



# Wordsworth Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

**Autumn 1 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers and pupils

It has been a busy half term with lots of fantastic learning taking place! Mr Candy and I have had a great first term getting to know the pupils, staff and our community, and what a pleasure it has been for us both. The pupils have settled into their new classes well and have been working very hard. Below are some particular highlights of the term so far...

**Nursery and Reception** have been lucky enough to have a visit from Greg Bottrill - early years 'guru' and author of 'Can I Go and Play Now?' Greg spent the day with our early years' pupils and then staff received training from Greg on Drawing Club, an approach that immerses children into the world of story, enriches language skills and develops fine motor skills. If you would like any further information about Greg and the fantastic work he does, please visit his website at <https://www.canigoandplaynow.com/>

**Year R** have had a fantastic first few weeks at school. They have been exploring their classrooms & garden, and learning to play and learn with lots of new friends! They have been enjoying learning with their favourite things, like dinosaurs, superheroes and pirates! The children have enjoyed music lessons with Mrs Thompsett and even joined their very first assembly to celebrate Harvest. They have also been enjoying learning about the numbers 2, 3 and 4 and how to make these numbers in different ways!



**In Year 1**, they have been looking at moving picture books and learning how to make their own. The classes have enjoyed reading Cave Baby by Julia Donaldson. This has inspired the children to create mammoths using different materials, produce mud paintings and to design their own cave paintings.



**Year 2** had a great trip to Royal Victoria Country Park where they were greeted by Florence Nightingale. They learnt lots of facts about Florence Nightingale and how she changed nursing and hospitals. In class the children have been comparing famous nurses in their History lessons and have been discussing how the nurses changed the way hospitals look after patients.





This week in Year 2, the children have created artwork based on the pop art created by the famous artist Andy Warhol. They really enjoyed using polystyrene to make their prints and then they used paint to make a pattern using our designs.



**Year 3** has had a wonderful first half term! They have been doing some fantastic learning across the curriculum. In particular, the children have really enjoyed our learning about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We were very fortunate to have a fantastic history workshop, which immersed the children into what life was like in the Stone Age.

**In Year 4**, they have been looking at Indian Art. They looked at different variations of Indian artwork. We particularly enjoyed creating Rangoli patterns used for Diwali to welcome Goddess Lakshimi.



**Year 5** have been writing stories based upon the novel *Wolf Brother* by Michelle Paver. Mrs Crump has put forward Isabella's work to be celebrated in our Newsletter. Mrs Crump said: This is a lovely piece of work from Isabella which describes the setting of our story. What makes this a beautiful piece of writing is that Isabella included so much detail that it makes the reader feel like you are there. She has also used powerful verbs and adjectives, which makes her writing stand out.

*The high, chilly mountains glistened in the background of the tall, towering trees overtaking the dirty, frog infested pond with disgusting dead fish bobbing on the surface of the reeking green algae infested swamp. Dark maroon, red blazing pupils sharpened in the dark gloomy clearing. The eyes glowed as if they were new York's Times Square globes shining at midnight...*

**Year 6** has had a wonderful start to the new academic year - Well done everyone - we are very proud of you.

We have enjoyed lots of exciting learning this half term - We have been learning about Van Gogh and his paintings and using different brush strokes to recreate our own Van Gogh influenced piece. We really enjoyed using impasto to create texture in our paintings.

Take a look....





### String Orchestra visit:

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, King Edward VI School (KES) hosted a 'Strings Taster Day' which our year 5 & 6 string players attended along with pupils from Hollybrook Junior School. The pupils showcased their impressive talents by playing alongside KES students in a public concert in the afternoon solely featuring music that had been learned throughout the day. Our pupils worked very hard in rehearsals and performed fantastically well in the concert. Special thanks to Mrs Thompsett for organising the day, and also to our adult helpers for giving up their time to support the day.

### Clean Air project

We welcomed to our school a local authority representative who held an assembly about the Clean Air project. As part of this, some of our Year 6 pupils conducted a travel count at the school gates in the morning. In the assembly, pupils were challenged to consider how they might be able to reduce air pollution in Southampton and are encouraged to walk to school where possible.



