



School Newsletter

20TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Headteacher:
Mr N Lamorte

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MESSAGE FROM MR LAMORTE - HEADTEACHER

What a fantastic start we've had to the new school year! The children have settled into their new classes incredibly well and are quickly adapting to the routines and expectations of their teachers. It's been wonderful to see how our pupils are 'Engaging with Learning' and producing some truly impressive work already. We are encouraged by this positive start and look forward to continuing this momentum as the year progresses.

Attendance – Our Top Priority

Improving attendance is our biggest priority this year. Our data from last year shows just how important it is for children to be in school regularly. In Year 6, children with over 95% attendance had significantly better outcomes, with 79% reaching the expected standard in Reading, Writing, and Maths. In comparison, only 35% of children with attendance below 95% achieved the same. This highlights the crucial role of consistent attendance in your child's education.

I had planned to celebrate the children with 100% attendance so far this year, but with 221 children achieving this, there are simply too many to name here! A huge well done to all of them—what a fantastic start to the year! We are committed to supporting families to ensure children maintain good attendance, and I have been actively involved in meetings and home visits to offer support where needed. Remember, our target for all children is **96%**.

Please remember that the government is placing a HUGE emphasis on school attendance. As such, holidays during term time will not be permitted. Last year, the local authority issued £3,400 worth of fines to Wychall parents for taking holidays during the school term. This is not something we take lightly, but we have a duty to . We appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.

Improving Communication with Parents

We are always striving to improve communication with parents and are working hard to achieve this through the use of the **Dojo** and **Arbor** apps. However, our data shows that only 67% of parents have signed up to Arbor, which means a third of our families are missing out on important information. In addition, analysis of the Dojo app reveals that posts receive an average of between 120 and 170 views, suggesting many parents are not seeing updates.



Dojo and Arbor are essential tools for staying up to date with school news and information. If you haven't signed up or engaged with them yet, we strongly encourage you to do so. If you know other parents who aren't using these apps, please help us by encouraging them to join as well. Ensuring everyone stays connected is vital to the success of our school community.

Eco Team Success

Our Eco Team has hit the ground running this term, harvesting the crops planted last year. Some lovely onions, lettuce, and even a HUGE marrow have been handed over to the kitchen staff! We are looking forward to planting more crops over the autumn and winter months.

This hard work in the school garden has also contributed to us achieving the prestigious **School Eco Green Flag Award!** A huge thank you to Mr. Owens and Mrs. Foulds for their dedication to this project and for leading the Eco Team to such success and to the children for engaging so well with our Eco inspired work.

UNICEF Rights Respecting School – Silver Award

We are also thrilled to announce that Wychall has been awarded **UNICEF's Rights of the Child Silver Status**.

This recognition reflects the wonderful work being done across the school to promote and uphold children's rights. A big thank you to Mrs. Jones for her leadership on this important initiative and to all the staff for their commitment to implementing it so effectively.

We are so proud of everything that has been achieved already, and we look forward to the exciting months ahead. Thank you for your continued support in making Wychall such a great place for our children to learn and thrive.

Mr. L



Dates

27/9 - Parents SATs Wkshop—2.00pm or 3.30pm

7/10 - Staff Training Day school closed to pupils

11/10 - Y4 Multiplication Workshop 2-3

14/10 - Y1 Phonics Workshop 2-3

18/10 - Reception Phonics Workshop 2-3

21/10-23/10 - Year 6—Outward Bound Residential

22/10 - Harvest

28/10-01/11 - Half Term School Closed to Pupils

6/11 - Open Morning / Evening - Prospective new parents for 2025 - 9.30 and 6.00pm

11/11 - Book Fair Arrives

12/11 - Parents Eve 3.30-5.30 - Book Fair and Chartwells Food Tasting

14/11 - Parents Eve 4.00-6.00 - Book Fair and Chartwells Food Tasting

15/11 - Children in Need Day—Children invited to wear spotty clothes

18/11 - Book Fair Leaves

20/11 - Open Morning / Evening - Prospective new parents for 2025 - 9.30 and 6.00pm

9/12 Y3 - Maths Workshop 2-3

11/12 - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

12/12 - Christmas Fair

16-17/12 - Christmas Shows—times TBC

20/12—last day of Term normal close time

6/1/25 - Staff Training day school closed to pupils

7/1/25 Children return to school

Volunteer Opportunity

Do you have a few spare hours each week? We are looking for parent volunteers who can come in and support with a range of different jobs. Reading, times tables, gardening, art, and many more possibilities for you to become more involved with the Wychall School community. Please see Ms Tourt (Year 3 teacher) for more details or leave your name and details at reception. Your valuable time is such a tremendous gift to the children in school and we would be grateful for your willingness to lend us your energy and support.



Theme Day 26/09/24



Please see the menu for our first theme day. The children really enjoy the special theme days.

26th September 2024

Coffee Morning—Macmillan Cancer Support



On Friday 27th of September we will be taking part in the Macmillan coffee morning.

Parents are invited in for coffee / tea and a cake between 9.00am - 9.45am.

Children will be having a biscuit and squash in their classrooms.

We are asking that children and adults bring in a donation for Macmillan on the day.