WYKE NEWS

Autumn 2026 **#001**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school and, of course, to give a very warm Wyke welcome to all our new children. Whether you are just beginning your learning journey with us or joining us a little further along the way, we are delighted to have you as part of our school family.

As always, we have packed an awful lot into the term! It has been lovely to settle back into our familiar school routines, alongside a few new ones – including remembering our PE kits on the right days! Thank for your support as we get back into the rhythm of school life.

Our Year 6 children have already enjoyed their residential visit to PGL Osmington Bay. They represented Wyke magnificently, throwing themselves into new challenges and demonstrating real resilience, teamwork and determination. They should all feel incredibly proud of themselves, and I hope they have come home with some wonderful memories.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Wonderful Words Day. The children looked fantastic coming to school dressed as their chosen words, and it was a brilliant way to celebrate our love of language and vocabulary. On a personal note, I would also like to say a massive thank you to everyone who sponsored and supported me on my Scottish run. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised enough to invest in our new spelling scheme and its associated resources. This will help us to further develop the children's spelling skills, build their confidence as writers and give them the tools they need to express themselves clearly and creatively. Your support really will make a difference to their learning.

Well done, too, to all the children who put themselves forward to represent their classes in our recent Pupil Parliament elections. It takes courage to stand up in front of others, share your ideas and ask your classmates to put their trust in you. If you were not elected this time, please remember that being willing to have a go and wanting to make a difference are things to be incredibly proud of.

We have also launched our Spanish learning this term. ¡Hola, everyone! We are looking forward to developing our language skills, and I suspect there may soon be a few children teaching their grown-ups a thing or two at home. Don't worry if your Spanish is a little rusty, there's no better time to brush up on your hola and gracias!

It was a real pleasure to accompany Kingfisher Class on their visit to The Egg Theatre in Bath, followed by a fascinating trip to the Museum of Work. The children had the opportunity to explore the Victorian workshop and soft drinks business of J. B. Bowler, bringing their learning to life in a wonderfully hands-on way. Visits like these offer such valuable opportunities to discover more about the world beyond the classroom.

It was also lovely to see so many of you at parents' evening last week. I know how quickly those appointments can fly by when there is so much to discuss! I hope you came away with answers to your questions and a clear sense of how your child is getting on. If you still have something you would like to ask, or simply want to have a chat, please remember that our door is always open. Working together is such an important part of helping every child to thrive.

This week, we have been enjoying our Arts and DT Week, giving the children the chance to get creative, experiment with new ideas and bring their imaginations to life. From artistic adventures to practical problem-solving, it has been wonderful to see the children exploring their talents and discovering just how much they can achieve when they think creatively. There has also been plenty of fun!

Finally, thank you for your generous donations in support of our Harvest Assembly. Your kindness is greatly appreciated, and it is good to be able to remind the children of the importance of thinking about others and giving back to our community.

As we reach the end of a very full and rewarding term, I would like to thank all our children, families and staff for their continued enthusiasm, kindness and support. It is a privilege to see the children growing in confidence, embracing new challenges and making the most of all the opportunities school has to offer. I hope you all enjoy a restful and happy half-term break, with plenty of time to relax, recharge and enjoy being together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term at Wyke!

Kind regards,

Ed Birkett
Headteacher

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BLESS YOU!

You truly blew us away today with your incredible support for our tissue appeal! We were delighted to receive so many boxes, which will see us through the germy autumn and winter months.

THANK YOU!



GILLINGHAM FOODBANK—THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous Harvest Assembly donations which we delivered to Gillingham Foodbank yesterday. Your kindness is greatly appreciated, and it is good to be able to remind the children of the importance of thinking about others and giving back to our community.

For more information on Gillingham Foodbank and the incredible work they do, please click HERE.