### Special mention:

In July some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils entered UK wide poetry translation competition - The Stephen Spender Schools Laureate Prize. Our pupil engagement was fantastic and all of our pupils did an amazing job. We are proud to say that Emma Sultan's poem (6L) was chosen as one of three Highly Commended entries in the KS1-2 category. In recognition of this, Emma has been awarded a book token by Mrs Gheorghita, who kindly supported all the pupils in entering the competition. Pupil entries will be displayed in our school library to celebrate their hard work. Please see Emma's translation below. Well done to all those pupils who entered!

**Emma Sultan's** translation of 'Doggy Sorrows' by Jan Brzechwa:

On the bank of the blue river  
Little sorrows live.  
The first reason is  
That you're not allowed to enter the garden.  
The second one – that the water doesn't want to be dry  
The third one is that there's a fly in its ear,  
Then the cat has to scratch,  
And the hen can't be caught,  
And that you can't bite your neighbour's leg,  
And that no sausages fall from the sky.  
And the last sorrow is this one:  
The man gets to drive and the dog has to run on its own feet!  
But it is enough to give the dog milk  
And there are no more sorrows on the bank of the river.



*I found translating the poem both challenging and interesting. The challenging part was because I couldn't read in Polish so I had to sound out the word. Given the fact that in Polish, the same letter can have a different sound, it was even more challenging. The interesting bit was thinking about which word would make sense in the English version. It was a funny poem so I really enjoyed translating it.*

Have a fantastic half term break!  
Mrs Bannister and all the staff at Wordsworth





## Coming Soon in Autumn 2...

Date	Event	What do children/ parents need to know or do
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>School Photo Day!</b> 	A class schedule for these will be confirmed nearer the time. Remember to brush your hair, wear your uniform and best smile!
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Week</b> 	This Year's theme is 'make a Noise About Bullying' where we will discuss bullying and how to stop it. We will be wearing odd socks with the Anti-Bullying Alliance and their patrons, Andy and the Odd Socks, on <b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b> for Odd Socks Day.
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Children in Need Day!</b> 	We will be having a collection for Children in Need. Children can wear non-school uniform/ Pudsey ears and accessories if they wish.
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>Dotty Dorris Winter Event!</b> 	Come along and have fun enjoying the stalls and activities. Money raised will go back into supporting the school. <b>Please note:</b> this event is an external letting run by an outside provider.
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Year 1 Winter Celebration!</b> 	Come along and enjoy a song-filled winter assembly from 9.15am-10.00am!
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Year R Nativity!</b> 	Come along and enjoy the show from 9.30-10.00am!
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Year 2, 3 &amp; 4 Winter Celebration!</b> 	Come along and enjoy a song-filled winter assembly (maximum of 2 adults per child). Year 2 – 9.15am-10.00am Year 3 – 10.30am-11.00am Year 4 – 2.15pm-2.45pm
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>KS2 Christmas Dinner</b>	Christmas dinners should be ordered via School Grid in the usual way. More details to follow!
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>KS1 Christmas Dinner</b>	Christmas dinners should be ordered via School Grid in the usual way. More details to follow!
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2.15 -2.45pm</b>	<b>Year 5 &amp; 6 Winter Celebration!</b> 	Come along and enjoy a song-filled winter assembly (maximum of 2 adults per child). Year 6 – 9.15am-10.00am Year 5– 2.15pm-3.00pm
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Last day of term!</b>	Have a lovely holiday!





## Reading at Wordsworth

We have already read a lot of books this half term, including:

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6

### Top Tips for getting the most out of reading at home:

1. If you can find the time beforehand, read the read-aloud book to yourself first, so you can think about how you're going to read it to your child.
2. Make reading aloud feel like a treat. Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book.
3. Show curiosity about what you're going to read: *'This book looks interesting. It's about an angry child. I wonder how angry he gets...'*
4. Read through the whole story the first time without stopping too much. Let the story weave its own magic!
5. Read with enjoyment. If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.

### **MCAS SUPPORT**

MCAS is an app that all parents need to download from the Play Store (Android) or App store (Apple). You need to type in the search bar – My Child At School - the app looks like this:

1. Download the My Child At School app.



MCAS is an app where you can check your child's/children's attendance, pay for trips/residentials, pay for products, music lessons and to book parent's evenings. You will need log on details emailed to you in order to access information for your child/ren. If you don't already have an email from us, then please could you email [debbie.evans@wordsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:debbie.evans@wordsworthprimary.co.uk) and one will be sent to you.

Mrs Evans is offering a drop in session on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 – 1.30pm at the school to help you with the MCAS app and setting it up if you require any help.

