Wellington Primary School

Newsletter 3: Monday 19th October 2026

Working Together, Achieving Together

Respect • Responsibility • Aspiration • Community

A message from the Headteacher

Encouraging good attendance

We want to make the final week before the half term holiday a fantastic time for our pupils. Last year, the week before the October half term holiday was Wellington's worst attendance week! Therefore, we are offering lots of exciting events to help children feel upbeat and enthusiastic about attending school the week before the half term holiday.

Good attendance helps our children's learning, making it so much easier to keep the momentum going, especially in key areas like reading, phonics, writing and mathematics. In addition, good attendance strengthens children's social networks, so they are able to enjoy friendships and social time during the school day. Looking ahead, good attendance at primary school ensures that children are developing good habits and a positive work ethic. This will stand them in good stead at their secondary schools and when they enter the world of work. **Rachael Dowell,** Wellington's newly appointed **Attendance and Engagement Mentor**, is already helping pupils and their families if additional support is required.

Update: 'The Nest' – Wellington's new additional provision

Georgie, Joanne and **Helen** have launched our new provision brilliantly. I can hardly believe how much has been achieved since the beginning of term. This is just the beginning – the provision will go from strength to strength.

At the moment, **'The Nest'** opens every morning, Monday – Thursday. However, we are planning to open Monday morning – Friday morning from the 9th November.

Children and adults love 'The Nest'. A big thank you to **Georgie Pickles, Joanne Holmes** and **Helen Houson,** who have made the start of our new venture such a success.

Wishing you all a very happy half term holiday.

Kindest regards,

Joy Wood

Our Wellington rules

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Safe

Reporting absence



Unplanned Absence: It is very important that you contact us every day your child is absent. Please make contact before 9.00am using one of the following methods, explaining the reason for your child's absence.

- Telephone - 01274 774446
- Email - office@wellingtonps.co.uk
- App message via Arbor

Check us out online

Keep up to date with all things Wellington, see photos from your child's class and check out events and key information by looking on our website or following us on our school Facebook page or Instagram account.

