



# WICORMEDIA



"Horse sense is the thing a horse has which keeps it from betting on people." **W.C. Field**

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Dear All

Welcome to a new school year and a particular welcome to all the new families joining us this year. Last year seems an age away and saying goodbye to our Year 6 children a distant memory – although the visits we have had from the Year 7 children who ‘pop in’ at the end of the say, serves as a reminder! It’s always exciting to welcome the new Year R children and their families to our school and the new voices, ideas, perspectives they bring to the school are refreshing.

It’s been lovely to catch up with many of the children this week and to find out what they’ve been up to over the summer break and I think, if we are honest, everyone is pleased to be back.

There have been a few changes to the school over the summer – nice new windows for four classes and a fantastic re-vamped children’s kitchen. We now do so much cooking that we had to improve the facilities. If you have a moment, pop in and have a look...better still, why not come in and lend a hand?!

Returning to the Year 6 children for a moment, I want to thank them for the hard work they put in to their learning and the positive attitudes they maintained throughout the year. The Key Stage 2 SAT results reflected this excellent work ethic. The table below shows a summary of SAT results for the past three years. This year shows that overall standards have risen again with 96% pupils attaining Level 4 or better in Reading, 92% pupils attaining a Level 4+ in Writing and 86% attaining a level 4+ in Mathematics. We are particularly pleased with the number of children attaining above the National Expectation of Level 4. Over half of the cohort attained a Level 5 in Reading (54%), 31% attained a Level 5 in Writing and almost half of all pupils attained a Level 5 in Mathematics (48%).

	Re 11	Re 12	Re 13	Wr 11	Wr 12	Wr 13	Ma 11	Ma 12	Ma 13
Boys L5	49	55	50	5	15	27	43	33	27
<b>Boys L4+</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>87</b>
Girls L5	54	40	63	7	36	38	25	32	58
<b>Girls L4+</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>83</b>
All L5	52	48	54	6	23	31	35	32	48
<b>All pupils L4+</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>

As ever we will continue with our strong focus on learning this year and try to increase the range of opportunities we offer the children.

Some of you may have noticed the signs that have sprung up around the school, including the large image of Charles Darwin that greets you on the main drive. Dan Bryant, parent, kindly turned our thoughts into fantastic workable designs. We have created information boards for the orchard, wildflower garden, pond area and camera obscura. This is all part of our work to develop and improve our outdoor spaces and create the best possible learning resource possible in order to inspire the minds of everyone using them.

## Out and About

Here's a first for Wicormedia... a report on Heavy Horses. Freddie Grinyer's (1C ) mum explains.

*Freddie had the unique opportunity, over the school holidays to lead a grand parade for a Ploughing match in West Meon of Shire Horses and vintage Tractors. I am guessing that very few 6 year olds have had the opportunity to do this, so I thought it would be nice to share with the school.*

*Freddie is leading the parade, under the supervision of his uncle Kevin and Ness. The Shire horses have to plough in a straight line, using an old fashioned plough. Freddie uses voice commands to keep horses moving and must steer the plough in the right direction. His uncle Kevin put him right now and aground and Ness helps with horses. The horses make the straight line for around 30/40 vintage tractors to follow and they also must keep this straight!*



*Freddie attends Shire Horse shows all over England with his Uncle Kevin's horses Duchess and Kerry and now Freddie has a new foal who is 3 months old called Summer, who will be at Romsey Show on 14 September, with Freddie and his mum.*

What a fantastic experience Freddie and you look extremely confident in charge of the horse. Brings to mind one of my favourite songs, Heavy Horses by Jethro Tull.

Thank you to Angelis Oram-Lestat (4K) for sending in the action photo. Angelis climbed to the summit of England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike. After reaching the summit (and in doing so he completes the three peaks), Angelis travelled to Wales where he took up the Zip World challenge and shot down a line 70 feet above the ground for over a quarter of a mile while impersonating a red chili pepper. Wow, Angelis, climbing the 3 Peaks is a fantastic achievement and what a great way to come down a mountain!



## From our Foreign Correspondent

Hello Mr Wildman,  
Apologies, I'm a bit late with this year's update!!!



This year we had a slightly different holiday to normal, as we swapped the peaks of northern England for the plains of Africa! We took George and Jack to Kenya to visit my cousin in Nakuru. While we were there, we experienced some amazing Wildlife while on Safari, including the "big 5", which was incredible. It was a great experience for the boys to see a completely different culture, and meet some truly amazing people in the process.

The reason that my cousin is living in Nakuru, is that her husband, Dr Andrew Bastawrous, is leading a study for the London School of Tropical Medicine, measuring the vision of c5000 people who were tested 5 years ago. The project has been very challenging for them, as they have to try and locate all of these people in a country where records are seldom maintained, meaning that a team of people have to locate as many as they can in advance. They then go to various remote villages to set up an Eye Clinic, with a team of 15 people and 2 vans to carry all the expensive equipment. In recognising that this is a very laborious way of doing the study, Andrew has devised a way of carrying out the various tests using a smartphone. This means that the 2 vans, valuable equipment and 15 strong team is replaced by 1 man on a motorbike with a smartphone! You may have seen this covered on the BBC recently:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-23708138>

Anyway...the funding only covers the study itself, meaning that Andrew would be unable to treat people he came across with common treatable conditions such as Cataracts or Glaucoma. They have therefore taken it upon themselves to raise as much money as possible to cover the cost of surgery, and follow-up treatment for as many people as they can. George and Jack are therefore going to run the Mini Great South Run in October.....blindfolded! George in particular was very inspired when we visited the project in the field, where Andrew was able to show us a lady who was blind in one eye due to a cataract. Thanks to the money they have raised so far, this lady will be treated and have her vision restored. This costs £40, which includes transport and aftercare...a figure which George felt was very small to get someone's sight back! I have attached a photo of George witnessing the diagnosis, as well as the boys both playing with some local children.



We were also wondering if this is something that other pupils might be interested in being involved in. I know that George is going to ask some of his friends to join him! I am hoping to get the News involved, to raise as much money and awareness as possible.

Thank you to George (4K) and family for the annual news. Sounds like a fantastic experience George and one that has clearly inspired you. I will be very interested to know how your blindfold run with Jack goes!

## Reader's Lounge Blurp

Next week the school is focusing on some of the ideas in a book called *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norman Juster. It's a relatively old story, written 50 years ago, but the ideas in it remain pertinent to life today. The book is full of puns based on names and sayings and provides lots of discussion points for children. The essence of the story is about the virtues and values of keeping mind that is open to learning – a message that reflects our school ethos.

So, next week you might hear about such characters as Tock, Milo, the Humbug, King Azaz, the Spelling Bee, Princesses Rhyme and Reason, the Wordsnatcher, Officer Shrift (who is short, of course!), the Whether Man and this mysterious character, the Mathemagician to name but a few. You might also hear about two important kingdoms – Dictionopolis and Digitopolis. You can probably guess what these might be about.



## *The Wicor Max*

If you have any thing you wish to share with the rest of the Wicor community please do let me know. It might be an achievement, an ambition fulfilled, a new experience, a collection, something that's inspired, a poem you have written, a place you have discovered...photos welcome too. You can talk to me, hand a slip of paper in or best of all e mail [mark.wildman@wicor.hants.sch.uk](mailto:mark.wildman@wicor.hants.sch.uk)