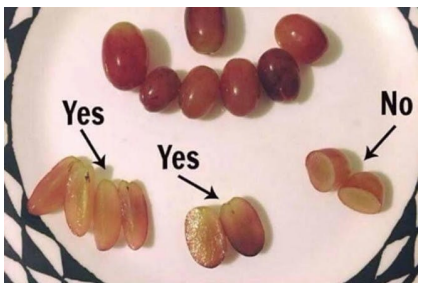
Gillingham Foodbank
Together with Trussell





VERY IMPORTANT—NUTS & GRAPES

A reminder please that we are a NUT-FREE SCHOOL. Please do not send your child to school with any nuts or products containing nuts, including chocolate spread.



We have children in school who suffer from potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis if they come into contact with nuts or nut dust.

Also, a reminder that if your child is in Key Stage One, please cut their grapes in half lengthways to minimise the risk of choking. Thank you for your co-operation.

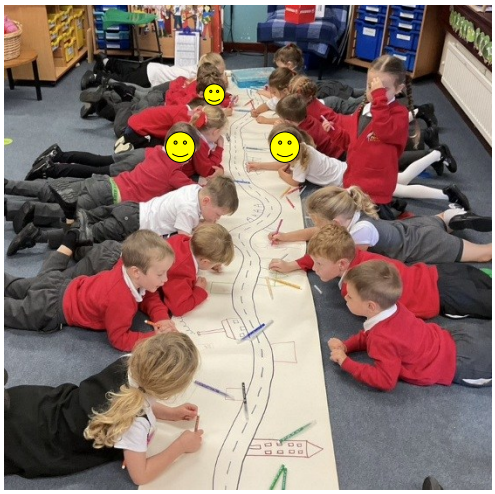
WYKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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WREN & ROBIN CLASS NEWS

What a Wonderful Start for Our Wrens!



Wow! What a wonderful start to the school year we have had!

Our new Wrens have made a fantastic start to their school journey, and we are absolutely delighted with how well they have settled into school life. They have already grown in confidence, made new friends and embraced all the new routines, expectations and learning opportunities – all with big smiles!

Our first enquiry, 'Who Are We?', has given us lots of opportunities to explore ourselves, our families, our homes and how much we have grown and changed since we were babies. The children loved playing 'Guess the Baby' with their baby photos and sharing stories about their families. We celebrated how wonderfully different all our families are, whether small or large, living together or in more than one home. The children have thoroughly enjoyed sharing their experiences, learning about one another and discovering what makes each of us special.

We have also loved talking about our homes and discovering the many different and interesting places people live. We shared our ideas about where we might like to live one day, and the children's imaginations certainly took flight! Castles, boats, windmills and even caves were all on the wish list!

This week, we have been learning all about Harvest and discovering how busy farmers are at this time of year, bringing in their crops. We have a feeling we will be singing 'Big Red Combine Harvester' for weeks to come!

We have also had sooooo much pumpkin fun! The children have loved investigating pumpkins in all sorts of ways, using magnifying glasses, hammers and golf tees, screwdrivers and screws to explore what was inside. We even enjoyed tasting some delicious pumpkin soup!

We are incredibly proud of our new Wrens and everything they have achieved in their first term at school. It has been a joy to watch them settle in so happily, begin to find their feet and grow in confidence as valued members of our school community.

It has certainly been a busy and exciting start to the year! We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved rest next week before the Christmas excitement begins!

Mrs de Villiers, Mrs Turvey and Miss Trowbridge







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KINGFISHER CLASS NEWS



What a busy and exciting first half-term we have had in Year 3! The children have settled into Kingfisher Class and have been working hard, exploring new ideas and enjoying lots of different learning experiences.

This half-term, our enquiry has explored the question “Where does the darkness come from?”. The children have been investigating light and dark, learning about different sources of light and exploring how shadows are formed. Through practical investigations, they have developed their scientific enquiry skills, asking questions, making observations and explaining what they have discovered.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of number and place value, working with numbers up to 1,000. The children have practised representing numbers in different ways, comparing and ordering numbers, and developing their addition and subtraction skills. We have also been building our confidence in explaining our mathematical thinking and choosing appropriate strategies to solve problems.