Website: www.wellingtonprimaryschool.co.uk

Facebook: Wellington Primary School, Bradford

Instagram: wellingtonpsbradford

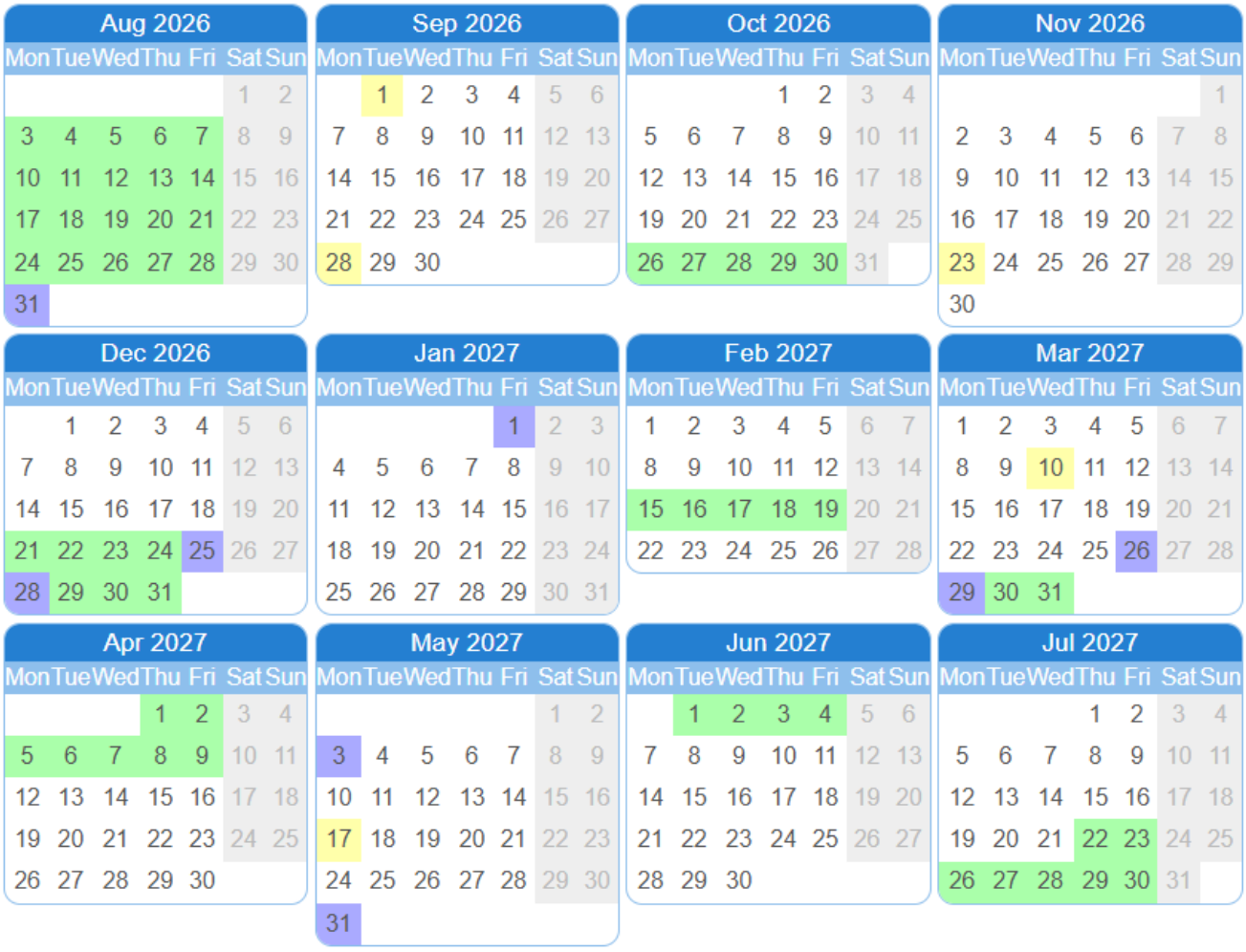
Our Wellington community

If you would like to share with us something your child does outside of school that you are proud of, this could be from a sports club, a drama club, an art club or something else in the community, let us know by contacting the School Office and we will share it in assembly.

Go Team Wellington!

Academic year 2026 / 2027

Below are the term dates, including training days, for the academic year 2026 / 2027.



Diary dates

Friday 23rd October	School closes for half term
Monday 2nd November	School reopens
Tuesday 10th November	Y1 Phonics Parent/Carer meeting (3:30-4:00)
Thursday 12th November	Parent/Carer consultations
Friday 20th November	**new date** September 2027 admission tour for parents
Monday 23rd November	Training Day – School Closed
Thursday 26th November	Parent/Carer consultations
Wednesday 2nd December	Reception concert (AM)
Thursday 3rd December	Y5 Autumn term showcase of work (PM)
Friday 4th December	**new date** September 2027 admission tour for parents
Monday 7th December	Y1 Autumn term showcase of work (AM)
Tuesday 8th December	Y3 Autumn term showcase of work (PM)
Wednesday 9th December	Rock Steady Music concert (09:15–10:00)
Wednesday 9th December	Y2 Autumn term showcase of work (PM)
Thursday 10th December	Y4 Autumn term showcase of work (AM)
Friday 11th December	Y6 Autumn term showcase of work (AM)
Tuesday 15th December	Nursery crafts (mornings) (AM)
Tuesday 15th December	Nursery crafts (afternoons / full time) (PM)
Tuesday 15th December	Y1+Y2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 16th December	Reception Christmas Party
Wednesday 16th December	Y3+Y4 Christmas Party
Thursday 17th December	Y5+Y6 Christmas Party
Thursday 17th December	Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 18th December	School closes for end of term

*Should any dates change due to unforeseen circumstances, we will endeavour to let parents / carers know as soon as possible. Any new dates will be added to the above dates over the course of the academic year and will be indicated as **new date** so that these are clear to see.*

Diary dates

Monday 4th January	School reopens
Friday 8th January	Full payment due Y6 Buckden House residential
Wednesday 20th January to Friday 22nd January	Y6 Buckden House residential
Friday 12th February	School closes for half term
Monday 22nd February	School reopens
Tuesday 2nd March	Reception to Y6 open morning (09:00-10:00)
Wednesday 10th March	Training Day – School Closed
Wednesday 24th March	Rock Steady Music concert (09:15–10:00)
Thursday 25th March	Full payment due Y5 Nell Bank residential
Thursday 25th March	School closes for end of term
Monday 12th April	School reopens
Thursday 15th April	Parent/Carer consultations
Thursday 22nd April	Parent/Carer consultations
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday 10th May to **Thursday 13rd May**	Y6 SATs week – please ensure your child is in school
Monday 17th May	Training Day – School Closed
Friday 28th May	School closes for half term
Monday 7th June	School reopens
Wednesday 7th July	Rock Steady Music concert (09:15–10:00)
Wednesday 21st July	School closes for end of academic year

