



WELLSPRINGS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

[Wellsprings School TV - YouTube](#)



Wellspringsprimary
(our Instagram name)



<https://twitter.com/WellspringsPri>
(our Twitter account)

Wellsprings School Group
(our Facebook name)



Wellsprings Website: <https://wellsprings.somerset.sch.uk/>

School blog on our website: <https://wellsprings.somerset.sch.uk/blog-template/>

Volume 32 Number 7

Friday 1st December 2023

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Key Stage 1 and 2 playgrounds

The Key Stage 1 and 2 playgrounds were due to have their 'line markings' redrawn in the Christmas break. We have just been told by the playground contractor, this may take place on Wednesday or Thursday next week.

Access on to the playground should be OK for KS2. However, it is possible the KS1 drop off point may be affected at the end of the day. When we know more we will obviously pre-warn if there is a temporary change.

Christmas performances

Tickets are available from the office for next week's KS1 Christmas Performance. There are no tickets required for the Foundation Nativity.



Dates and information about the school

01.12.23 PTA Christmas Bingo- 6.30

05.12.23 KS1 Christmas performance (2.15 pm)

06.12.23 KS1 Christmas performance (2.15 pm)

07.12.23 Christmas Dinner

08.12.23 EYFS Christmas Nativity (2.15 pm)

13.12.23 KS2 Christmas Carol Service (5.30 pm)

14.12.23 KS2 Christmas Carol Service (2.15 pm)

15.12.23 Christmas assembly

15.12.23 Last day of term

15.12.23 Newsletter out

02.01.24 INSET Day

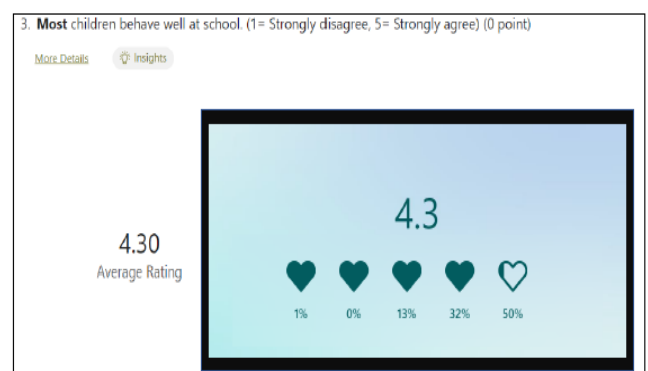
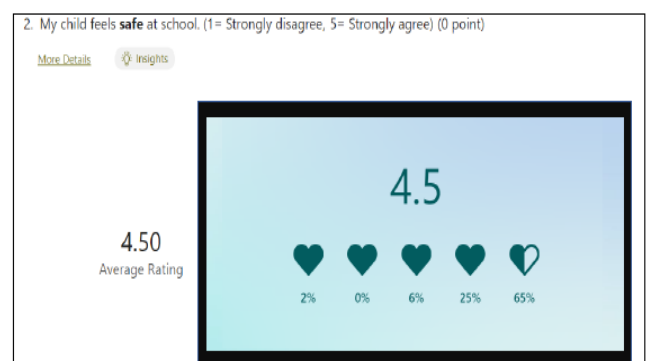
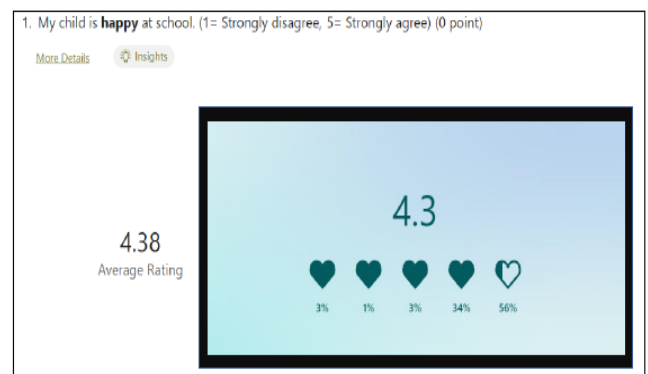
03.01.24 School opens for new term

05.01.24 Newsletter out

Parent/carer survey

Thank you to those who took part in the Parent/Carer survey. There were many positive comments, along with some very useful, constructive feedback about improvements we could make. Please see the overview summary below:

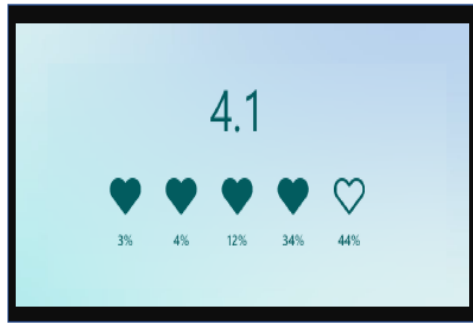
School Survey Results



4. The school deals with bullying effectively. (1= Strongly disagree, 5= Strongly agree) (0 point)

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

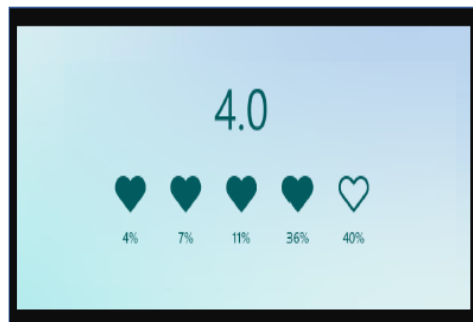
4.11
Average Rating



5. The school keeps me informed about my child's learning. (1= Strongly disagree, 5= Strongly agree) (0 point)

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

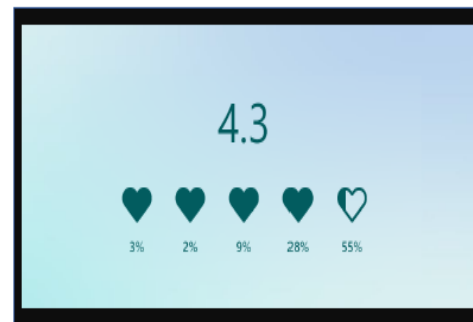
4.01
Average Rating



6. The school deals with my concerns effectively. (1= Strongly disagree, 5= Strongly agree) (0 point)

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

4.30
Average Rating



7. My child's needs are being well met by the school. (1= Strongly disagree, 5= Strongly agree) (0 point)

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

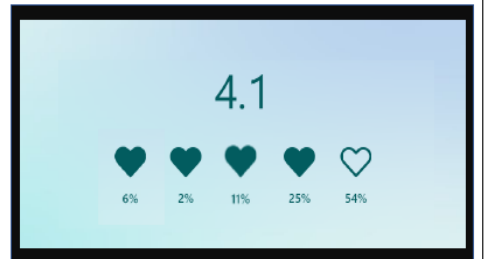
4.08
Average Rating



8. Communication from school to home is effective. (1= Strongly disagree, 5= Strongly agree) (0 point)

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

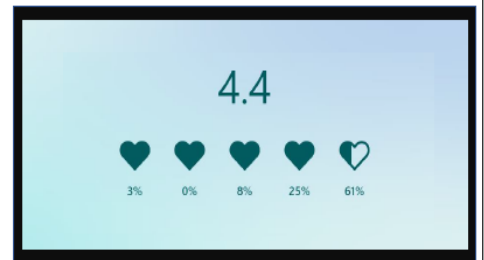
4.14
Average Rating



9. I would recommend Wellsprings to other parents/carers. (1= Strongly disagree, 5= Strongly agree) (0 point)

[More Details](#) [Insights](#)

4.41
Average Rating



Below is a closer of individual comments/observations shared by carers in the survey. In many instances, a parent/carer has made more than one observation; so these are broken up into separate points.

Communication (in brackets the number of parents who commented on this)	
Positive	Concern/request
Year 5/6 newsletter has been helpful/ information sent out each half term about the classes. Squirrels newsletter is really useful (3).	Mental Health day requested wearing yellow- need 1 months' notice for change in plans. MH Day mentioned on newsletter weekend before- limited number of children wearing yellow. (2)
Clicked on link to blog, and realised there was a lot of information on there.	Go back to paper copies of newsletters as people don't really read ParentMail.
Communication is better now/generally very good/improving this year (3).	Communication is a huge issue in school/ poor/patchy. (4)
I like having the newsletter every 2 weeks.	Not pleased that parent/carer needed to

	use Facebook to keep updated (2).
ParentMail is regular which can be helpful*	*Sometimes too many messages on PM get sent out.
There are lots of ways to get information/got PM/FB/website (2).	No updates about what the children are doing in class each half term.
Facebook page is good to keep up to date/useful/informative (3).	Parent/carer meetings late in October- want sooner contact from teachers- perhaps simple message.
School calendar works well/ download calendar from the link on the newsletter, useful. (2)	
Staff keep me up to date about things.	
The office staff are friendly and go out their way to make sure messages get to teachers.	
Mrs Lang 'always happy to discuss anything'.	

Curriculum/Wider school provision	
Positive	Concern/request
Positive observations about art week/art exhibition. (3)	Clarity about homework.
Phonics work shops useful.	Opportunities for more Forest School provision for all children (2).
E-safety meetings (last year?) were useful.**	** More E-safety meetings this year if possible.
Children enjoyed sporting events/sporting activities. Acknowledgement of staff who run these (2).	Many other parents/carers willing to pay more so all children can be involved (if unable to pay).
After school clubs are really great for KS2.	

Pupils in school	
Positive	Concern/request
Great/good/fantastic school (4). Positive/friendly/wonderful/great staff (5). Friendly/nice children (3).	Issue for specific pupil, matter unresolved by school/HT. We ask the parent/carer to contact us if they are aware there is still an unresolved matter.
Good work/keep positive approach. (3)	Upper KS2 (girls) not wearing appropriate uniform.
My child enjoys school (3). Child very happy/happy at school. (2)	

(Named child) is very happy at the school- safe, well-loved and has friend. 'This was the best choice we've made!'	
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Routines	
Positive	Concern/request
New school and settled well.	New drop off point causing 'bottle neck' around Hares class/access arrangements for key pupils.
Pleased to collect from the KS1 playground.	**** Are the lines being done soon on the playground?
I prefer the path round to ks1 playground as it is not as muddy/wet.	
Like the new paths/playgrounds.****	

Safety	
Positive	Concern/request
My child feels safe/is safe in school (2).	Ensuring content on YouTube when shared by teachers is managed carefully.