In English, we have enjoyed exploring the story of Rama and Sita, using our ideas to write and perform playscripts with dialogue and stage directions. We have also been learning about explanation texts, using our imaginations to explore the idea of a time machine. The children have been developing their use of technical vocabulary, sequencing ideas and explaining how something works clearly.

One of the highlights of the half-term was our trip to Bath! We visited The Egg Theatre to watch Adventure in Hidden History, before walking through the city to the Museum of Bath at Work. At the museum, we explored the fascinating history of the J. B. Bowler drinks factory and learnt about the engineering behind making and bottling drinks. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring our learning about the past to life, and the children represented the school beautifully.



Well done, Kingfisher Class, for all your hard work, enthusiasm and curiosity this half-term. We hope everyone enjoys a restful half-term break, and we look forward to another exciting term of learning together!

Miss Cheetham





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ROBIN & OWL CLASS NEWS

WOW! Robin and Owl Class have settled brilliantly into the new routines and they have been so busy learning and developing.

In our Curious City enquiry, 'What could our Classroom be Made of?', we have been exploring different materials and discovering which are natural and which are made by humans. We investigated the materials used in buildings and construction, thinking about why particular materials are chosen for specific purposes rather than simply for how they look. We finished the enquiry by drawing detailed plans for a new area of the school grounds. We hope Mr Birkett will be installing the school swimming pool soon!

We have continued the children's love of reading through a range of exciting stories. We have explored new and interesting vocabulary, developed our imagination and enjoyed listening to and discussing stories together. The children thoroughly enjoyed inventing, designing, drawing and writing to help the characters of our stories.

As mathematicians, we started the term by focusing on place value. The children practised counting, recognising numbers, comparing and ordering, and understanding what happens when numbers get bigger or smaller. Then we moved on to doubles, fact families and mental calculation. We played lots of games to help us understand and we even managed use autumnal leaves to assist our learning.

The children have embraced our Spanish lessons and are enjoying learning to count and the colours. We loved the Spanish day and everyone had fun experimenting with the Flamenco dance moves and understanding a little more about Spain.

Thank you to everyone in Robin and Owl Class for a superb half term. We look forward to another exciting term of exploring, creating and learning together in our Class!

Mrs Simpson, Mrs McGinty and Mrs Marchlewicz













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WOODPECKER CLASS NEWS

As we reach the end of another busy term, we would like to say how proud we are of all the children in Woodpecker Class. They have shown fantastic enthusiasm for learning and have worked incredibly hard to meet the high expectations we have for behaviour, effort and attitude.

A particular highlight this term has been our work around mental health and wellbeing. The children have developed their understanding of important concepts such as resilience, self-worth and self-belief, and have enjoyed discussing ways to look after their mental health. Our regular Stormbreak activities have been a huge success, helping the children to regulate their emotions and prepare themselves for learning. They have also been highly motivated by our certificate system and have taken great pride in celebrating their achievements.

In Mathematics, we have worked hard to build strong foundations in place value, developing confidence when reading, representing and comparing numbers. We are now moving on to addition and subtraction, applying our understanding to increasingly challenging calculations and problems.

In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed studying The Barnabus Project and The Lost Words. These inspiring texts have sparked thoughtful discussions and creativity, resulting in some fantastic pieces of writing. As always, we continue to focus on the basics of punctuation and sentence structure, ensuring that children develop the skills needed to become confident and effective writers. We have also recently introduced the new Grammarsaurus spelling scheme and are busy securing our knowledge of vowels, consonants and alphabetical order.

Our enquiry learning this term has centred around sound. The children have immersed themselves in a range of practical investigations and have shown great curiosity as they have explored how sound is made, how it travels and how we hear. The children have been an absolute pleasure to teach this term. We are incredibly proud of the progress they have made, the positive attitude they bring to school each day and the way they support one another. They have certainly earned a well-deserved half-term break!