*Should any dates change due to unforeseen circumstances, we will endeavour to let parents / carers know as soon as possible. Any new dates will be added to the above dates over the course of the academic year and will be indicated as **new date** so that these are clear to see.*

Celebration certificates

Congratulations to all the children who have received certificates in assembly – we are so proud of you!

w/c 28th September	
Rec	RC -, RD -
Year 1	1L Izaan, 1H Ethan
Year 2	2M Liyana, 2F Umaiza
Year 3	3RM -, 3MM -
Year 4	4W -, 4H -
Year 5	5RH -, 5KH -
Year 6	6C -, 6LO -

w/c 5th October	
Rec	RC -, RD -
Year 1	1L -, 1H -
Year 2	2M -, 2F -
Year 3	3RM -, 3MM -
Year 4	4W -, 4H -
Year 5	5RH -, 5KH -
Year 6	6C -, 6LO -

Attendance

Congratulations to our attendance winners in EYFS / KS1 and KS2. The winning classes each receive a £5 reward which they can spend or save to buy a class treat!

Our school target for attendance is 95.0%.

w/c 21st September (%)			
RC	97.00	**4H**	97.33
RD	90.33	**4W**	91.33
1H	97.24	**5RH**	98.39
1L	96.67	**5KH**	90.34
2F	98.13	**6LO**	97.33
2M	98.39	**6C**	90.32
3MM	95.56	**Whole school**	94.70
3RM	98.00		
EYFS/KS1 Attendance Award Winner: 2M KS2 Attendance Award Winner: 5RH			

w/c 28th September (%)			
RC	96.67	**4H**	97.08
RD	84.17	**4W**	96.67
1H	95.69	**5RH**	96.37
1L	98.75	**5KH**	93.97
2F	98.05	**6LO**	99.17
2M	97.98	**6C**	99.19
3MM	90.63	**Whole school**	94.98
3RM	97.08		
EYFS/KS1 Attendance Award Winner: 1L KS2 Attendance Award Winner: 6C			

Know someone who is looking for a Reception place in September 2027?

New to Reception?

Open Mornings

For children starting Reception in September 2027 and their parents

Friday 20th November

Friday 4th December

9:30 am - 10:30 am



Your child will have the chance to ...

- **Play**
- **Be Creative**
- **Ask Questions**

Please call the school office on 01274 774446 to book a place

We look forward to welcoming you!

Uniform

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Before you buy your uniform for the new school year we want to remind you and your child what is and isn't Wellington uniform and PE kit.

Children will be expected to wear the correct school uniform.

Jumpers/cardigans may be plain or have the school logo







Uniform



Our learning

The Nest

This week in The Nest, we have been exploring our emotions and feelings. The children made a 'buddy-stone' using Polymer clay and added eyes to bring them to life. Outside, the children rolled conkers and pinecones down the tubes and ramps to see which travelled faster. The cars have been a huge hit with the added ramps, roads and bridges! Thank you to parents and carers for the lovely toy donations! The stepping stones, matchbox cars and babies have been very popular.



