

December 2023



'Together for Excellence'

Dear parents and carers,  
We are so close to the end of the term—and the end of the year! Do you have any exciting plans for the holidays? We know that this time can be stressful for families so please reach out to us if you need anything at all.  
Thank you for your ongoing support. Working closely with us allows the school to ensure your child reaches their full potential.



Mrs Webb

## Key dates for the second half of Autumn Term

| Autumn Term Information             | Date  |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Badgers and Rabbits Class Nativity  | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am<br>Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm              |
| Christmas Jumper Day                | Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December   |
| EAL coffee morning                  | Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am-10.30am  |
| Year 6 trip - Panto at Princes Hall | Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm-5.00pm   |
| Garrison Carol Concert              | Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 5.30pm-8.30pm   |
| Fire Service visiting Year 1        | Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December   |
| Bikeability - Year 6                | Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December - Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December                               |
| Owls and Squirrels Class Nativity   | Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm-3.00pm<br>Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm-3.00pm |
| Santa's Grotto                      | Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December                             |
| Christmas Dinner                    | KS2 - Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December<br>EYFS and KS1 - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December    |
| End of term                         | Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December  |

## Looking ahead to the spring term:

| Spring Term Information               | Date                              |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| INSET Day (school closed to children) | Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January   |
| First day back for children           | Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January |
| Year 5 Swimming lessons begin         | Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January |

*Please note we will communicate regarding all dates in further correspondence and any amendments.*

## Attendance and absences

School attendance is a key priority for all schools in the country and, unfortunately, Wellington's attendance figures are currently well below the national average. The good news is that these are improving! Thank you for ensuring your children are in school at every opportunity as this means they don't miss out on learning and we are able to "make every minute meaningful".

A child with **90% attendance** will have missed **4 weeks of learning** throughout the year. Over their time at primary school, this equates to **over half a year** of missed learning.

To remind yourself of our school attendance and absence procedures, please click on the relevant links below:

- **School attendance:** <https://www.wellingtonprimary.com/attendance/>
- **School absence:** <https://www.wellingtonprimary.com/absence-procedures/>

There is also information on illness and helpful advice on whether your child is well enough to come in to school. This can be found on these links:

- **Should my child go to school today?**  
<https://www.what0-18.nhs.uk/parentscarers/worried-your-child-unwell/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>
- **Is my child too ill for school?**  
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## Pupil Safety Survey

From Year 1 to 6, the children recently completed a safety survey so we could get a better understanding of their experiences of life at school. The results were used to inform some of the content of our anti-bullying week lessons (see below) and also gave us the opportunity to evaluate provision at break and lunch times. We will continue to work hard to ensure that all children will feel safe whilst they are at school.

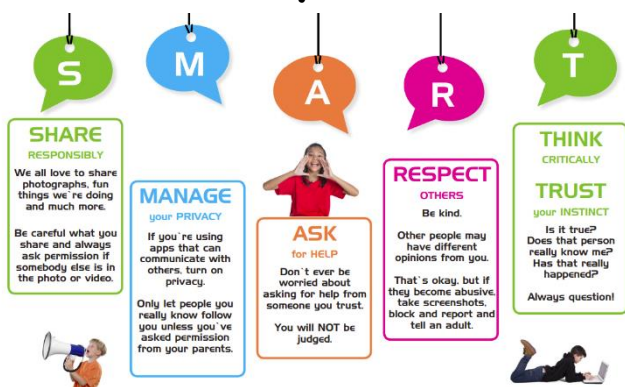


### November's Attendance update

|   |                 |                |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| R | Badger 92.9%    | Rabbit 96.7%   |
| 1 | Owl 97%         | Squirrel 96.8% |
| 2 | Camel 97.5%     | Zebra 96%      |
| 3 | Alligator 96.4% | Crocodile 97%  |
| 4 | Giraffe 95.9%   | Ostrich 96.5%  |
| 5 | Meerkat 96.3%   | Tiger 96%      |
| 6 | Gorilla 96.2%   | Lion 96.3%     |

**Well done Camel class!**

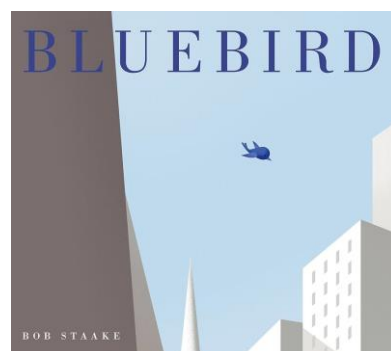
## Online Safety



As a school, we are teaching children on how to be safe online and what to do if they come across any content that worries them. Many of our Year groups have looked at internet safety in their Computing lessons this term and we encourage them to talk about their concerns with you and us as much as possible. We use the SMART acronym to help us remember how to behave appropriately online.

