



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 32

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had another eventful week at WSL. Children continue enjoying a variety of learning activities that teachers planned...

On Friday last week, the children in Robins Class had a fantastic learning experience at [Waltham Place](#), an organic farm. Children have learnt about natural cycles as well as how our planet recycles itself. They also learnt how flora and fauna have an implication on this phenomenon. Children were all enthusiastic about discovering new knowledge through observing and questioning. They have acquired a lot of facts about farm animals. Here are some photos and children's comments.



*I enjoyed making the bird nests and learnt that birds have to find 100 worms in a day.* - Dorothy  
*I enjoyed everything.* - Jamie  
*I liked when we were the cubs and Mrs Wiseman was the fox.* - Lawrence  
*I enjoyed seeing the Deer's antlers and answering the questions* - Toby  
*I think it is amazing that pigs use mud for their sun cream.* - James  
*I learnt that bulls are the most dangerous animal in the wild.* - Carter  
*I learnt that pigs use mud as sun cream on hot days.* - Preston  
*I learned chickens have very short brains so that a fox can easily catch it.* - William D  
*I learnt that farmers burn the lumps on lambs where the horn is going to come through.* - Isabella

*I learnt that deer's tracks are in a V shape.* - Lowry  
*I learnt that blue tits have to get 100 worms.* -Keira  
*I learnt that red kites decorate their nest.* - Hermione  
*Mummy birds get 100 bits of food for one baby bird.* - Henry

On Wednesday this week, we had a special **PGL Assembly** for parents. Children in Year 5 and 6 showcased their personal growth, new skills, and cherished memories acquired during their stay at Osmington Bay in May. The children shared a diverse range of activities offered, which were a perfect balance of adventure, learning, and fun. Their stories were filled with excitement, resilience, humour and a sense of accomplishment that could be seen on their faces as they spoke. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them for their courage, teamwork, and determination. Thank you for attending the assembly, for being amazing parents, and for joining us in celebrating the successes and remarkable experiences of our children. We hope you have enjoyed as much as we did. Here are some photos for you to enjoy, you can also view them on the School Website. Hope you enjoy reading some of the children's comments, too.



*PGL is the best thing that has ever happened to me. I loved the rooms, the activities and the food. My favourite activity was raft building because we built our own raft and let it float on the lake.* - Khloe  
*My favourite activity was the giant swing me and Charlie went right to the top, it went so fast that my hat fell off. I also liked rock climbing* - Oscar Staggs

“ TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE ”

*My favourite activity was the giant swing! You get pulled up very high and then you have to pull the 'Safety Rope'... and it drops! I also loved raft building, its where you build a raft then your group hop on and try not to fall off! – Ariella*

*At PGL my favourite activity was rifle shooting and sensory trail. In rifle shooting you have a rifle and target, when you get the rifle you also get the bullets and you have to load the rifle - Lilly*

*I loved PGL! It was so fun. The food was the best. My favourite meals were: - Coco pops, toast, chocolate muffin and lasagna. My favourite activities were: Trapeze, big swing and zipwire. I also liked the raft building. What made it better was that it was my birthday and I got to queue skip!! - Theo*



*I absolutely loved PGL because firstly, I was in a room with all my friends, secondly every single one of the activities were really fun! Lastly it was all amazing! My favourite activity was by far the giant swing because you go like 20-25 feet in the air with 2 other people and then it drops. - Leo*

*My week at PGL was probably the best week of my life. We went to a beach walk, there I found my finger rock called Bobby, he became my best friend. There was raft building we all got soaked in pond water. - Margot*

*PGL was the best thing ever and I loved it. I loved every activity my favourite activity was the big swing. - Ava*

### What have we been learning in school?

This week in their Mandarin lessons, children learned about the **Chinese Dragon Boat Festival** and participated in a range of enjoyable activities. In class, the children were introduced to the background and cultural significance of the Dragon Boat Festival through engaging stories, videos and pictures. They learned that this festival commemorates the great poet, Qu Yuan and his story. Children also discovered the origins and importance of Dragon Boat Races. The children had the opportunity to dress up in Hanfu, traditional Chinese clothing, experiencing the charm of Chinese traditional culture. The children thoroughly enjoyed this segment, proudly displaying their costumes and sharing their experiences with their classmates. In the after-School Club, children got hands-on by creating paper boats. They learned the art of paper folding and the importance of teamwork. Here are some photos for you to enjoy.





Congratulations to all the children who have taken part in **PTA Entrepreneurs Challenge 'Grow A £1'**. Children as well as families have come up with some absolutely incredible ideas to turn £1 into a huge profit. **£1873.00** has been raised - AMAZING! Below are the winners per year group for having made the most profit, the winners across the school who had the most innovative ideas and children and Year group for special mentions. Winners will be announced and the children will be presented with a prize at the Whole School Assembly this afternoon. What an amazing effort! Well done children!!! A huge Thank You to all the families for your incredible support and efforts!!! Thank you to the PTA for their incredible hard work and innovative ideas for this fundraiser!