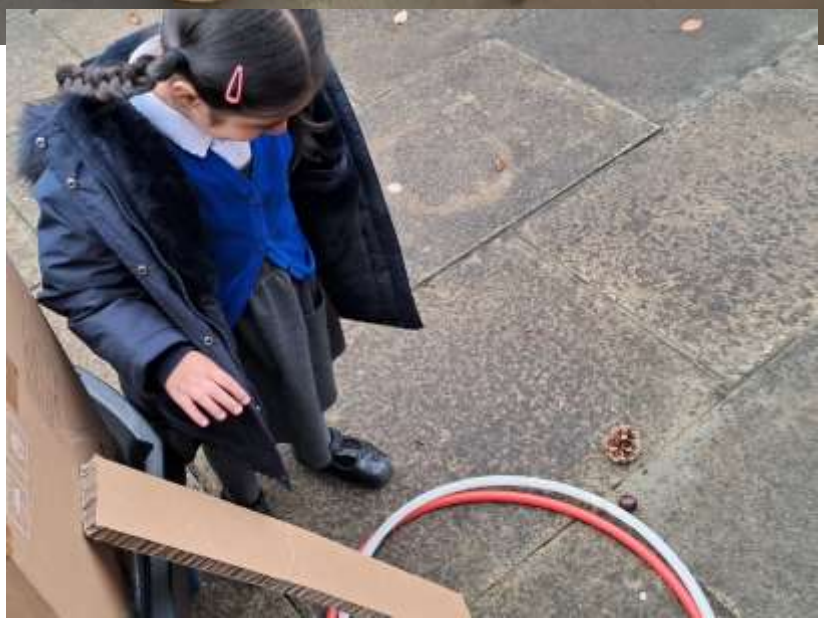





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Nursery

Autumn has definitely arrived in Nursery! We have had great fun learning about the changes outside. The children have enjoyed leaf printing and using lots of autumn colours. This week, we have been learning about hedgehogs and how they prepare for winter, with lots of activities including making clay hedgehogs and using forks to print their prickles. We have also loved singing two new songs - 'Autumn leaves are falling down' and 'A hedgehog is very prickly'. In provision, a few favourites have been dressing up, small world Paw Patrol, playdough hedgehogs and sorting big and small objects.












Hedgehog

Reception

Autumn is now well and truly upon us and the children have loved exploring the sights, colours and textures of the season. Phonics continues apace - we have now covered 20 of the Phase 2 single letter sounds! When we are in the outdoor provision, the children love to explore their physicality - such as creating circuits and assault courses with a variety of resources including balance beams. To this end, we have introduced a very popular game where the children race each other pulling tyres across the playground - pulling against resistance gives children opportunities to use their shoulders and upper arms, engage their core and coordinate their whole body. Holding the rope calls on their grip, hands and wrists as they work out how much effort they need to get moving - all exercises which will help their writing later in the year! We have also been loving our weekly sessions with Storyteller Viv - the children have been transfixed and energised!













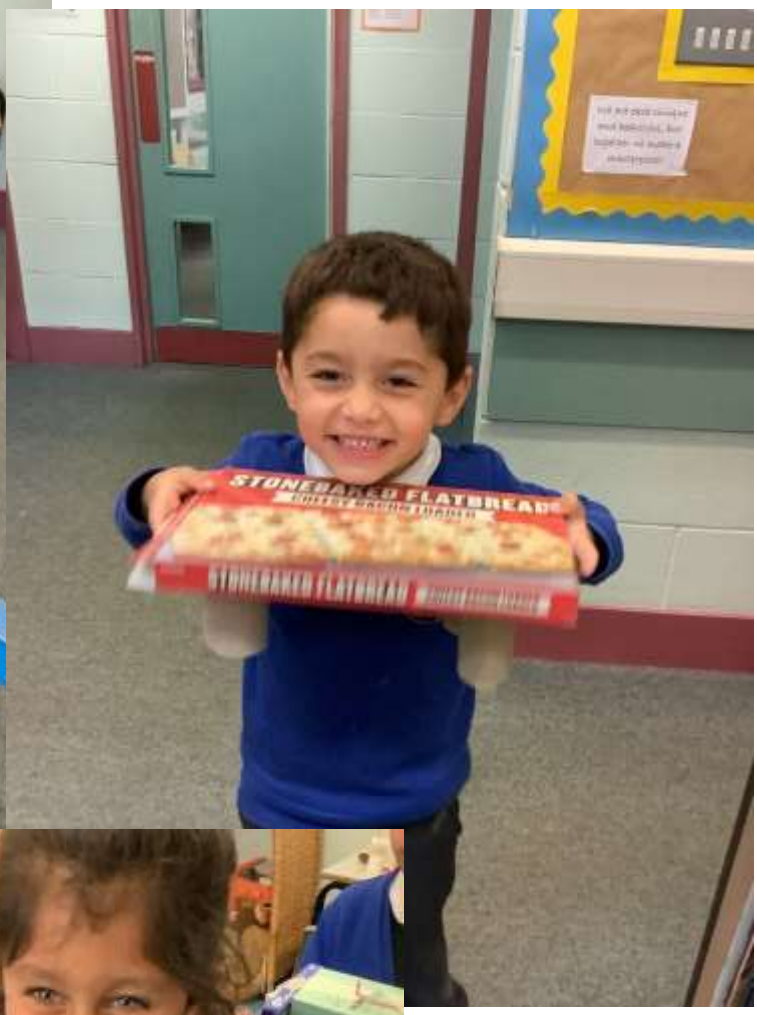

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Year 1

Year 1 have really enjoyed making their bridges that they designed in DT. In English, we have been reading 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'.







