

## WYCHWOOD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**W**HAT A BUSY TERM! Lots of activities – both inside school, on the school grounds and away from school. There are 189 children full-time at school this term and eight rising 5s who attend for two full days per week.

The children and teachers have been very busy with the normal range of activities in the classroom but the summer term sees much more activity away from the classroom.

Our school swimming pool looks great at the moment (a tribute to John Burgess and Rod Blackman) and all the children enjoy two swimming sessions a week. The older children also use the pool at Chipping Norton once a week so it's no wonder that we have some competent swimmers.

The older children have just returned from a week's residential stay on the Isle of Wight. They had a great time, including many visits, walks and tours as well as some time down on the beach. The week worked out very well thanks to the comprehensive planning of Ceilia Toone and Frances Bysouth, ably supported during the week by Rita Baldwin, Dianne Huffer and Katie Bysouth.

We also held our Sports Day – a real fun afternoon for all our children – we have a mixture of fun and serious races which seems to cater well for those children who don't enjoy physical activity as well as those really keen ones.

We have taken part in the local music festival with Leaffield, Burford and Minster Lovell Primary Schools – the younger children performed the Gingerbread Man and the older ones performed Jonah-man Jazz.

The older children have taken their cycling proficiency course this term and it is very heartening to report that all the year 6 children participated this year and all passed. Let's hope they continue to cycle safely.

The 7 year old children and the 11 year old children have been involved in school tests this year – the first time for the 11 year olds! I still think we get a better picture of their progress from teacher assessments carried out during the course of the school year and the Standard Assessment Tests did pretty much mirror the teacher assessments. We had the usual range of results but I am pleased to say that the “above average” percentages were very well represented:–

7 yr olds.

41% above average with reading,  
35% above average with maths.

11 yr olds.

15% above average with English,  
33% above average with Maths,  
81% above average with science.

The latest news on our nursery is that it will DEFINITELY be built and should be in place during April 1996. After so many “ifs and buts” it is great news to have a definite date at last.

We have 27 pupils leaving Wychwood School at the end of this term for secondary education – 26 of them moving into Burford. I wish them all well in the future.

It will be sad to say goodbye to Carol English who will be leaving at the end of term. She has more than filled in for Helen Hesselbo who left after the birth of her second child. Carol has added tremendously to the musical activities of the school and we will miss her.

And last – but not least – after a busy and tiring year (and somewhat frustrating year with the cuts to our budget) I would like to thank my colleagues, many parents and the School Governors for all their hard work during the year – it shows in the high standard of work, care and interest in our local Primary School.

Geoff Padmore 14.07.95

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