Communication:

Some of the issues for identified we feel we have already addressed; others we will need to work harder to continue to improve.

Early warning around events/dates

We have a calendar on our website that has content detail for pretty much the whole academic year, and beyond. Please use this calendar to get well prepared in advance!

Please visit our website for key dates across the year:
<https://wellsprings.somerset.sch.uk/events>

Earlier this term, we announced a mental health awareness day at short notice. ('Hello Yellow'). We usually give a lot of prior notice about most events- on Facebook, ParentMail and our website. We appreciate 'Hello Yellow' was shared a few days before the event, so apologies for those who found this difficult. However, we did provide some 'low effort' costume suggestions (eg a yellow badge!) so parents/carers weren't pressurised into buying new costumes.

Curriculum information

We do send out Key Stage newsletters every half term; we also sent out transition information at the beginning/end of the year. Like most schools, we

endeavour to be as 'paper-free' in communications as much as we feasibly can.

We feel there is a good balance of information shared on Facebook, through ParentMail and on our website. We hope most parents/carers seem to think this balance works quite well.

We have increased the frequency of our whole and Key Phase newsletters. Our website has all the up-to-date newsletters and key dates if you are not sure:

Newsletters are here:

<https://wellsprings.somerset.sch.uk/>.

Every newsletter, we share the links below, for future reference. The school blog often features similar information on Facebook and our ParentMail.

Wellsprings website school blog is here:

<https://wellsprings.somerset.sch.uk/blog-template/>

Wellsprings School open Facebook page is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/wellsprings.school>

Since the questionnaire, we have added a noticeboard again, on the KS2 playground and we will endeavour to find a way to keep parents/carers aware of new events via social media, ParentMail, the noticeboard our website and face-to-face catch ups.

Curriculum/wider provision:

We are starting whole class Forest School sessions after Christmas, having appointed another Forest School Lead this term. We hope to get through all the classes twice this year, with further information to come.

We will look to revisit our parent workshops later in the year. We have provided Phonics and Maths workshops this year already.

Information from class teachers

We have planned teacher/parent consultations throughout the year. We actively encourage parents/carers to contact their child's class teacher if there are any queries or updates needed.

This does not have to wait between teacher/carers meetings.

Please make an appointment if a longer meeting is needed and all class teachers would welcome an open conversation if required.

Homework

We will include homework guidance in advance on our half term curriculum newsletters. There is usually scope for extra homework (e.g. 'Pick and mix' projects in KS2).

PTA

The pricing of PTA events is regularly reviewed by the committee. This is something we are sure they will continue to monitor to make sure there is access to as many of our school community, as much as possible.

Routines:

The vast majority of parents/carers prefer using the KS1 playground to drop off. While there may still be a 'bottle neck' at points, it is still a lot more accessible along the front than previously.

For the time being, we will continue with this. Where there are individual concerns around access for any pupils, please contact the office.

Other: we will monitor uniform after Christmas to ensure there is consistency across the whole school. Teachers have been provided with a safe way of viewing content so YouTube does not show advert content. Staff will be reminded of this at our next staff meeting.

Every half term we will send out a short feedback form for parents/carers to share any suggestions (or queries) they may have.

Christmas Sparkle

Thank you to all the Sparklebox gifts that have been contributed



in the last few weeks. On Monday, the school council and Mr Lunn will be wrapping up the gifts ready to send on to some worthy homes.

Thank you to Sparklebox charity, Mrs Hill and the school council for supporting this. 😊

Vaping

It has been noted that some adults have been recently by a number of adults.

Like all other schools in Somerset, **Wellsprings does not allowed vaping on the school premises.**

Please refrain from vaping on the school grounds.

PTA Bingo

Wellsprings School PTA
Presents

B
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O

**PRIZE
BINGO
NIGHT**

Friday
1st December 2023

**Doors Open 6pm
Eyes Down 6.30pm**

£1 per book or
£5 for strip of 6

*Chocolate Tombola
Cash Prize Game
Prize Raffle*

Refreshments available
on the night



Tuning in to Kids

Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A six-session programme for parents of toddlers to teens.

Would you like to learn how to:

- Be better at talking with your child?
- Be better at understanding your child?
- Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- Help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- Teach your child to deal with conflict?



'Tuning in to Kids' shows you how to help your child develop *emotional intelligence*.



Children with higher emotional intelligence:

- have greater success with making and keeping friends
- have better concentration at school
- are more able to calm down when upset or angry
- tend to have fewer childhood illnesses

Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!

Where: Wellsprings School

When: January 9th 2023 starting 9.15am - 11.15am for 6 weeks.
Dates are 16.01.23, 23.01.23, 30.01.23, 20.02.23, and 27.02.23.

Contact: Nicky Hatton or Mrs Holcombe If you are interested in attending or would like to be added for future interest.

Next newsletter: Friday 15th December