Wildmoor Heath Newsletter

ISSUE 7 - APRIL 2024

Curriculum Enrichment

This month has really flown, with so many different activities for the children, both inside and outside school. The month started with Roots to Food, World Book Day and a Wellington College Chemistry Spectacular for Year 5 pupils - and that was just in the first week! This was followed by Year 5 visiting a Sikh Gurdwara, the whole school raising money for Red Nose Day, Year 4 on a Heath Walk, Year 3 sharing their learning with their parents and Year 3 children enjoying a sleepover in the hall. These activities and experiences are part of our Curriculum Enrichment programme - an extra layer of opportunities for the children in addition to learning the content of the national curriculum subjects.

With outdoor learning being a crucial part of our Curriculum Enrichment programme, we have made some progress with our Forest Schools upgrade this term. With assistance from Izabela Kurzydlo and Hall Hunter, seven large raised beds were delivered to the school last week and were filled with both soil and compost. Mrs Guy and Mr Jackson have received extensive training on how to teach Forest School skills to the children and are now well on the way to getting our Forest School area back up and running towards the end of April. With our relaunch, we have asked the children to come up with a new name for the area. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful school. We will be needing more volunteers in the next few months, as we will be working on improving the look of the inside of the school. More details will be sent out next term.

Have a fabulous Easter holiday - let's hope it stops raining! **Mrs Vincent**

This issue:

Headteacher's Message PAGE 01

Other News & Key Dates PAGE 02

School News PAGE 03, 04, 05 & 06

> Meet the Team PAGE 06, 07

Safeguarding & Contact Us PAGE 08

> Wellbeing Challenge PAGE 09



Respect Empathy Aspirations Courage Honesty



WILDMOOR HEATH NEWSLETTER

Welcome to new staff

We welcome two new teachers for the summer term: Mrs Penstone and Ms Kelly. Both have many years experience across all year groups and will be working in different classes across the school, covering teachers' PPA and staff absence. They visited the school on Tuesday to meet the staff and children. Initially, Mrs Penstone will be working in Reception and Ms Kelly will be working in Key Stage 1. They will add strength to our existing team and we really look forward to working with them next term.



Red Nose Day

On Friday 15th March, the school dressed in as many red items as possible to raise money for Red Nose Day. Thanks to everyone for your generous donations. We raised an amazing **£362.65**!



Roots to Food

On 5th and 6th March, every class had the opportunity to learn how to prepare and cook a delicious meal, with assistance from Head Chef Darren. It smelt and tasted delicious!

Click here for the recipe to try at home!

<u>Greek Keftedes</u>



Key Dates April/May 2024

Monday 15th April INSET Day - School Closed

Tuesday 16th April First Day of Summer Term doors open at 8.35am

Thursday 18th April to 11th July Year 3 Swimming Lessons see separate letter

Thursday 18th April 3.30pm & 5.30pm Year 6 SATs Parent Information Evening

> **Monday 6th May** Bank Holiday - School Closed

Tuesday 7th May 9am Year 1 Phonics Checking Parent Information Meeting

Friday 10th May Year 1 trip to Beale Park

Monday 13th May 3.30pm & 5.30pm Year 4 MTC & residential Parent Information Evening

Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATs

> Monday 20th May 2024 Year 2 trip to Windsor Castle

> > Tuesday 21st May 9am SEND Coffee Morning

Friday 24th May 9.30am Grandparents Morning more details to follow



WILDMOOR HEATH NEWSLETTER

www.wildmoorheath.org.uk



Charlie and the Walkies Challenge for Stand Up to Cancer

Charlie in Year 4 demonstrated what an amazing Wildmoor role model he is, when he was invited to talk about his walkies challenge at Crufts on Channel 4 with Clare Balding this month. He raised an extraordinary £11,500 for Stand Up to Cancer last year and demonstrated his confidence and courage in speaking on live TV! We are so proud of you, Charlie, and well done for sharing how important it is getting outside in the fresh air for exercise and to improve your mental health and wellbeing.

Watch his SU2C video and interview, by clicking on the pictures below. If you would like to donate, please see the QR code below or click <u>here</u>.







CHARLIE IS TAKING ON THE ST2 WALKIES CHALLENGE WALKING 60 MILES WITH A DOG THROUGHOUT APRIL

AFTER HELPING LAUNCH THIS YEARS WALKIES CHALLENGE ON CHANNEL 4.



CHARLIE IS HOPING TO ADD TO THE $\pounds11,500$ THAT HE RAISED LAST YEAR THROUGH DONATIONS THAT WILL HELP FUND LIFE SAVING CANCER RESEARCH.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE









World Book Day

On Thursday 7th March, the children celebrated World Book Day by participating in lots of different activities involving books and reading, including: guessing the masked readers, a book scavenger hunt, 'Where's Wally?' and reading with a buddy class. A big thank you to **Mrs Dalton** for organising this brilliant day for the children!

Thank you to all the children that entered the spoon competition. We had so many entries and it was an extremely difficult decision to choose the winners as the standard was very high! The winners are:

Reception-Mickey Year 1-Iris Year 2-Frankie Year 3-Olive Year 4-Darcie Year 5-Alfie Year 6-Megan

The winning spoons along with others are being displayed on our creativity board in our hall.









Growing Garden

We are in the exciting stages of developing a new growing garden area and last Thursday was a big day as we received seven new raised beds and a big donation of strawberry plants to get us started. Many thanks to Izabela and her colleagues at Hall Hunter for working so hard to make this happen! Some of the children came out to see the work in action as the beds were filled with soil. We can't wait to get all of the children outside planting in the coming months.



