

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

A LEEDS CASTLE ADVENTURE

On Thursday last week, Year 2 ventured into Kent to explore the beautiful Leeds Castle. It was a day of discovery and adventure: the children enjoyed a tour of the castle taking them back through time from its role as a Norman stronghold to Henry VIII's lavish visits and up to Lady Baillie who gave the castle to the public in her will. There was plenty to see around the castle too. There were many species of birds, including a beautiful white peacock who kept us company during our lunch. As well as the fascinating tour of the castle grounds, we had fun in the castle play area and took part in an exciting workshop where the children acted out the history of Leeds Castle. Characters included Lady Baillie, King Harold, Henry VII, Catherine Culpepper and Lord Fairfax. All the children dressed up (and the adults) and even got to follow Henry VIII on a march around the castle gardens.



PORTALS TO THE PAST

Last Friday morning, Year 6 arrived at school, prepared to be evacuated! Dressed as WWII children, they came armed with a small suitcase, which they had packed in a hurry as they hadn't been given much time before being notified that they were being evacuated! To start the day they headed off to the hall to find out more about the war and had the chance to try on different uniforms, worn by the service men and women of the time. Then they were notified that Bletchley Park had received a code- which needed cracking - so they dashed back to their classrooms to crack the code. It wasn't the only code they used that day. Year 6 also learnt how to read Morse code and interpret messages from the 'front line'. It was a hectic morning because after exploring the ration supplies (and gasping at how little they were allowed to buy), they had a chance to play with some of the toys from WWII. Steady hands were needed for the 'bomb disposal' task! After learning about the Blitz and the need for the blackouts they headed back to the hall. At the end of the day, they learnt about the different gas masks, which were issued in WWII. The children were very surprised to find out that although all these gas masks were provided, they were never used at all in the war. Finally, they ended the day as army medics... in groups of 4, they had to dash into the war zone, with a stretcher and grab a patient before rushing back to the 'field hospital'. It was an enjoyable day and Year 6 certainly learnt a lot.



Science: The Wray Common Way!

At Wray Common we are passionate about developing confident and empowered Scientists who have a broad knowledge base to draw from and who are equipped with the investigative skills needed to find out more. We do this through inspiring curiosity in the children about the world around them and ensuring that lessons are as practical and engaging as possible, whilst linking Science to many other areas of the curriculum and topics. The use of scientific language is paramount, as is the ability to record results in a suitable format so we therefore foster strong links with both English and Mathematics. We make sure that the children understand what it means to be a scientist and work scientifically, progressing their skills from Year 1 to Year 6.



The love of Science starts informally within the Reception year where learning is centred on the world around them and children are encouraged to explore and discover in a variety of ways both indoors and outside.

In Years 1 and 2 the children continue to develop their curiosity and are encouraged to ask questions and develop their observational skills. They show their findings pictorially and also begin to record data in more formal ways.

Scientific investigation skills are broken down into manageable sections and the children practice these whilst developing their knowledge of Plants, Animals, Habitats, Materials and Seasonal change.



During Years 3 and 4 the children are expected to become more independent in their ability to; carry out practical enquiries, fair tests, make careful observations and record their results formally in a variety of ways such as labelled diagrams, tables and bar charts. The children also develop their ability to explain and draw conclusions from their findings. Children are taught to use scientific equipment, such as thermometers and data loggers which they use in their investigations. The conceptual understanding of Magnets, Light, Rocks, States of matter, Sound and Electricity are developed, as well as continuing to build upon their knowledge of Plants, Animals and Habitats.

In Years 5 and 6 the children encounter more complex and challenging concepts, such as Earth and Space, Forces and Evolution, as well as broadening their knowledge of Plants, Animals, Habitats, Electricity, Light and Materials. When revisiting themes, children are expected to lead their own practical investigations - developing their own scientific questions, planning how to manipulate variables to be changed or controlled as well as recording results in tables and graphs, from which they are able to draw their own considered conclusions using scientific evidence and terminology.



