



# Wistow Ways

Orton Wistow  
Primary School



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## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

I hope that you have all had a great summer and that your children have come back to school raring to go for another great year.

If you follow us on Twitter you will know that the refurbishment of the Hall has gone very well. The Hall now looks completely new. New acoustic panelling in shades of grey/blue/purple have replaced the drab and dusty beige panels that were installed when the school first opened in 1988. The brick walls have also been painted a lovely shade of pale grey. We couldn't afford new curtains just yet so we have had the blue ones dry cleaned. The next phase of the project will happen in October half term when the ceiling tiles and lights will be replaced.

The other work that has been undertaken during the summer is the building of our new website, which is looking fantastic. We are looking forward to showing it you at the Curriculum Evening in a couple of weeks. (See more in this newsletter.)

We had a great professional day on Friday where we reflected on the successes of last year and thought about the areas we need to improve. We also started work on a new Vision Statement which I will share with you in the next few weeks.

Best wishes,

Simon Eardley - Headteacher

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## This week's Assembly Theme:

This morning we thought about starting a new school year and the importance of applying your talents.

## Bits and Bobs

by School Office

### Inhalers and Epi Pens

Please can you ensure that all inhalers and Epi Pens are taken into the School Office as soon as possible. It is vitally important that these are in school.

## Coming Up

**This Week: WB 4<sup>th</sup> September**

- Monday**  
Term Starts
- Wednesday**  
FS Curriculum Evening
- Thursday**  
Year 2 Great Fire of London

**Next Week: WB 11 September**

- Monday**  
FS children Start
- Wednesday**  
Year 1 Toy Experience Day
- Twilight meeting Governors / Staff
- Thursday**  
Individual School Photographs

**In 2 Weeks: WB 18<sup>th</sup> September**

- Monday**  
Clubs Start
- Wednesday**  
Curriculum Evening Years 1-6
- Thursday**  
Year 6 Family Learning

**In Three Weeks: WB 25<sup>th</sup> September**

- Monday**  
FS Full-Time
- FOWS AGM
- Friday**  
Jeans for Genes Day

## House Captains

by Mr Eardley

I am delighted to announce that this year's House Captains are:

- Dempsey:** Riley Dean and Libby Attwood
- Nene:** Jonathan Hutchins and Karla Schneider
- Mallard:** Jasmine Barnes and Oliver Unwin
- Fens:** Nathan Shaw and Sofia Yolland-Russo

All of the Year 6 children were given their new purple school jumpers this morning and the House Captains have their new role written on the back so that everyone knows who they are. We hope that they will prove to be excellent role models for the children in their House this year and we hope to develop their roles even further.



## This Week's Menu- WEEK A by Mrs Cooper

We have been tracking school meals since we introduced the new menus last term and we are pleased that numbers have steadily increased. We also know which meals are the most popular and have been able to make some changes to the less popular days. In the summer term, it was clear that having a focus on Fish on a Thursday was not as popular as the other days so we have made a couple of changes. Thursday is now 'Feel Good Thursday' and fish dishes are still available.

	Top Ten Favourite	Roast	Comfort Food	Feel Good Thursday	Basket Meal
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept
Main Course 1	Chicken Nuggets	Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding	Wistow Sausage Roll ✓	Spaghetti Bolognese ✓	Chicken Burger in a Bun
Main Course 2 (V)	Vegetable Nuggets	Quorn Fillet & Yorkshire Pudding	Cheese Whirl ✓	Quiche ✓	Quorn Southern Style Burger in a Bun
Main Course 3			Steamed Salmon	Fish Cake	
Starchy Food	Potato Wedges Dauphinoise Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes New Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes New Potatoes	Hash Browns New Potatoes	Oven Chips
Dessert 1	Chocolate Fudge Brownie ✓	Jam Sponge & Custard ✓	Assorted Donuts	Fruit Cheesecake ✓	Gingerbread Man
Dessert 2		Fruit Salad & Shortbread ✓	Trifle ✓	Chocolate Chip Cookie ✓	Ice Cream Cone

## Staffing News

by Mr Eardley

I am very pleased to announce that **Mr Firth** is now back at work and already working his magic around the school site. We have all missed him and are pleased that he is back.

During the summer holidays, **Mrs Lawrence**, who was going to be the Wallabies Class TA informed me that she was going to resign. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time at the school but felt it was time to try her hand at new ventures. We wish her every happiness and thank her for her energy and enthusiasm. I have already started to think about how we can fill her role.

Towards the end of the holiday, **Mrs Edwards** told me that her midwife had recommended that she should start her maternity leave earlier than expected. Both of Mrs Edwards twins are growing well and she has decided that she needs to rest as she nears her due date. Thankfully, she was able to join us for our Professional Day last Friday but has started her maternity leave today. I am pleased that **Mrs Daley** was available to join us two weeks early and she will now share the Magpies class with Mrs McIntosh.

