



Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery
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23.3.18

Dear Parents and Carers,

It only seems like a few weeks ago I was wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and now I am wishing you all a Happy Easter!

New Classroom

During the last couple of weeks we have been busy with finalising the dates for the new classroom. We are hopeful that it will start during the May half term holiday, with an expected completion date near to the end of term. We will then be able to focus on landscaping the outside area. The two outside toilets will be removed at the beginning of May to allow for the extra space needed, however the Swift classroom can stay where it is until all work is completed. It will then be removed at the beginning of the Summer holiday.

Next year Wren class will be based in the new classroom, Robin Class will remain where they are and Swift Class will move in to the existing Wren Class. This will give the school a designated Early year's area which will enhance our provision.

Swift trip to Sea Mere.

Swift Class visited Sea Mere to learn about food chains and how trees are aged. They investigated pond dipping and found a smooth newt amongst other things! They also checked traps and found 4 wood mice. They enjoyed learning about orange peel fungus, and snail camouflage in the woods, and how to age a tree by counting its rings.



Headteacher: Miss Julia Brooks
Chair of Governors: Mr Peter Meacock



Learning Walks

Every member of the teaching staff and the Governing Body have a subject which they 'lead'. During each year they pair up to complete a 'Learning Walk'. This is an opportunity to see what is being taught, to speak to the children, to look at the children's books and to have honest discussions about their subject. 'What went well' and 'Even better if' statements are then produced and shared with the staff and Governors. English, PSHE, Art and Design Technology have recently be monitored and actions produced to ensure that we continue to make improvements to the education of your children.

New Behaviour Initiative

I am pleased to report that this already seems to be having an impact. Fifteen letters were sent home last week and at the time of writing there have been eight this week. It is still eight too many but we are heading in the right direction. Please can I ask that you continue to reinforce the values of respect and understanding at home.

A visitor in school yesterday commented on how well behaved our children are, how proud they are of their school and how focused they are on their learning. Thank you to all that you do at home to support us.

Car park and Parking

The following request has been made by a parent after a near miss! Please use the pathways. Please do not walk across where cars drive.

Last week I also received the following;

'I am a resident at the house opposite your school. Whilst I understand living near a school means I need to expect traffic from parents dropping off and collecting their children. I have noticed in recent weeks some parents parking opposite my driveway has become a problem to me. Some days I have been sat waiting for 5 minutes for it to be safe to pass. The addition of a new car park has been a big improvement and I wondered if you could remind parents to use it!

There are no traffic calming measures along Hackford Road and as I'm sure you are aware it can be dangerous at peak times. With cars parked on the road it makes it even worse and is an accident waiting to happen.'

Junk!

If you are having a bit of a Spring clean in your garage during the Easter break and find yourselves about to throw out 'junk' can I ask you to stop and ask yourself whether it would be suitable for outdoor play activities in school? I am thinking of wood (splinter free) that the children could make in to ramps; tyres that they could jump in and out of; tarpaulin that they could make dens with; tubes that could become exotic animals... just use your imagination!

New play equipment

Miss Brooks has bought 4 new baskets of play equipment with the money raised from the Laura Samuels event. Thank you for those of you who made this possible.



Robotics – 12.3.18

This week I was privileged to join year 5 for a Robotics day. Kick off of the day was deciding on teams and getting to know your Robot, customising and naming. Some very imaginative names were devised which each team presented.

Mid way through the 1st half the 1st goal was to program their robot to navigate a simple course. The 2nd goal on the day was to program and navigate a more difficult course. Then on to the decider which was to use what they had learned and to program their robots given details of a complex course but with no trial runs allowed. Each team stepped up and presented their robot and then with much cheering tried the course, all with some success.

You might see a theme of teams and goals, did I mention we were at Norwich City's ground and the children had an unexpected treat of sitting in one of the VIP boxes overlooking the ground whilst eating lunch?

