



Summer Newsletter



Welcome to our final newsletter of the school year, after a very successful and incredibly busy term here at Wingrove.

We bid a farewell to children and staff leaving us this week and wish them all the best in their futures. We look forward to hearing all about their further successes. We welcome four new teachers to our team. In Reception, we will be working with Mrs L Jobson who will join our early years team. In Year Four we welcome Mr B Henderson, in Year Five Mr T Barker and working with Ms McCarthy in Year Six is Miss L Hopper. They come to us with a wealth of experience and should bring some new ideas to our wider team from September onwards.

The children and staff have worked exceptionally hard this year and our results have shown dramatic improvements across all the key areas. There were 72% of our reception pupils who achieved a good level of development and 80% of our Year One pupils achieved the pass rate (32/40) in the phonics test. Our SAT results for Year Two and Year Six are set out below:

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| KS1 (comparator is 2b+ from 2015 and earlier) | Reading | 81% |
| | Writing | 64% |
| | Mathematics | 78% |
| KS2 (comparator is 4b+) | R | 66% |
| | W | 72% |
| | SPAG | 69% |
| | Ma | 74% |
| | RW&M | 62% |

We are very proud of our results this year, and, as many of you will be aware, the tests were new to this year and the degree of difficulty was increased across all subject areas. The children have done us all proud and should be congratulated on their brilliant achievements. The outcomes of many compare very favourably with the provisional national outcomes. We wish our fabulous Year Six children all the best as they move up to secondary school. We have been liaising with ten different secondary schools again, and will continue to do so in the future. The breakdown of secondary schools where our pupils are going from September will be published on the school's website from September.

Thank you once more for your continuing support this year. Our Parents' Evening sessions have once more been well attended and your comments on the recent surveys are very much appreciated. Once more, the detail of these will be published on the website. I look forward to working with you once again next year when we return to school on Wednesday 7th September.

Mrs Mullarkey

ROLL UP, ROLL UP!

As an end of term treat, with the support of The Community Foundation, the whole school experienced a circus performance and workshop. "It was really exciting because a big top was built on the school field. Harry and Carl performed funny, dangerous and mysterious acts for us to enjoy. Our favourite part was the fire eating section, but we also enjoyed the spinning ball trick. They also asked Miss John to help with the mysterious silk cloth trick, before repeating it in slow motion, and Mr Robinson had to stand like a statue while they juggled six clubs around him! After the performance, we were invited to take part in a workshop and we learnt how to spin plates like real circus performers. Luckily, they were just plastic ones as they landed on the floor several times!" – Samia and Tabaan, Y3.



Visits and Visitors

As part of their Roman topic, Year 3 visited Vindolanda and The Roman Army Museum near Bardon Mill. “We went to the museum first and when we got there, we were ushered into a Roman classroom. Velius, our new holographic teacher, taught us about the Roman alphabet and Roman numerals. We enjoyed looking at scutum (shields), clothing and different foods that they ate. We were able to have a turn at the bow and arrow game to see if we would meet the standards of the Roman army. My arrow hit the target that was 240 metres away. Perfect! After lunch, we went back into the museum and got to experience a 3D movie about the Roman Empire. We all looked funny wearing the special 3D glasses. To end the day, we went to Vindolanda and listened to one of the archaeologists, Mark. He informed us about their finds that morning and we were able to smell a rotten old boot that had just been discovered and we were able to touch a Roman coin. Before heading back to school, we looked around the site and spotted where the old headquarters would have been, as well as their old houses. It was a great trip and it helped me learn so much more about the Romans.” – Kulsuma, Y3.



Year 2's Gardening Club recently went to Cowell's Garden Centre to buy plants for the sensory garden. Rachel showed us around and helped us to choose a range of colourful, fragrant flowers and herbs for the garden. “I loved smelling the lemon thyme, it was really



lemony! My favourite plants were the purple lavender and the blue star planet which reminded me of the sea.” – Ayaan, Y2.

At the end of June, Year 6 visited Bolam Lake. We were given a variety of activities to complete, such as a mini-beast hunt, art, lake dipping and den building. For the mini-beast hunt, we needed to search a specific area for all sorts of little interesting insects. We found many kinds of insects like wasps and dragonflies, as well as lots of spiders, snails and slugs. For our art section, we had to sit on a bench in front of the lake and draw a part of it. Afterwards, we were given a net and had to dip it in the lake to try and catch creatures such as a toad or leech. Out of all the wonderful things we did, den building was the most fun. We had to collect logs and small branches and place them on a large branch creating a hut shaped structure. Umar said, ‘It was amazing and I loved it!’ Me too! – Mustafa, Y6.