Lastly, we are pleased to confirm that Miss Collison has re-joined us as Mrs Morris, having got married this summer. Congratulations to her and Mr Morris.



## Trainee Teachers

by Mr Eardley

We believe that being in a classroom is the best place to train to be a teacher which is why we are committed to training the next generation of teachers. For many years we have provided placements for trainee teachers from several local universities and organisations.

This year we will be the 'base school' for three student teachers. This means that they will spend most of their year with us but will also have a shorter period of time in a contrasting school. This type of training allows a student teacher to experience an academic year in school and all that involves.

Each of our three trainees will be based in their own class.

Mr Todd will be based in the Wallabies classroom.

Mr Cowles will be with the Sharks.

Mr Fountain will be with the Toucans.

We look forward to them joining our school community and hope that you will make them feel welcome.

## Curriculum Evening

by Mr Marks

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding our annual curriculum evening. As you have been made aware, we have made some big changes to homework expectations this year and we plan to share more information about those changes with you during this event.

Each team of teachers will meet with parents to go through how you can best help your children at home and also give you ideas of extra things you could do with them.

During the middle part of the evening we will share with you our brand new school website and show you the year group pages that contain information on homework.

This is a very important event for all parents and we hope to see as many of you there as possible. A more detailed letter will be sent home via parentmail on Thursday.

# Parent Questionnaire

by Mr Eardley

Thank you to everyone who completed a Parent/Carer Questionnaire last year. We were very pleased of the results we achieved, see below. As you can see, the question that received the greatest number of negative responses was 'My child receives appropriate homework for their age' which is why we have made significant changes to the type of homework we will set this year. We will explain more about this at the Curriculum Evening on **Wednesday 20 September**.

	Positive Response	Change on Previous Year	Don't know	Negative Response
<b>AUTUMN 1 – Homework, Supporting Parents, Induction,</b>				
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	87%	Down 9%	1%	9%
Staff explain how I can help my child at home.	92%	Down 3%	1%	7%
The arrangements for my child to settle in when he or she started school were good.	95%	Up 6%	0%	5%**
<b>AUTUMN 2 – Uniform and Attendance</b>				
The school positively promotes the wearing of school uniform/colours.	99%	Down 1%	0%	1%
Good attendance and punctuality are promoted.	100%	Up 1%	0%	0%
<b>SPRING 1 - Happiness, Well Being and Safety</b>				
My child is happy at this school	98%	Up 2%	0%	2%
My child feels safe at this school	98%	Same	0%	2%
My child is well looked after at this school	100%	Up 2%	0%	0%
This school ensures the pupils are well behaved	99%	Same	1%	1%
This school deals effectively with bullying *	81%	Up 8%	16%	3%
<b>SPRING 2 – Attainment and Progress</b>				
My child makes good progress at this school	99%	Up 1%	1%	1%
My child is taught well at this school	99%	Up 1%	1%	0%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	99%	Up 7%	1%	1%
Each and every child is valued as an individual.	96%	Up 2%	2%	2%
Staff encourage my child to become mature and independent.	100%	Up 3%	0%	0%
Staff expect my child to work hard and do his or her best.	100%	Up 4%	0%	0%
<b>SUMMER 1 - Curriculum</b>				
There is a good range of activities that my child finds interesting and enjoyable.	99%	Up 1%	0%	1% ♦
This school is well led and managed	99%	Down 1%	0%	1% ♦
This school responds well to any concern I raise	93%	Down 2%	6% **	2% ❖
I would recommend this school to another parent	99%	Up 1%	1%	0%
The school communicates well with parents.	99%	Same	0%	1% ♦

\* There are a high percentage who said they do not know. If you remove these, 97% of parents chose a positive statement.

\*\* A higher percentage of parents said 'Don't Know' for 'This school responds well to any concern I raise'. If you remove these, 99% of parents chose a positive statement.

♦ One parent

❖ Two parents

## Thank you!

by Mr Eardley

We have had two lovely surprises since the last newsletter.

On the last day of the summer term we had to say goodbye to Eva Kouumdjieff, a Year 2 pupil who left us to join The Peterborough School. As a thank you gesture, her parents gave us a cheque for £50. We are very grateful for their generous gift. As you know, we are about to revamp playtime and lunchtimes by introducing more structured play activities. We have decided to use the £50 to buy equipment which all of the children will be able to play with.

Our other exciting news is that BGL Group Limited have kindly agreed to donate £500 to our Roam for Chrome Appeal. We are grateful to Mr Barrett, one of our parents, who works for BGL for making them aware of our appeal. The £500 will make a significant contribution to our Chrome Appeal.

If you work for a company that is able to support the school in any way, please tell them about us!