	Question
	Prediction/ Hypothesis
	Plan
	Equipment
	Method
	Results
	Conclusions

Throughout their time at Wray Common, children become independent in carrying out meaningful investigations in order to answer their self-posed scientific questions. To help the children achieve this, we use scientific 'symbols' to represent the parts of an experiment or a science skill. We also teach the children to use a 'post-it planning' template to enable them to structure their investigations - whereby they record (either using post-its or coloured pens) what they could change in their investigation (ie the independent variable), what they could measure or observe (ie the dependent variable) and how they will keep their test fair. This structure allows the children to be supported yet independent and moves them towards more formal written reports as they progress.



As well as making all Science lessons as practical and engaging as possible, we have a programme of events which enhance our Science curriculum such as Reception's trip to a farm/ zoo/ marine life centre, Year 1's trip to Nower Wood, Year 3's trip to RHS Wisley and Year 5's visit from The Space Dome. Visits also include a Fossil workshop for Year 3 as well as a Bones and muscles talk from a physiotherapist. Year 4 benefit from an Electrical safety talk from an Electrician. Year 6 take part in a Heart dissection demonstration and practical as well as a Drug safety talk from The Guildford Flames Ice Hockey team. Also selected Year 5 children benefit from a twilight Forensics crime solving evening at Reigate Grammar School. We firmly believe that exposing the children to Science in the 'real world' will give them an understanding of why Science is incredibly useful and potentially inspire their future career choices. All of the opportunities and experiences mentioned above were noted and praised as part of our Primary Science Quality Mark.

At Wray Common we take the wider curriculum very seriously and offer all children broad and balanced opportunities to learn across a variety of different subjects. If you would like to learn more about our intent within each area, please click [here](#) to access the school website where you will find a thorough break down of how we teach each subject.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Congratulations to the seven Poster Competition Winners who each won £7 to spend at the Book Fair this week. They are:

Connie	Caterpillars
Caitlin	1S
Ella	2DS
Amabel	3F
Sam	4M
James	5B
Zachary	6E

Huge thanks for supporting this year's Book Fair in such numbers. We have earned a whopping £1300 to be spent on books for the school. Of course this couldn't happen without help, so a huge thank you to Mrs Cosens, Mrs Walker, Mrs Parmar, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Hill. A Massive thank you also, to our school librarian, Mrs Robinson for co-ordinating the Book Fair and for inspiring our children to have a love of books.



STORYTIME THIS WEEK...

As a way of fundraising for Children in Need the teachers have been reading some of their favourite stories to the children. They have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and it would be lovely if these stories could be continued at home. Below are the books that the children have been listening to, please do ask them which was their favourite!



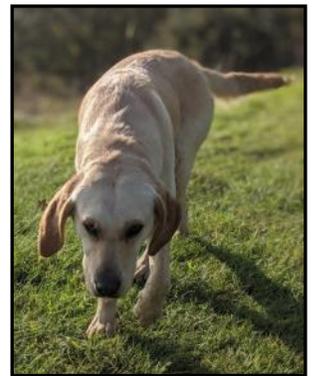
WELCOME SKY



We wanted to share with you that Amelie in Year 2 has a new dog, a beautiful Labrador Retriever, named Sky. Sky is Amelie's 'emotional and practical buddy' dog who is fully trained and has been specifically selected for Amelie to assist her with her rehabilitation and recovery after

her long battle with cancer.

Sky is supporting Amelie's rehabilitation and physiotherapy. Part of this is helping Amelie to walk to and from school using her prosthetic leg. She also provides emotional support and companionship. Sky has been fully obedience trained and temperament tested and she is a calm, well mannered, loving dog—a joy to be with.



We wanted to inform you that Sky will be on the school premises both in the mornings and at pick-up time assisting Amelie with her journey to and from the classroom.