Kindness Ambassadors

As a Kindness School, Mrs Pratt, who is our Wellbeing Leader, asked each class to vote for the child in their class who exhibits the most kindness.

Well done to the following children who have been chosen by their classmates to be our new Kindness Ambassadors:

- Y1 Cameron
- Y2 Albie
- Y3 Edith
- Y4 Marnie
- Y5 Hunter and Bella
- Y6 Harvey and Ellie









Amazing Amazon Donation

At the beginning of March, we were excited to receive a large number of Amazon boxes with donations from a grandparent of the school, Sceila Di Mauro. The school office had a great time of unpacking the boxes and seeing the lovely donations - it was just like Christmas for the office team! With a mixture of technology, art and sports equipment, all items will be extremely useful for the school. A big thank you to Sceila Di Mauro and Melissa Jonker for organising and delivering them! We really appreciate your support of the school.





Meet the Team!

Hello, I am Mrs Upton. I joined Wildmoor last year as a LSA and have worked in year 4, year 1 and now currently in year 5. It is such a joy to work in such a wonderful school, from the children to the parents and the fantastic staff. I have worked as an LSA for many years and feel it is a privilege to do so. Outside of school I am a mom to two beautiful teenagers (16 & 15) and a rescue dog called Chase. I enjoy long walks, hiking and I swim competitively.



WILDMOOR HEATH NEWSLETTER



Meet the Team!

This month, find out more about our fantastic team in Year 1!



My name is Mrs Mackenzie and I live locally in Crowthorne. I have two sons aged 7 and 9 and have been volunteering at their school for almost two years. I have experience working with year 1 and year 2 and have enjoyed it so much that I decided I wanted to do it as a profession. I love working with key stage 1 and supporting the children with their learning and day to day challenges. Wildmoor Heath is such a supportive and nurturing school, which I am really happy to be a part of. The Children in year 1 make me smile every day. I really enjoy coming into school each morning to hear their stories and see their smiling faces. Learning all of their names was a challenge at first, but I am pleased to say I got there by day 3.

My name is Mrs Pratt. I live in Wokingham with my husband of 43 years. We have 3 children and 5 grandchildren and I love family life, campervans and the seaside. I joined Wildmoor Heath over two years ago and love being part of the school family. I have worked in Education for over 30 years, initially as an LSA for children with additional needs. This inspired me to train as a teacher, working in schools across the Bracknell and Wokingham areas. Year One is a great team with amazing children. We have lots of fun while we learn, laugh and sing every day. I have recently taken on the role of Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader and am enjoying developing this area across the school.



www.wildmoorheath.org.uk



Safeguarding and Child Protection

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

1. Protecting children from maltreatment;

2. Preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;

3. Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;

4. Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

At Wildmoor Heath School, **all staff maintain a culture of vigilance** and put the health and safety, learning progress and pastoral needs of our learners first. We have robust safeguarding procedures in place, including annual formal training for all staff.

Wildmoor Heath have three trained DSLs who receive multi-agency training, attend ongoing formative sessions and represent the school at Child Protection meetings. Mrs Vincent is the Designated Safety Leader (DSL), supported by Mrs MacManus and Mrs Joseph as our Deputy Designated Safety Leaders (DDSLs).

Our Safeguarding Policy (latest September 2023) can be found on the school website (here) and/or a copy can be requested from the school office.

If you have any concerns whatsoever about a child, or something that you have witnessed inside or outside of school, please speak one of our safeguarding team.



Wildmoor Heath April Wellbeing Challenge

Emotional health and wellbeing is about how you're feeling and how well you are able to deal with day-to-day challenges. There are some simple steps that you can take in order to improve how you feel each day. They don't take up much time and they don't have to cost anything either. They're known as the **Five Ways to Wellbeing** and they are:

Take Notice, Connect, Keep Learning, Give to Others and Be Active.

Young Minds recommends giving our children and young people opportunities to open up to support their wellbeing. It can be easy to forget the simple power of sharing what we're going through and feeling heard. But even though you can't fix everything when your child is struggling, you can make them feel seen and understood — and this in itself can make them feel more able to cope.

Talking about how they are, how their day has been and what's on their mind as part of everyday family life shows your child that you're interested in them and want to listen. It also supports them to practise thinking and talking about their feelings, helping them to get to know themselves and what they need.

They recommend using some of these 20 minute activities to make these conversations easier and to remove any pressure they might feel, Below is a list of ideas that you might want to try at home:

- Play a ball game Football, catch, basketball, dodgeball ... there are endless ball games to choose from. You can ask your child to pick a game they'd like to play or ask them about their favourite sports team.
- **Ready, set... bake** Baking is a great way to have fun together and there are so many bakes to choose from including with <u>fairy cakes, scones, traybakes</u> or <u>energy balls</u>.
- Draw cartoons of each other Sometimes, all you need is pen and paper. Create cartoon drawings of one another, and other family members, cats, dogs, fish have fun! You could also try drawing with your eyes closed or not taking your pen off the paper to add an extra challenge.
- Indoor picnic 20 minutes isn't quite enough time to head out to the beach with a picnic blanket, but it's perfect for having one indoors. Lay out a blanket, pick out your family's favourite finger food and have a picnic in the comfort of home.
- Tech-free games Take a screen break with tech-free games like 20 questions, cat's cradle, marbles, jacks, the floor is lava, skipping and more. There are so many 20 minute games to choose from.
- Indoor treasure hunt Hide some things (such as toys, messages or even sections of a story) around the house, create some clues and see if your children can guess where they are!
- Sing it From car singing to serenading the family in the kitchen, turn up your favourite ballads and sing along. You could turn
 it into a game by challenging them too sing in the style of their favourite film or TV character.