### Winners for Most Money Raised

Year	Winners
EYFS	<b>William Johnson</b> - selling sunflower seeds - £72.50
Year 1	<b>Hector Gray-Jones</b> - sponsored swim - £169
Year 2	<b>Sophie Mason</b> - homemade pizza night with lemonade - £73
Year 3	<b>Charlotte Lacey</b> - homemade pizza night with lemonade - £73
Year 4	<b>Zak Hemmings</b> - personalised keyrings -£138 (and most innovative)
Year 5	<b>Robyn Wynn</b> - family cake sale - £40
Year 6	<b>Demi Benham</b> (and most innovative) - heads and tails game, empty your pockets - £90.35

### Winners for Most Innovative Ideas

Year	Winners
Year 1	<b>Samuel Waller</b> - ran colouring competition with entry fees
Year 4	<b>Monty Whitehead</b> - giving head and shoulder massage <b>Zak Hemmings</b> - personalised keyrings
Year 5	<b>Theo Collin</b> - creating and selling arts and crafts, continuously reinvesting the profit
Year 6	<b>Demi Benham</b> - heads and tails game, empty your pocket

### Special Mentions:

EYFS	<b>Victoria Zambezi</b> - bought and made ice lollies from squash, sold 45 @15p each £6.30
Year 1	<b>Isabella Thomson-Hall</b> - selling glitter tattoos to new friends made in Morocco £169
Year 1 made an incredible £657, so will receive lollies back in their classroom.	

### Annual Report

This term Class Teachers have been preparing the end of year report for each child in their class. I am sure that many of you keep these reports for many years and we know what an important part they are in forming a written record of your child's journey through school. For those who are new to this system, your child's Annual Report will include a summary of Your Child as a Learner, indicating their behaviour for learning characteristics, your Child's Social and Personal Development alongside their academic progress and attainment in all subjects across the curriculum, as well as their personal comments on their own performance and Class Teacher's personal comments. I am at the moment reading and commenting on them all. We are planning to send the reports to parents/carers on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

### Class Organisation for 2023-24

We are now in the final process of organising KS2 classes for 2023-24, taking into consideration a variety of criteria as previous years: age, ability, maturity, friendship, balanced number and gender in each class. I will keep you informed of the final new class organisation in due course. In the meanwhile, I am happy to answer any questions you may have about this.

### Staffing

Next Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June will be Miss Jia's last day at WSL. She will return to China shortly. We thank her for her contribution to our Mandarin curriculum, all the children have enjoyed her lessons and after school club. Recent assessment and tests have shown that children have made some impressive progress in Mandarin over the year. We wish her all the best for the future.

As you may be aware that teacher shortages in the UK education system have been widely acknowledged. However, I am very pleased to inform you that we are fully staffed for September. I will share the staffing allocation in due course.

We are all looking forward to next week with two exciting events taking place:

- 🚩 **Whole School Trip to Hampton Court Palace on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Please can you make the payment ASAP.**
- 🚩 **Sports Day on Friday Morning 30<sup>th</sup> June followed by Family Picnic and Fun activities organised by the PTA.**

Please refer to the letter sent home regarding Sports Day and Family Picnic for details. Please also look out for a letter regarding the final arrangements for the whole school trip next week. Thank you.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Li-Juan Ellerton  
Headteacher

## Sunshine Book

Congratulations to all the children for demonstrating the School Values, following the School Golden Rules and going above and beyond with their learning throughout this week.

Owls	Mia Paul	Csenge Kovas-Biro
Nightingales	Jenson Graham	Blake Robinson
Robins	Kaden Koldashi	Carter Thompson-Springer
Skylarks	Zamin Mahdi	Satori Watson
Red Kites	Charlie Turnbull	Thomas Edwards
Kestrels	Esther Buekers Aoife O'Hara	Alfie-Ray Marshall-Pullin Albert Dali

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	188	1997
Galileo (Green)	171	1811
Redgrave (Red)	232	1946
Yeats (Yellow)	215	2149

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

## Attendance for the Week

Excellent attendance and punctuality maximise potential! *Every day and every lesson counts!*

Class Attendance: 19-06-23 to 23-06-23

Owls 98.9%	Skylarks 98.9%
Nightingales 98.8%	Red Kites 98.3%
<b>Robins 99.1%</b>	Kestrels 96.4%
Whole School 98.5%	



## Habit of the Month

In **June** children will be focusing on **being positive, thinking positively, using positive language and having positive relationships**. These are all part of daily routines, please help and encourage your children to think, say positive things and form these good habits. Thank you.

