



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 13

Friday 8th December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Assessment Week has been going on this week. We have assessed where the children are in Reading, Writing and Maths. This is an important part of teaching and learning at WSL and it enables teachers to identify gaps in children's knowledge and understanding and put in place any intervention programmes to enable them to make further progress. It also helps teachers gather evidence and examples to moderate pupil work. There are some highlighted areas where children need more work on. **Attendance is crucial to children making progress!** Please encourage your child/ren to keep learning the basic number facts, spellings and daily reading and encourage the children to apply their learning in real life problem solving situations at home. Remember, as with all learning, **little and often** is what gets results. In practice, this means that five minutes a day is better than one hour once a week. The support and encouragement you give your children in school and with homework is invaluable. I know all the staff appreciate how closely you are prepared to work with us to ensure all our children make rapid and substantial progress, attain highly and most importantly are happy.

What have we been learning in school?

Many practical activities have been taking place in the classrooms including some very creative and exciting DT projects such as making pop up cards or creating Christmas decorations. Children were all engaged and have developed a range of skills of designing, cutting, shaping, joining and evaluating etc. They have also developed their understanding and were able to use mechanical systems in their products for example, levers, sliders and linkages.



The term is rushing by... it feels as if Christmas has almost arrived at WSL. Throughout of the week I have heard snippets of the rehearsal for our **EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play** which we are all looking forward to watching next week. All parents are warmly invited to join us. Please order your tickets if you have not done so. Two performances for parents next week are on Wednesday 13th December at 1.30pm, followed by tea and coffee in the Dining Hall and also on Thursday 14th December at 9.30am, prior to this performance, tea and coffee will be served in the Dining Hall for parents, relatives and friends. Thank you to the teachers and TAs who are all working very hard to help the children.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our whole School Christingle Service this afternoon at 2:00pm in Waltham St Lawrence Church. This is always a lovely occasion and guaranteed to make everyone feel really Christmassy!

Berkshire Public Health Cold Weather - Level 3 Alert

A level 3 cold weather alert has been issued from **Thursday 7th Dec to Tuesday 12th Dec**. This means that temperatures are likely to drop to levels that increase the risk of ill health among vulnerable adults, particularly older people, those with long term conditions and those living in cold homes. The Public Health Team advised us to ensure messages go out to families. Please also refer to the **PHE Winter Readiness Information** available online.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

L-J Ellerton
Head Teacher

“ TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE ”

Sunshine Book

Congratulations to all the children for their actions in demonstrating and promoting the school values throughout this week.

Owls:	Sofia D'Orazio	Darcey Machen
Robins:	Brooke McDonald Jaramiah Richardson	Mazie Stracey
Skylarks:	Maisie Grech	Oliver Sell
Red Kites:	George Grech Lucy Finch	Matilda Croucher
Kestrels:	Megan Jones	Jared Doyle

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	398	3974
Galileo (Green)	378	4206
Redgrave (Red)	390	3535
Yeats (Yellow)	370	3553

The Winning House for this week is **Brunel**. Well done.

Attendance

Good attendance is crucial to children making progress.

Every day, every half day and every lesson counts!

Class Attendance for 04-11-17 to 08-12-17

Owls	94.6%	Red Kites	92.4%
Robins	99.6%	Kestrels	90.5%
Skylarks	93.6%	Whole School	94.4%



Davis Tate Christmas Colouring Competition 2017

A couple of weeks ago we invited all the children to take part in Davis Tate Christmas Colouring Competition 2017. Our school has the most entries and we are so proud that Callum Presnail in Year 5 and Abigail Pope in Year 4 won Davis Tate Christmas Colouring Competition! WELL DONE and Many congratulations!

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you for supporting our Book Fair and allowing your child to purchase more books, as this not only will encourage their love of reading but will entitle us free books for the School Library. Please come to visit the Book Fair **taking place in Dining Hall**. This will be extended till Monday 18th December.

Christmas Post Box



The Christmas Post Box can be found in the Reception area. The Christmas Elves have been busy delivering children's cards this week and onwards. The last delivery day is Friday 15th December. If your child would like to make use of the WSL Christmas Postal Service, please ensure that children write first names and surnames and the name of the Class on the envelopes.

PTA Christmas Extravaganza



This fundraising event will be held on Friday 15th December in school starting at 15.00 onwards. **We need new or nearly new toys in good condition as prizes for the children's tombola.** The toys must be suitable for children aged between 4 and 12.

A member of the PTA will be collecting donations on Friday 8th and Monday 11th Dec outside the main door.

PTA Christmas Raffle

Once again PTA are holding a Christmas Raffle. The money raised from the raffle will go towards equipment and resources including the Adventure Playground for the children. We hope you will help promote the sale of these tickets by selling to extended family, friends and neighbours and work colleagues.

