2 entry fee payable on the door.