



School Newsletter

FRIDAY 19TH JULY 2024

Headteacher:
Mr N Lamorte

0121 464 4255 | wychall.drbignitemat.org | enquiry@wychall.drbignitemat.org

MESSAGE FROM MR LAMORTE - HEADTEACHER

How we've suddenly arrived at the final newsletter of the academic year, I have no idea! The year has flown by in a blink of an eye, and what a year it has been. We're so proud of what we have achieved this year in a range of ways! One of our big areas for development this year was to increase the number of enrichment activities we offered to our children, which includes trips out, visitors in and workshops for parents to join. This year children from Nursery to Year 6, have enjoyed just over 60 enrichment activities which is just wonderful for our children. From a visit to Steel House Lane for Y6, to a visit from the Falconry Centre in Y3, to EYFS Beach Day, it's been a busy, active and fun year at Wychall.

What an amazing evening we had last Thursday, 11th July, at our annual Summer Fair. This year it was birthday themed to coincide with the drb Ignite Multi Academy Trust 10th Birthday. It was an amazing event with a range of activities for our children and families to enjoy. The vibe was truly wonderful and the number of smiles seen across the school site was a pleasure to witness. We raised just shy of £1000 and this would not have been possible without the support of the staff on the day, and the fantastic organisational skills of some very key parent volunteers. **I'd like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Miss Hatch, Miss Cope and Miss Francis (right)** for their significant contribution which was greatly appreciated by everyone at school. What stars!



We also enjoyed three wonderful Sports Day's last week, which were all brilliantly attended by parents and families. It was great to see some health competition, wonderful collaborative teamwork and lots of words of support and encouragement. It was also great to witness an impressive number of parents participate in the parents events at the end with their children. All in all, they were really lovely events. A BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Benson for both organising and hosting these events.



Sadly, this is the time of year which sometimes brings good-byes, and farewells. This year is no different and we will be saying goodbye to Miss Flavell, Mrs Newman, Miss Hoare, Mr Singh, Ms Timmins, Mrs Porter, Ms Begum and Ms Chinn. All have contributed fully to life at Wychall and we hope they all stay in touch. I'd like to say a special thank you to Miss Flavell (below right) who joined Wychall as a teaching student and who leaves us as Assistant Headteacher, to become Deputy Headteacher at one of the other schools in our Trust, which is significantly closer at home. She has been a key member of the Senior Leadership Team and played an important role in developing teaching and learning in recent years. We thank her



ATTENDANCE AWARD



Well done to one of our Y1 children, who has had brilliant attendance this term. Her name was randomly selected from a long list of children for having excellent attendance and as such she has won this wonderful bike. You can see her here with Ms Stanley.

We will be looking to improving attendance

further next year as we aim for 96% attendance, and we have a long way to go. Children with below 90% attendance miss on average one day every two weeks which means missing 20 days of school. This creates HUGE gaps in learning that are a challenge to close. Well done to all those children who attend regularly. Don't worry, you'll have the chance to win more great prizes next year.

DWARF SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

Please remember that the Dwarf Sunflower growing competition is still going. Everyone was sent home with a cup of soil and a Dwarf

Sunflower seed to cultivate at home a number of weeks ago. I'd like to say that this is my entry (right) but my fingers are certainly not that green!! Please send a

photo of your entry at any point over the holiday where you feel it is looking it's finest and we'll choose some winners in September. The e-mail address is

competition@wychall.drbignitemat.org.

We're really looking forward to seeing how everyone has got on with this growing project and posting some of your entries on Dojo.



There has been lots of growing in school this year and with the development of the school garden, carefully monitored by the Eco Team, we managed to grow a range of crops, which were recently harvested by the aforementioned team. Spring onions, cucumbers and lettuce were collected, cleaned and presented to the kitchen staff, ready for children to sample during lunchtimes. See the pictures below. It's been lovely to watch the children growing their own produce and then eating it, and we'll look to build on this next year. It's been another very successful year at Wychall Primary School and our children have once again demonstrated fortitude, resilience and perseverance, which will stand them in good stead for the future. I'd like to thank all of our parents and families for their ongoing support, and a special thank you to all of the staff who have worked tirelessly, with skill and great patience at times, to ensure children make good progress, and attain well. The school continues to improve and we're looking forward to building on recent successes and having another great year in 2024-25. I wish you all a wonderful, relaxing and safe summer holiday and look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday 3rd September 2024. Mr Lamorte



SUMMER BREAK



Dates

19th July - Break up for the summer holidays normal time

Children from Y1-Y6 return to school on **Tuesday 3rd September 2024**

Nursery and Reception **Wednesday 4th September 2024**—letters have been sent with details

October Half term 28/10-1/11

Term ends: Friday 20 December 2024

Training days for the next academic year when the children are not in school

2/9/24

7/10/24

9/1/25

28/3/25

28/4/25

21/7/25

ADHD

Teenage Brain, Healthy Sleep, Family Communication,
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Decreasing Depression,
Anxiety Explained, Understanding Anger, Raising Self Esteem,
Helping Kids Back into School

**Training Sessions in your own time
by Jane Keyworth of FACE**



Available to book £24 now via the website
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Railway Safety

Dear Parent / Guardian

Trespassing on the railway network is extremely dangerous and endangers not only the lives of those on the track, but also passengers, railway staff and the general public

Many people - especially young people - fail to understand the danger they put themselves and others in, when they make the choice to stray onto the rail network. As the summer holidays approach, we are seeing an increase in the number of incidents being reported and incidents we're seeing involve children and young people, these incidents include:

- Misusing level crossings by not paying due care and attention or acts of anti-social behaviour/vandalism
- Walking along the railway lines
- Sitting on train station platform edges
- Throwing stones at trains
- Placing objects on the railway lines
- Using the railway as a playground

I am sure you agree that all of the above activities are extremely dangerous.

The British Transport Police and Network Rail are seeking the support of parents, guardians and the local community to highlight the danger and implications of these activities to help us reduce the number of young people putting themselves and others at significant risk.

To assist with the conversation there are a number of online videos available and range depending on the age group of your child:

www.switchedonrailsafety.co.uk

www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/safety-education/

www.youvsstrain.co.uk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWVvjFqH0UE> (Harrison's Story)

Key Messages

- ✓ Always **STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN** before using a Level Crossing and follow the instructional signage
- ✓ Trains are **ALWAYS** running on the railway and can differ in times meaning that you can never predict when a train will pass
- ✓ Station Platforms are not a playground not every train will be stopping, be aware of your surroundings and **STAY BEHIND THE YELLOW LINE**
- ✓ The Electricity is **ALWAYS** switched on around the railway
- ✓ **DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?**

Trespassing on the railway is also a **criminal offence** which can involve your child obtaining a criminal record and a fine of £1000.

*If you wish to report any information to us, please call us on **Freephone 0800 40 50 40** or text the information to **61016**.*