## Anti-bullying week

You may have heard your children talking about the anti-bullying work we have been doing in all classes across the school this week. The work in each year group has revolved about the picture book 'Bluebird' by Bob Staake. It's a wordless story and covers themes such as loneliness, friendship, bullies and restoration.



We discussed the difference between someone being unkind and bullying. As always, children are encouraged to speak to a trusted adult at school if they feel they are being bullied so this can be dealt with promptly and appropriately.

## Parent/carer questionnaires

During parent's evening, many of you were given the opportunity to fill out a questionnaire commenting on your children's experiences at school. These were overwhelmingly positive! Thank you for such positive feedback; this has been passed on to staff.

## Parents' evenings

Another big thank you to all parents and carers who have attended this term's parent consultation evenings so far. There are still one or two who have rescheduled for this week or next. Thank you for taking an active part and a keen interest in your children's learning.



# Year 5 Rainforests in a Shoebox Showcase

Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Year 5 are studying the rainforest through our English and Topic lessons. We were very excited when Miss Libby, Miss Tugwell & Mr Williams asked us to build our own miniature rainforest in a shoebox. We had three weeks to be creative, show all four layers of the rainforest and include features we would see if we were to actually visit the rainforest. We showcased our rainforest in a shoebox to all the Wellington students and explained how we built it. We had such a superb time explaining how we made them! We answered questions other students asked to know more (i.e. What is Deforestation?) The students and staff of Wellington were very impressed! Thank you to our parents/carers for helping us! 😊



## Remembrance Day

To celebrate those in our community who have served in the Armed Forces past and present, our federation of schools completed a variety of projects to show our gratitude. From Year R to Year 6, students created watercolour images of battlefields, wrote poetry, researched soldiers, collaged

poppies and hand-crafted poppies onto a camouflage net.

We were also fortunate to be visited by members of the Army and Navy who spoke with the children about their roles. The work and projects were displayed around our school sites as to show we are thankful, and we

do remember those that have passed in battle.



## Bikes and Scooters

We are still seeing a number of children who ride bikes or scooters to school not wearing helmets. Especially during the colder months when the roads and paths can be slippery, it is crucial that all children wear a helmet. If children don't already have a helmet for their bike or scooter, maybe Father Christmas could bring them one?



Children should also not ride on the school site. Please push them into school once you are at the gate.

## Sleep helpline

At any given time up to 40% of adults and 50% of children have difficulties with their sleep. Yet almost 60% of adults feel there is a lack of support for sleep issues.

Our free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors, many of whom are specialists in working with SEND. We can talk to young people directly, or parents (we can also talk to adults, including older people, about their sleep issues).

The helpline is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings 7-9pm, and Monday, Wednesday mornings 9-11am. The number is 03303 530 541. You can read more here:

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/national-sleep-helpline/>



the national sleep helpline

**Want to know more about sleep?**

ASK US THE QUESTIONS YOU WANT ANSWERS TO

**03303 530 541**  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm  
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

## Struggling to stay safe and warm?

If you are struggling to pay your energy bills, you may be entitled to a one-off grant from the Household Support Fund worth up to:



This is grant is only available via Citizens Advice Rushmoor, by calling either:

- 01252 333 618 during our office opening hours - Monday to Thursday, 9:30am to 3pm - to arrange a callback appointment
- 0808 175 3559 during our energy helpline clinic hours - Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 1:30pm - to speak directly to an energy adviser



You can find more information online at:  
[citizensadvice.rushmoor.org.uk/energy/](https://citizensadvice.rushmoor.org.uk/energy/)  
\*Free to call from most telephones

## Household Support Fund

£147 energy grants - Household Support Fund

The latest - and final - round of energy grants of up to £147 through the Household Support Fund are now available via Citizens Advice Rushmoor. If you are struggling to pay your energy bills, or know of a household who are, please encourage them to get in touch.

You can find further details about our Energy Advice Project here:

<https://citizensadvice.rushmoor.org.uk/energy/>



## Healthy Food

Making healthy lunches every day is hard! Here is an idea which may help:

**Rainbow wraps:** A great and cost-effective way to get veggies in. Use a grater to shred carrot. Then, chop red and yellow peppers, and green cucumber. For some protein, put in some tofu, chicken or cheese.

Drizzle with your child's favourite sauce before wrapping it all up. You can use wholemeal wraps for some extra goodness. Enjoy!



## Come and join us at the Community Carol Service

Sing along with the local primary school choirs

**The Band and Bugles of The Rifles**

Includes Stan the Star, family entertainment, snow machine,  
snow globe, Santa's grotto, and food and drink stalls!

**Friday 8th December**

**5.00pm — 8.30pm**

Royal Garrison Church of All Saints,

Aldershot GU11 1QA

We regret that due to pedestrian safety, no parking will be available outside the Church or at Wellington  
Statue Car park.

**Events from 5pm**