After we had completed our SATs, many of Year 6 went on a three day trip to Hawkthirst, where we had an amazing time! I can't pick a favourite part of the trip because it was all so brilliant, but the most challenging activity for me was abseiling. It was really terrifying, but an experience I'll remember for the rest of my life. Similarly, the raft building was also really tricky, but a great experience. The food at Hawkthirst was divine and there was plenty to choose from too! The cabins were so cosy and it made me feel like I was at home. The beds were really soft and warm and I didn't want to get up in the morning even though I wanted to do the next activity! The staff at Hawkthirst were really helpful and were very funny, but they kept us nice and safe. Thanks to John, we had midge nets because there were loads of midges and the nets helped a lot. Thank you to our teachers and everyone at Hawkthirst for this wonderful experience! – Saaliha, Y6.



Sports Visits and Visitors

This term, some very lucky children from Years 3 and 4 went on the school minibus to Newcastle United's training ground. First, we were given a free new Newcastle United kit and boots, 5 days before you could even buy it in the shops! Then we played a mini tournament against other local schools, which was really good fun. After the games, we all had a BBQ together with some of the players, coaches and even Rafael Benitez, the manager! Peter Beardsley signed our shirts before the manager came to talk to us and we asked him lots of questions. Did you know that he used to work in Madrid? It was an amazing day and some people even said that it was the happiest day of their life! – Rukhsar and Jay, Y4.



Over the term, Year 4 have taken part in cycling proficiency training. We have learnt how to do a U-turn, emergency stops, signalling, safety manoeuvres and safety checks on our bikes. We really enjoyed the sessions and the teachers were very helpful and patient. They have taught us important safety lessons and we now feel confident to ride our bikes safely. We are looking forward to doing this in the holidays! To reward us for our efforts, we also got a certificate at the end of the training. – Delia, Saif and Lucy, Y4.

In July, a small group of lucky children were invited to take part in a sports event at the Olympic Stadium in London, along with another 4000 children from across the country. "We got the 7:30am train to London and when we arrived we were given free t-shirts and water bottles. Before we completed a one mile run, Reggie and Bollie from The X Factor performed. It was really funny watching John trying to dance to their songs! After we'd completed our run, we were provided with food before we came home. It was a really enjoyable and exciting day and it was great to make new friends with children from other schools. – Adam, Ahmed and Isra, Y5.



Over the course of three days at the end of June, children from Years 1 to 6 competed in a variety of events including football, netball, cross-country, multi-skills and archery at the Schools 500 Games competition. Year 4 did an excellent job to achieve a silver medal in multi-skills and our archery team also made us very proud with second place. The pupils demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship, passion and had an absolutely brilliant time. They all deserve a medal!



On Tuesday 17th May, our year 6 pupils took on an exhilarating challenge of cycling 27 miles around Kielder! The day proved to be difficult with steep hills and bumpy terrain, but there was no stopping our team from putting 100% effort in. The staff were astounded by the commitment and determination shown throughout the whole day. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we're proud of their achievements!

ECO-WARRIORS

Alan Barbour from Greening Wingrove has now joined our Eco-Warrior team. We have been working on our school Eco-code and once this is completed we will achieve the Silver Award. The share of money we were given from The Big First Aid Lesson was used to enhance our Sensory Garden, which we have been working on this year and we hope to develop it even further next year.

Fun into Food

Shortly after we'd returned from the Easter holidays, a child from each year group was chosen to form a team of chefs competing to cook the best healthy meal in just 20 minutes, as part of the *Fun into Food* campaign by Chartwells. Before we started cooking, Tim, the head chef, talked to us all about healthy eating and that it is even fine to eat some bad things, as long as it is in moderation. I was on the green team with Miss John against the red team with Mr MacLeod. We made delicious wraps with a side of spicy rice and the other team made a barbecued chicken dish. I really enjoyed the experience, especially because we won and I couldn't believe it. It was so hard to complete our dish in just 20 minutes. The best bit was when we tasted the dishes at the end. – Zeynab, Y3.



THE BIG FIRST AID LESSON

In June, we held a non-uniform day to raise money for St. John Ambulance and our Eco-Warriors. As part of the day, Year 4 held a teddy bear hospital and the whole school took part in the Big First Aid Lesson, organised by St. John Ambulance. We were able to learn some important first aid and life-saving skills. I enjoyed wrapping bandages around my friends. My favourite part was when the older children got to teach the younger children how to bandage their hand.

