

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to wish you all a happy holiday and best wishes for the Summer break. It has been a very busy end to the term and I am personally reflecting on some wonderful moments. Our Family Sports Day was fantastic again this year despite the very hot weather, thank you for your support.

We will be saying farewell to our Year 6 pupils on Thursday and we wish them continued success at secondary school. We shall also be saying goodbye to some of our families who are moving out of the area. However there is also a group of parents for whom Thursday marks the end of an era, their last child passing through WPS. I would like to say thank you for all your support during this time and we hope WPS will live long in your memories.

Looking towards new horizons – we have had a very successful transition day in school with pupils meeting new teachers and support staff. Our current Reception Y2 and Y4 pupils moved up as newly formed classes allowing the remaining year groups a second year with their current peers. This is always an exciting time meeting new staff and classroom colleagues.

A new school year – you will no doubt have noticed that Education issues are hitting the news headlines. The change of Government is already beginning to challenge thinking. The Primary Curriculum and Academies Bill being items for topical debate. Over the next few years we will be feeling unprecedented changes as well as cuts in the public sector. The new academic year will see our own review of our aims, values and the curriculum. We hope very much that you will fully contribute to shaping our way forward. We will be aiming to capture your views and wishes for the school as we move into a new dawn. It is essential that all stakeholders are able to shape our future. To this end there will be pupil, parent, staff and governor activities all focused on articulating our vision for education at Werrington Primary School and in developing a modern curriculum, which meets our own high expectations for all to succeed. Please do join in!

The Government sanctioned an additional training day for schools to take next academic year 2010/2011. I am able to confirm that we will be taking the extra teacher training day on Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. **This means that Monday 1<sup>st</sup> (already published) and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November will be teacher training days and therefore school will remain closed for pupils on these days.**

Mobile Phones – Please be aware that within our Information and Communications Technology Policy (2008), mobile phones are not permitted in school. It appears that this has not been followed in some parts of the school. I do wish to re-state that Mobile Phones for whatever reason should not be present in school. If the need arises the school office will ensure messages are passed on as well as enabling pupils to make contact using the office phone.

MP3 Players/Valuable items – It seems that a growing number of pupils have been bringing into school MP3 players (IPODS/Walkman etc). This is not permitted. The only concession that has been agreed are the Nintendo DS/Play Station PSP type technology for Golden Time specifically on a Friday and with parents/carers consent. We do not wish to see any other gadgets in school at other times.

School Uniform – I kindly ask for all parents/carers to ensure that on our return in September pupils are wearing appropriate school uniform including footwear and school shoes. It is apparent that trends regarding skirt hem length are causing concern. Please do consider the appropriateness of the skirt length for your daughter. One of our feeder secondary schools is now insisting skirts are of a minimum length – I do hope that we will not need to be so explicit.

I look forward to working with you on our return in September and hope you all enjoy safe and happy holidays.

Yours sincerely,  
Mr Wilding