I'll come back to the word privileged; the children were fully engaged, energetic and a pleasure to be with, a real credit to Wicklewood School.

Ed Godbold (Vice Chair of Governors)

Parent Forum

I went along to a Parents forum in the school hall this morning. It was very useful and very relaxed. A few mums sitting around tables with tea, coffee and biscuits provided. It was chaired by Miss Brooks with Mrs Allan, Mrs Leaford and a school governor, Andrew Thurston, also present.

The overall meeting was quite informal with no specific agenda apart from to share your views (positive or not) and to ask questions about any aspect of the school from an educational point of view through to any practical issues about the school premises. It was a very open discussion. Parents were encouraged to share their ideas about what they thought might be of benefit to the children, parents (i.e. communication tools) and the school in general. Miss Brooks and her staff were very receptive to these and answered any question put to them. I would strongly recommend popping along to one of these forums as it's a chance to ask specific questions or raise issues that you feel are important. It's a chance for your voice to be heard in an informal environment and also an opportunity to chat with other parents from across the School about their ideas, views and opinions.

I think that we all felt that it would be beneficial to have a parent forum at least once a term (if not more).

So, if you have any burning questions or comments, good or bad, then come along to one. Thank you to Miss Brooks and staff for arranging this.

Sue Corfe (mum to Isabelle yr. 3 and Hannah yr6).

Miss Brooks says; 'We will definitely diary another forum next term. Watch this space for the date!

Win an Easter bunny



I am sure that those of you who bring your child on to the school playground every morning will have noticed our very cuddly Easter bunny in the arms of some very willing volunteers! She / he could be yours for the cost of a £1 raffle ticket. I must confess to having bought a ticket myself! Raffle tickets will continue to be sold every morning until the prize draw during Wednesday's assembly. There are also two Easter eggs to be won.



Sport Relief

Thank you children for all your efforts during Wednesday and throughout the week. There have been several different activities offered each day which the year 6 children have led. We loved the costumes. A total of £163.60 was raised. Well done!



Coming up:

Easter Biscuit Sale - Wednesday 28th March 2018

"What better way is there to celebrate the end of term than with a yummy biscuit sale? Thought we were in need of one of those and so the proposed day is Wednesday 28th March at break time and after school if any biscuits left!

More details to follow but please put the date in your diaries and start saving your pennies for the occasion.

As usual I would be so grateful for you amazing bakers to bring in some biscuits on the day of the sale to the staff room in a named container. (Or shop brought biscuits are fine too!)

If you are willing to do this then please do let me know. My email is jvivers@hotmail.com.

These are always a great success and the children love it. I look forward to your support, ensuring that we make it successful.

Thank you!

Jenny Martin

The Great British Pub Quiz

This has now been rescheduled for Friday 27th April 2018.

If you are able to attend your tickets will be valid for this evening. We understand that you may not be able to attend, and we would like to propose that you inform us of one of the two options below:

1. "I cannot attend the Quiz and I would like a full refund."
2. " I cannot attend the Quiz, but I am happy to donate my ticket money to the Friends of Wicklewood School"

You can inform us by sending an email to Vicky Anthoni at vixnorton@hotmail.com, phoning on 07730 682322 or by dropping a note into the school office.

Your prompt response would be appreciated as any spare tickets can be reissued.

With thanks for your understanding and help.

Vicky Anthoni (Friends of Wicklewood School)

Additional dates for your diary

Easter holiday	29.3.18 – 13.4.18
Summer half term holiday	28.5.18 – 1.6.18
Sports Day	27.6.18 Greenfinch, Lapwing, Kestrel and Kingfisher a.m. Picnic on the field
	27.6.18 Wren, Robin and Swift a.m.
Summer BBQ	13.7.18
Summer holiday begins	25.7.18

Year 6 transition dates - Thursday 19th, Friday 20th, Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July for Wymondham High Academy, and Thursday 19th, Friday 20th July for Wymondham College.

Kind regards,

Miss Brooks