Meet the Governor



Hello from our new Parent Governor, Fiona Edwards.

As a strong advocate of Waltham St Lawrence Primary School, I am keen to support the staff and children to ensure our school achieves all it can.

You probably know me as Marcus and Jenson's Mum. With Marcus in Skylarks, Jenson in Owls and Darcy due to start in 2 years' time, I will be involved with the school for 9 more years.

I am proud of our school and the fantastic Outstanding Ofsted result. I support the school's marketing efforts with the objective of increasing intake, because I know what a positive impact this will have.

As a Founder and Managing Director of a healthcare communications agency, I offer strategic and business skills to the Governing Board.

I am passionate about helping the school to provide the best possible experiences and opportunities for every pupil.

Nut /food Allergy

Please could we remind all parents to keep us informed about any food allergies that your children may have. With Christmas fast approaching children will be given treats of festive food as part of Christmas celebration, so if they have any allergies or food intolerances at all, we need to know. We do have children and adults in school who have nut allergies so please could we ask all parents to continue to be vigilant and not bring any nuts or nut products on to the school site.

Rocksteady Music Concert

Children in the Rocksteady Music Bands have been practising their pieces this term. On Tuesday this week they put on amazing performances together with the teacher Mr Davidson. The children's confidence and performance were brilliant. Thank you to parents who came to watch and we hope you all enjoyed the treat as much as we did. Well done, children!



Our mission is to provide inspiration and opportunities for all children to achieve their potential and become confident, independent individuals with key skills for lifelong learning

Staff and Governors of Waltham St Lawrence Primary School are committed to the safeguarding of children

Designated Lead Person for Safeguarding and Child Protection: Mrs Li-Juan Ellerton (Headteacher)

Designated Teacher: Mr David Errington (Senior Teacher)

Designated Governor: Mr Dan Collinson (Parent Governor)

Dates for your Diary

Academic Year 2017-2018

Term 2 (37 days)

December	Mon 4 th -Mon 11 th	Scholastic Book Fair	3.00-3.45pm
	Fri 8 th	Whole School Christingle Service in WSL Church	2.00pm
	Mon 11 th	EYFS and KS1 Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal	1.30pm
	Wed 13 th	EYFS/KS1 Nativity Play to Parents	1.30pm
		KS2 Christmas Carol in WSL Church – detail to follow	7.00pm
	Thurs 14th	EYFS and KS1 Nativity Play to Parents in School Hall	9.30pm
		Whole School Theatre Visit Aladdin	1.30pm
	Fri 15th	Christmas Lunch + Christmas Jumper Day (bring £1 each for the charity)	12.00pm
		PTA Christmas Extravaganza	3.00-5.30pm
	Tues 19 th	End of Term 2 and Break up	1.15pm

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY: Wednesday 20 December 2017 to Tuesday 2 January 2018

Term 3 (28 days)

January	Wed 3rd	Inset Day School Closed	
	Thurs 4 th	Pupil Term starts	
	Tues 9 th	Open Morning to Prospective Parents	9.30-11.30am
	Thurs 18 th	Image Theatre visit – details to follow	1.00-3.00pm
February	Tues 6 th	Safer Internet Day	
	Fri 9 th	End of Term 3	
	February Holiday: Monday 12 February 2018 to Friday 16 February 2018		

Term 4 (29 days)

February	Mon 19 th	Pupil Term starts	
	Thurs 22 nd	Drama Workshops for Reception and Year 1-2	1.00-3.00pm
March	Thurs 1 st	World Book Day	
	Thurs 29 th	End of Term 4	

Spring Holiday: Friday 30 March 2018 to Friday 13 April 2018
(Good Friday: 30 March 2018 and Easter Monday: 2 April 2018)

Term 5 (29 days)

April	Mon 16 th	Pupil Term starts	
May	Mon 21st	Inset Day School Closed	
	Fri 25 th	End of Term 5	
	May Holiday: Monday 28 May 2018 to Friday 1 June 2018		

Term 6 (37 days)

June	Mon 4 th	Pupil Term starts	
	Mon 4 th – Fri 8 th	Year 5 & 6 Residential Trip	
July	Tues 24 th	End of Term 6	

Please do not book family holidays during term time. Please note that Staff Inset Days are subject to change.

Dates /times added/changed will be highlighted

All dates to the end of the year can also be found on the school website www.wslprimary.org

Information / Letters sent home or can be accessed on the school website this week:

Nativity Tickets Letter to EYFS and KS1

Aladdin Final Arrangements Letter to all

PTA Christmas Extravaganza Letter to all

Rocksteady Music School letter to all

Building Resilience in Primary School Aged Children and Agenda to all

Caterlink Christmas Menu to all