YEAR 3 AND 4 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

On Wednesday this week, a team of 6 boys went down to St. Matthew's School to take part in a football tournament. They were AMAZING! Wray Common came second out of eleven schools! The children received medals and enthusiastic 'well dones' from many of the spectators who were extremely impressed with their performance. Well done, boys - Mr Savedra was very proud of you! "We won all of our group stage games to get through to the quarter final. We breezed past RAA to get to the semi-final which was a much closer fought match which finished 1-1 meaning it went to penalties. We withstood the pressure to score more than the other team and so then it was on to the final. This was against Reigate Parish, our toughest opponent yet. Once again it finished 1-1 and therefore it went to another penalty shoot out! This time though, luck wasn't on our side and sadly we lost, placing us 2nd overall. I would like to thank not only the boys but Mr Savedra for not only picking me but everyone else, thanks for your support, you played all amazingly." Carter



ROLL UP ROLL UP, ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS TREES NOW!

With only 40 days to go until Christmas, its time to get your Christmas tree ordered! The Friends are once again offering premium grade, Nordmann Fir, non-drop Christmas trees for sale. Please order online [here](#) now and note that Christmas trees will then be ready for collection on Saturday 30th November between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. from the school car park. Orders must be received by Friday 22nd November at the latest.



FRIENDS OF WRAY COMMON FIREWORKS' SPECTACULAR SUCCESS!

A huge thank you on behalf of the Friends and the fireworks team for a fantastic fireworks night last Friday, which raised over £5,000 for the school! An amazing effort from over 50 volunteers and from all the parents who came along to support this event, we couldn't have done it without you! Please visit the Friends of Wray Common Facebook page for details on more exciting fundraising events coming soon!

FRIENDS CHRISTMAS FAYRE REQUESTS AND REMINDERS

With the Friends' Christmas Fayre now only 3 weeks away, we would like to remind you of the forthcoming MUFTI days:

Friday 22nd November: wear your own bottoms and school uniform tops/jumpers, in exchange for bottles for the Bottle Tombolas.

Friday 29th November: wear your own top and school uniform bottoms, in exchange for chocolates and sweets in jars.

Friday 6th December: Full Mufti day in exchange for cakes.

These events could not run without the support of parents and we are in desperate need of helpers. We would also like to put out an appeal for any large Christmas decorations, inflatables and lawn ornaments to help decorate Santa's grotto please. If you are able to volunteer at the Christmas Fayre, or can help with any of these items, please contact Sophie Swann on:

sophie.swann@hotmail.co.uk 07802 584173

DINNER MONEY REMINDER

We hope your child is enjoying the new school dinner menu. Please can we remind you that all dinners should be paid for in advance - these can be paid for online via Tucasi, or by cheque (made payable to SCC) or in cash via the School Office. The cost of a school dinner is £2.35 per day or £79.90 for the half term. Thank you.



DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

Weds 1:15 p.m. Y3&4 Girls Football Tournament at Merstham Cricket Club

Thurs 3:20 p.m. Football Match v. Lime Tree School (Home)

Fri 9 - 10:30 a.m. CAPTURE event for all parents/ carers

Sat 11:15-11:50 Choir perform at St Matthew's Church Christmas Fair



LET'S SING

Last Friday evening saw the annual "Let's Sing Together" concert at Reigate Baptist Church. Mrs Palmer, accompanied by Mrs Walker, took along nineteen of her Choir members to participate in the rehearsal during the day and the evening performance.

The Disney theme was fully embraced and Wray Common sang "Try Everything" from Zootropolis, followed by "Life's a Happy Song" from the Muppet Movie. The concert began with "Circle of Life" sung by all choirs and ended with "We're in this Together".

Mrs Palmer was extremely proud of the children and they sang beautifully - wonderful Wray Common Citizens in action! Thank you to Miss Purkiss also who came along to support the children in the evening.