## Core Value - Community

We will continue with the related value of **Conservation: Clean Air** next week. Children in their class have had a discussion on this topic and are encouraged to think about 'What actions would YOU take to help improve the quality of the air around you?' If we all make a small change, then we can have a big impact on our climate. Perhaps you can ask your child/ren to think of a few small things that they can do at home that might help to clean our air. You may also want to spend some time at home with your child/ren exploring the meaning of this quote **"There is no such thing as away. When you throw something away, it must go somewhere."** – Annie Leonard, Executive Director of Green Peace USA (1964 - ) What might he mean?

## Whole School Trip Payment

The Whole School trip to Hampton Court Palace will be taking place on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June**. If you have not paid yet for the school trip, please can you do so ASAP via sQuid in order for us to clear the payment. We still have **22% of families who have not paid yet**. If the costs are not met, the trip may have to be cancelled. If you have any problems or difficulties, please come to see me. Thank you for your support.

## Maths Challenge – Congratulations!

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, this week **Albert, Aoife, Alfie-Ray and Esther** represented our school at the Primary Team Maths Challenge, taking place at The Piggott School. Our brilliant young minds put their Maths skills to test. We were thrilled to announce that our four talented pupils emerged as proud **winners!** Esther commented *'It was very challenging but fun! I was very happy when we won! It was an amazing opportunity and I am thankful that I got chosen...'* Well done children for your hard work and team effort! Warmest congratulations on our young Mathematicians for their outstanding performance. Thank you to parents for your support!

## Parent Governor Election Update

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Harmit Thiara will be joining the WSL Governing Board as Parent Governor with immediate effect. We look forward to working with Mrs Thiara. Congratulations, Mrs Thiara!

## Sports Day and Family Picnic

**Sports Day** will be taking place on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**. All parents are invited to attend this annual event. We will have a fun packed day. At lunch time there will be a **Family Picnic**. Please bring your own picnic. Children will be served with school packed lunch as per order. The PTA have organised for Dali, The Balloon Man with friends to entertain families after Sports Day. Light refreshments will be available. Please can all children come to school in their PE kits on the day. Please refer to the letter sent home this week for more details.

## Sun Protection

With the good weather hopefully set for the next few weeks, it is important that our children come prepared throughout Term 6. Please can we ask that the children come to school prepared for the weather including:

- ☀ Wearing sun cream each day.
- ☀ Ensuring your child comes to school with a refillable water bottle, clearly labelled.
- ☀ Ensuring that your child also comes to school with a hat they can wear when they are outside. Please make sure hats are clearly labelled with their names.

## PTA Fundraising Events for Term 6

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023** - **Sports Day Family Picnic** with the wonderful Dali the Balloon Man!

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023** **Class of 2023 Camp Out**

**Please remember to buy tickets by Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

## Caterlink Parents Survey

As your catering provider we value feedback from all stakeholders to help us improve the service we provide to you and your pupils. This term we are completing a Parent/Guardian survey on the meal provision we provide.

We would like you to be part of this survey, please use the link below to complete the survey. The survey will close on 21<sup>st</sup> July, we will provide an update to schools which have taken part in the autumn term.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/M67CD59>

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

School Values: Truth Love Peace Responsibility Community

British Values: Democracy Rule of Law Respect Tolerance Individual Liberty

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

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Li-Juan Ellerton (Head Teacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr David Errington (Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Governor: Mr David Hooper (Parent Governor)

### Dates for Your Diary

#### The Academic Year 2022-2023

##### Term 6 (35 days)

June	Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Maths Challenge for Primary Team at The Piggott	All day
	Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Trip to Hampton Court Palace	All day
	Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day followed by Family Picnic	
July	Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Report to parents	
	Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Camp Out	5.00pm
	Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 End of Year Production 'Olivia' Dress Rehearsal	1.15pm
	w/c 11 <sup>th</sup>	Transition Week	
	Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 End of Year Production 'Olivia' Performance for parents	1.15pm
	Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 End of Year Production 'Olivia' Performance for parents	6.00pm
	Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 End of Year Production 'Olivia' Performance for parents	6.00pm
	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Open Evening for parents to view children's work – detail to follow	3.00-5.00pm
	w/c Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Culture Diversity Week – details to follow	
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	End of Pupil Term	1.00pm	

#### The Academic Year 2023-2024

##### Term 1 (35 days)

September	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day
	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day
	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
October	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term

October Holiday: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

##### Term 2 1 (35 days)

October	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day
	Tues 31 <sup>st</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
December	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term

Christmas Holiday: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

##### Term 3 (28 days)

January	Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Staff Inset Day
	Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
February	Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term

February Holiday: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

##### Term 4 (29 days)

February	Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
March	Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term:

Spring Holiday: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
(Good Friday is 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and Easter Monday is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024)

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](http://www.wslprimary.org)

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

Sports Day and Family Picnic Letter to all  
Whole School Trip Payment Reminder to all  
Teachers Strike Day information to all

PTA Family Picnic Leaflet to all  
Camp Out of '23 Leaflet to all  
uSports Summer Holiday Camp Leaflet to all