Year 2

Year 2 can finally share photos of this half term's work. It has been very exciting! We have investigated what happens when we don't wash our hands, we have role played nurses and porters during the time of Florence Nightingale. We have completed practical maths activities and acting out stories in English. We have loved taking our own photographs in Computing.




























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Year 3

This half term, in Year 3, we have been busy learning about Yorkshire artists. We started our topic looking at the work of David Hockney and Joash Woodrow. This week, we learnt about our final artist, Barbara Hepworth. We looked at some of her sculptures and discussed similarities and differences between her work and the work of our other artists.

We spent the afternoon experimenting with clay and practising a variety of techniques. We enjoyed learning how to cross hatch and creating our own ornaments. Next week, we will be using clay to create a sculpture inspired by the work of Barbara Hepworth. Keep your eyes open for some pictures of our amazing work in a future edition of the newsletter.











Year 4

In Science this week, we have been exploring changes of state. We have focused on the process of melting. We conducted an experiment using different types of chocolate buttons to see which would melt fastest. And of course, we got to eat some of the chocolate buttons afterwards!















Year 5

5KH have been working on body percussion in our music lessons. We have been experimenting with the different sounds that we can make with our bodies and how we can use the sounds to create a piece of music. This week, we learned about ostinato (a repeated rhythm) and created our own within a small group. We then performed as a small group and a whole class to create texture, layering up different ostinatos.









Year 6

Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have enjoyed two very different visitors to school to support them with their learning.

A coach from Sports UK visited to lead a Frisbee coaching session which was enjoyed by all. Year 6 are really enjoying learning how to play Frisbee in PE at the moment. Some children will be selected to attend a tournament playing against other Bradford schools in a few weeks' time. Some thought Frisbee was a past time for the beach on a summers day but it can be played as a 6 v 6 game with teams aiming to score a point by catching a Frisbee in a scoring zone. It's great fun and the session really helped to improve everyone's skills.





Year 6 also had a workshop on knife crime which was led by Marie and Dan - community support officers working in the local community. The session explored knife crime in a sensitive and appropriate way, with a strong focus on keeping safe, making positive choices, managing peer pressure and knowing when and how to seek help from a trusted adult.





E-Safety

Minecraft is a popular game where children explore an online world. They can use building blocks to customise the world and create new parts to it. It can be a fun way for children to be creative and try new things, but there are some potential risks you should be aware of too.

What potential risks should I be aware of?

- **Inappropriate content**: Minecraft has a PEGI rating of 7, but there may be violent content, or content that might not be age-appropriate for your child. Users can generate their own content – for example, when the TV show 'Squid Game' (rated 15) was popular, some users recreated it in Minecraft, meaning other users could see its violent contents without watching the show.
- **Contact:** strangers might try to talk to your child using in-game chat functions. This could be harmless, but some adults could use platforms like Minecraft to contact children, build relationships with them and later cause them harm. Your child might also download Discord (which has an age rating of 13) to voice and video chat with others while playing.
- **Bullying and 'griefing'**: other children (or adults) could use chat functions to exclude, bully, or intentionally ruin the game in multiplayer mode for others (known as 'griefing')
- **In-game purchases**: children can use 'Minecoins' to make purchases in the game. These are bought through the app store on the user's device

Key terms children might use when talking about Minecraft include 'realms' (an online server player can use through paying a subscription), and 'whispers' (a private chat function).

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6 steps to keep your child safe

1. Limit in-game communication and content for your child (e.g. to friends only)

Xbox

First, set up a family group under your Microsoft account, following the steps on the Minecraft website. Then, follow the steps for managing multiplayer game access and online communication.

PlayStation (PS)

First, set up accounts for your family members on the PlayStation website.

Then, restrict chat and messaging features.

Nintendo Switch

First, set up a family group following the steps on the Nintendo website. Then, follow these steps to restrict communication.

2. Tell your child to be careful about talking to people they don't know

Anyone can pretend to be a child online, so they should be careful about what they share. Tell them not to share personal information like their phone number or what school they go to.

3. Make sure your child knows how to mute or block players

- Xbox
- PS4 and PS5
- Nintendo Switch

4. Set spending limits or require approval for purchases

- Xbox
- PS4 and PS5
- Nintendo Switch

5. Talk regularly with your child about what they're doing online

Make this an ongoing conversation – this means they're more likely to talk to you if something goes wrong or upsets them. See tips from the NSPCC on talking to your child about online safety: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/