Finally, it was lovely to meet so many of you during Parents' Evening. Thank you for your continued support. If you were unable to attend, or if you would like a further discussion about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will be happy to arrange another time. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term.

Mrs Scammell and Miss Pollard













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FALCON CLASS NEWS

Falcon Class have very much enjoyed being back together as one year group and have settled well into their learning. There have been high expectations and lots of jobs to get through but we know that Falcons are up to the task.

Our enquiry has been 'What is Sound?' which has had a very scientific focus. We carried out several investigations, making the most of the mainly sunny weather to enable us to take our learning outside. We explored how volume changes as we move further away from a sound source. We had fun making pan pipes from art straws to investigate pitch and designing ear defenders from paper cups to test which materials were most effective at muffling sound. It was a close run thing between tin foil and bubble wrap! We made some excellent quality information texts at the end of the enquiry which really showcased what we had discovered.

In English, we used the book After the Fall to inspire our first-person narratives, thinking about what may have happened once Humpty Dumpty got back up again. We did our best pieces of writing so far when we wrote engaging recounts based on The Lost Thing by Shaun Tan. We designed our own lost thing and thought about what might happen when we found it. Everyone was SO focused and lots of house points were awarded.

In Maths, we have strengthened our addition and subtraction skills, developed our understanding of place value, and explored multiples, factors, square numbers, prime numbers and cube numbers. We have been able to have some practical Maths sessions to help us with this which we really enjoy. In RE, we have been learning about the many different ways Christians show and practise their faith.

We have very much enjoyed all of the wider learning opportunities this term too. We had a very interesting visit from Vicky, the PCSO, where we learned all about forensics and fingerprints. On our Spanish launch day, we made menus and learnt all about some traditional Spanish foods and Wonderful Words Day was also a great success! Art Week this week has been great fun learning about our focus artist, Roy Lichtenstein.

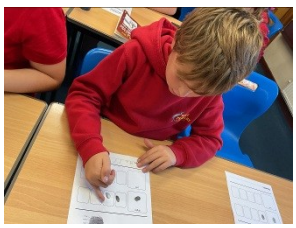
We are very proud of all the hard work and enthusiasm Falcon Class have shown this term. You have earned a big rest ready for our adventures at Leeson House after the holiday!

Mrs Turner, Mrs Beales & Mrs Hall













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HERON CLASS NEWS



What an amazing first half term we have had in Heron Class. We had barely settled back into school when we were off on our residential trip to Osmington Bay where we stayed 3 days at PGL. Although a little windy by the coast, it was warm and we were blessed with sunny weather. We had so much fun trying out lots of amazing activities which included the big swing, kayaking, laser quest, archery, leap of faith and the zip wire. Everyone was absolutely brilliant at challenging themselves and showing just how resilient and determined they are. We were so proud of their wonderful attitudes.

Back in class, we have been working hard in Maths, tackling long division, multiplication and lots of different arithmetic questions. We read a wonderful novel in English, called "The Final Year", written entirely in prose, which the class absolutely loved and wrote some amazing poems of their own. Our Enquiry, "How are lives saved?" has seen us learning all about the circulatory system, the heart, the blood, having a visit from the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance and looking into the advancements in medicine over the years. Linking this with our English sessions, we wrote an explanation text to share our scientific knowledge and compiled a non chronological report about how to live a healthy lifestyle. We completed our Enquiry by writing and presenting a TED Talk about a topic of our choice which ranged from The Air Ambulance, to the NHS to The Samaritans. Everyone spoke with confidence and the talks were very inspiring.

We are looking forward to a well deserved rest over half term, ready to return and continue with some more exciting learning.

Well done Herons. You really have made a wonderful start to Year 6. Keep it up!

Mrs Rose