CLUBS SPACES

Please note that there are spaces available in the below clubs:

DANCE CLUB

Miss Purkiss has availability in her new dance club which runs on a Thursday morning from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. If your child is interested in taking up dance please contact the school office for a registration form.



SAMA KARATE

Richard Sketcher would like to advise you that he has spaces available in his Karate sessions that take place in the school hall on Thursday afternoons at 3:30 p.m. If your child is interested, please pop along to one of his sessions and speak to him. He runs the sessions on a pay as you go basis at £5 per session.



HONOUR BOOK



1S	Isaac G Livia	For amazing reasoning and explanation when using a number line to subtract. For making super progress with her PR personal best because of her hard work.
1W	Beaux Nicky Toby	For using super mathematical language all week. For super explanations of our different subtractions in maths. For his brilliant use of the word mat to use challenging vocabulary in his fireworks poem.
2B	Jaeden Albert Mia	For using beautiful handwriting to create a brilliant Enormous Crocodile story! For super expanded noun phrases in his time travel story. For super sentence building work to describe a picture.
2DS	Joshua Logan Ava Toby	For super focus on the 5 times table in maths today. For super effort in his writing all week. For always remembering our Wray Common values. For fabulous acting during our workshop at Leeds Castle; you were a very convincing William the Conqueror.
2V	Mollie Poppy James Harry W Xavier	For persevering to complete her maths passport. For a cohesive time machine story. Great effort! For a great half term, applying himself to his learning using his CAPTURE skills. For using your super knowledge of Leeds Castle in our English lesson. For using your super knowledge of Leeds Castle in our English lesson.
3F	Obi William P Nathan	For his creative idea to trap a bear in his instructions. For his improved engagement and contributions in all discussions. Keep it up! For working hard at contributing in class discussions. Keep it up!
3LS	Aiden Lucas Leah	For putting his phonics knowledge into practise. Fantastic reading! For a really persuasive Stone Age house advert. When can I buy? For committing to learn to count in 4s and then nailing it. Practise makes progress!
4R	Sadie Jack Ryan Callum	For fantastic proof reading to check your punctuation. You star! For a fantastic improvement in focus during lessons this week. Well done! For really focussing on his handwriting this week, a great improvement. For a brilliant effort in maths; that 9 times table is a tricky one! Good work.
4P	Nina Zeya Vaishu Usman	For writing an excellent persuasive letter to Mr Huelin using lots of emotive language and persuasive sentence starters. For a really focussed approach to her writing. Keep it up! For having the confidence to share her ideas during class discussions. Keep it up! For writing excellent expanded noun phrases in English.
4M	Cleo Charlie Jack L	For using her toolkit effectively to persuade Mr Huelin not to get a box of Egyptian artefacts. For an excellent poem about the Egyptian God Ra, using figurative language. For an excellent opening description to our lighthouse story using perfect punctuation and conjunctions.
5B	Jessica Jack Gracie	For finding a different way to partition a number to help her when multiplying. For great contributions to how to improve a price of writing. For being a long multiplication wizard this morning!
5Bu	Indie Jack Miley	For amazing focus when writing your Greek myth. Well done! Great ideas to improve the description of our class edit of The Dragon Slayer story. For a great focus and can do attitude in our multiplication lessons which resulted in being successful.
6E	Raheel Sophia Sasha Luc Toby	For creating a super time line, demonstrating your knowledge of Queen Victoria, using your computer skills to present your information. For creating a super time line, demonstrating your knowledge of Queen Victoria, using your computer skills to present your information. For her great use of scientific evidence when completing an investigation on birds beaks. For great questions and contributions in the World War II workshop. For great questions and contributions in the World War II workshop.
6C	Georgia Max Megan Sophie E Amelie	For persevering with reading inference questions and coming up with some great answers. for some super evidence collecting during prime numbers in maths, using and applying what he knows to a problem. For fantastic maths learning all half term. For some super fractions and problem solving. For contributing with some great similes during class discussions.

Well Done!