Although I learnt lots of new skills, I hope I don't have to use them soon as it will mean someone is injured! – Safaa, Y4.



Refugee Week

Our school recently participated in Refugee Week. We found out why people are refugees and what this means for them. Sometimes it is quite upsetting. At the end of the week, we welcomed Ali to our school to share his story. Ali arrived in England as a refugee from Rwanda and now he works for WERS (West End Refugee Service). He left because of a war and it wasn't safe to live there anymore. Sadly, there used to be 25 members of his family and now there are only 15. We learnt that we must be kinder to refugees and see them as humans, like us. – Zakariyya, Y4.



In the last newsletter, we reported that we were close to achieving the 'Fair Aware' award and we are delighted to announce that we have now

achieved this. "In our school, we think it is not fair for people to grow bananas or cocoa beans and not receive a fair wage for their efforts. In school, we have been learning about, and promoting, fair trade. We've really enjoyed the activities about this in Year 4 and we're sure other year groups would agree too!" – Alizah, Y4.

Butterflies

As part of their learning about the life cycle of a butterfly, Reception have welcomed lots of little new friends to their classroom this term. They have been lucky to watch caterpillars grow in their classrooms and turn into butterflies. Once they were strong enough, Reception released them so they could flutter away to enjoy their life. The children were able to learn lots of facts about butterflies and they produced some brilliant fact files independently using their new knowledge. Mohamed said, "I really liked the wiggly caterpillars and the butterflies were really pretty. They flew away."



Maths Girl

As part of National Rail Week, Dr Fraszczyk from Newcastle University completed some maths investigations with Years 3 and 4 centred around the Metro system. We had to solve maths problems to get 'Maths Girl' from the Metro station to Ice-Cream Land. The problems involved all areas of maths from shape and time problems to addition and subtraction. It was challenging, but really fun. Over the summer, we would like to ride on the Metro to show our families what we learnt. When we are older, we would love to study railroads at university. – Ruhana and Rukhsar, Y4.



Thousands of children across the UK participated in the Giant Walking Bus in June, Wingrove children included. Nursery to Year 6 braved the mixed weather and walked along Wingrove Road, up the West Road and back down towards the school to promote road safety. We designed flags and banners to remind people to put their seatbelts on in the car, wear a hi-vis vest at night, so drivers can see you, and don't play on your phone if you're driving or crossing a road. Children shouted, "20 is Plenty!" to encourage drivers to slow down near our school. – Madina, Y5

Science Club

In the second half of the term, six children from Year 3 visited Centre for Life for a science club with other members from our Trust. "In the first week, we explored flowers and plants like never before. We ate fruit and vegetables after discovering that some of them are the roots of plants, some are the stem and others are the flowers. The following week, we were able to hold a range of animals, including a huge snake. It was really silky, even though it doesn't look it. Our favourite week was when we got to experience the planetarium. We were able to relax in really comfy chairs and we watched the stars change over time, as well as taking trips to each planet. It was really amazing! We also learnt about rocks and soils during the club and we finished by creating a massive explosion that was so loud, even with our fingers in our ears! – Aryan, Fatima and Zara, Y3.



Groups of children from across the West End Schools' Trust have compiled a new and tasty cookbook for you to enjoy. Year 2 created our offerings and the open cheese and onion pie is a particularly delicious treat. Great fun was had creating our recipes and a copy of the cookbook can be found on our website, under the WEST section.

African Workshop

This term, Year 5 have been investigating different cultures. We've been looking at countries in Africa and we participated in an African workshop day with Fanwell from Zimbabwe. We completed many different activities with him such as djembe drumming, African dancing and games. We also made African masks and sang The Lion King and Three Little Birds with Fanwell. In the afternoon, we invited the whole school to come and meet Fanwell



and watch our short concert of all the things we had been learning from our workshop. We had a great day!
– Abdulbasit, Y5.



In June, we took part in the annual Send My Friend to School campaign. Did you know that 37 million children around the world can't go to school? Sometimes this is because they live in war zones and their schools are destroyed. Some of the schools in these areas, that are still open, have special places for the children to hide safely during the attacks. It made me realise how lucky I am to attend Wingrove. We made paper rucksacks to show our support with all the things you need for a school day. Miss Devine then chose the best rucksack and sent them to our local MP. – Sumayyah, Y3.

