

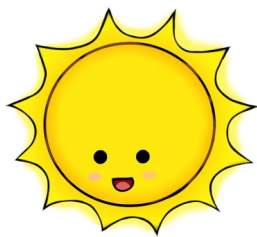


West Rainton Primary Voice

West Rainton Primary Voice—Issue 73

July 2024

West Rainton Primary School Newsletter



Dates for your diary:

- Friday 19th July— break up for summer
- Wednesday 4th September— return to school and nursery
- Friday 25th October— break up for half term
- Monday 4th November—return to school for autumn term 2
- Thursday 19th December— break up for Christmas

Parents/carers will receive a full calendar of events during the first week back for the 24-25 academic year ahead.

Teacher training days next academic year:

**Friday 20th December 2024
Friday 16th May 2025**

It has been as busy at the end of term as it has been all year. As well as all of our usual summer events, we added in the celebration of England reaching a second successive Euros final.



The whole school enjoyed sharing in the celebrations of such an historic sporting achievement.

It is a big step for our Year 6s' as we say good luck and goodbye to our 17 leavers. They have achieved great SATs results and should be very



proud of that. It was lovely to share their achievements at awards night this week.

We wish them every success as they head off to their next steps of education.



With every goodbye, however, there is a new cohort of children waiting to take their place in the heart of our lovely school.

Our nursery leavers had a fantastic time at their graduation ceremony surrounded by family and friends. The whole school were there to sing for them and welcome them on the next phase of their educational journey.





As you are already aware, attendance policy across England is changing effective from 19th August 2024.

We have provided all parents with a handy leaflet to help explain how things are changing and why good attendance is so important.

We will have lots of new

Attendance matters!

incentives in place to encourage attendance right from day 1 in September as well as all the existing measures we already have in place.

The main aspect for parents and carers to familiarize yourselves with is the issuing of FPN (fines) for term-time holidays and irregular frequent absence. Whilst we

will consider the reasons for every holiday request, it will only be authorized under exceptional circumstances.

The fact that the cost of a holiday increases significantly is not a valid reason for absence unfortunately, and is one that we know all too well working in a school.



Year 1 and Year 2 had fun at the beach

Summer term means one thing— end of year trips!

We have had some great trips out in our final 6 weeks including Durham City, Auckland Castle, The Oriental Museum, Durham Cathedral and South Shields beach.

Our Y1 and Y2 classes had a fantastic time at the beach on one of the rare sunny days this half term!

They had a paddle, played

Fun at the beach

in the sand, visited the playpark and had ice cream all while looking at the features of a beach town.

Our children are always a credit to you all when we take them out on trips. They represent our school and community with such pride and responsibility.

Well done kids!



Picnic performance fun and fundraising!



The children enjoyed meeting staff from Banks Homes.

We are watching the development of the new Banks housing estate change and grow week by week right next door to school.

It has been lovely to build up a great working relationship with the team from Banks and they have been great advocates for our school.

They recently ran a competition for pupils in Y5 and 6 to design posters for them and came to our picnic to present the prizes.

They are also helping us to source a facility for our outdoor band room (our subtle hints must have been heard!)

This week, we also took 30 children over to see the construction site in action.



Practising our cookery skills

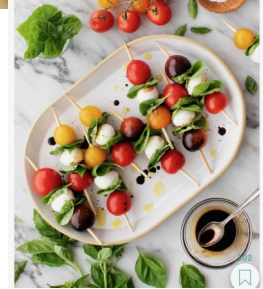
In our final half term, all classes across the school cover food technology as part of DT. Following a recipe, the children practice



all sorts of hygiene and culinary skills such as

safe cutting, grating, juicing, mixing, kneading and rolling.

We were delighted to prepare the picnic for all of our guests recently and I think you'd agree, the children did a wonderful job. It is clear that many of them cook alongside adults at home as their skills are very good.



Making musical memories

Our music provision continues to go from strength to strength at West Rainton.

Every class recently performed their pieces at our summer picnic and we have been busy at musical performances out and about too.

25 of our pupils were selected to train and perform in a choral concert in Durham Cathedral in June giving beautiful renditions of classics such as 'Here comes the Sun' and 'Bring me sunshine'.

Our steel band have begun performing for the wider public and performed this term at both Darlington Community Carnival and Durham Miners' Gala. They have an event in September at Ramside Hotel and also have repeat bookings for next summer including the village Big Lunch at St Mary's Church in June.

It is brilliant to see so many talented pupils in the world of music.



The results are in!

The final year of primary features the KS2 assessments, commonly known as SATs. Children in Y6 take tests in maths, reading and grammar, punctuation & spelling. If you want to see the expected standard for 10 and 11 year olds, just google 'SAT papers' and you will quickly see that they are quite a challenge!

We were thrilled when the results for this year's cohort came in at

71% combined for all three tests. National average was 61%.

In individual subjects, our children achieved 76% GPS, 82% reading and 82% maths. These are all above national average data.

Children have also achieved very well across the school in phonics, early years and the multiplication tables check.



Our cathedral choir of 2024

We had a fantastic day with the whole school community on Wednesday to celebrate our nursery graduates.

What a super confident bunch of children we have this year; it



Nursery graduation day!

was lovely to see them saying hello to everyone on the microphone!

They have achieved so much in nursery, particularly with their language and communication skills as well as having the closest social relationships that we have no doubt will be a continuing asset to this class as they move through school.

The children have already been on 2 visits to reception and know their teachers very well already. We can't wait to get started in September!



Are you keeping your details and permissions up to date?

It is vitally important that you regularly check that the information we hold on you and your children is up to date.

We send out annual data collection sheets for basic details but we understand things may change in between.

Any changes to addresses, contact numbers, relative lists, medical information and people who are able to collect your child must be given to us at the earliest opportunity.

Also, if your permissions for your child to have photos/videos taken have changed, it is important to let us know.

Thank you for helping us to keep our data correct and secure.

Please see our website for copies of our privacy statements for parents.

A summer makeover for WRPS

This week, our school celebrates its 97th birthday— we have already begun planning for the big celebrations in 26-27 academic year!

Every now and then, our old building needs a makeover and this summer will see most of its windows replaced with aluminum frames.

We are hopeful that this may then be followed, at a later date, by the

removal of the wooden cladding and replaced with a more modern, tidier finish.

We take great care of our building and want it to be the home of many more happy schooldays to come.



In the next issue of West Rainton Primary Voice...

- See how 24-25 academic year begins
- Share in our autumn term learning
- Look at the success of our shared drive to improve our attendance