



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 06

Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had another busy and successful week. On Wednesday morning we held our second Open Morning to prospective parents and many prospective parents took the opportunity to visit our school and see teaching and learning in action. Visitors thoroughly enjoyed the tour and the presentation. They were very impressed with children's learning behaviour and commented on how engaged they all are with their tasks and what a lovely calm, purposeful learning atmosphere the school has.

Parents Evenings will be taking place next week:

Monday 16th October 3.30pm-5.30pm for KS2 Classes - Skylarks & Red Kites & Kestrels
Tuesday 17th October 5.00pm – 7.00pm for all classes
Wednesday 18th October 3.30pm – 5.30pm for all classes

Please book your appointment via our online booking system if you have not done so yet. We would encourage children to join in the meeting with you. You can view your child/ren's books outside their classrooms. Parents in Nightingales Class will have the meetings in the School Hall and can view your children's work in the Library area. We have sent the Guide to Successful Parents Evenings last week. We hope you find it useful. Mrs Jones, Inclusion Coordinator will be available to meet with parents on **Wednesday 18th October from 3.00pm to 5.00pm** if you so wish. We look forward to meeting with you then.

Please note during the week of Parents Evenings only the following paid Clubs are running as normal: **Yoga, Forest Fun, Football for Year 3/4, Dance, Multisport, Chinese Club and After School CARE Club, all other teacher led Clubs are cancelled.**

What have we been learning in school?

In **Owls Class** the children have been working really hard on learning and writing their sounds. They are beginning to understand that words are made up of the individual sounds and they have been practising this in a variety of ways. The children particularly loved to use the chalk outside to write CVC words and practise writing their names on the fence. They are working hard on making sure their letters are formed correctly, using the mnemonics to help them remember, such as "around the dinosaurs bottom, up his long neck and down by his feet." The children look forward to sharing this information and more with you during the Phonics Workshop this afternoon.



As part of their Topic in **Geography** about extreme weather at the Poles, the children in **Robins Class** have been studying the animals who live in and around Antarctica - particularly the Emperor penguin. This week they looked at how penguins survive the very cold temperatures and had a go at recreating a penguin huddle. It certainly worked, as, while those on the outside could feel the chilly breeze, the children in the centre were soon very warm!

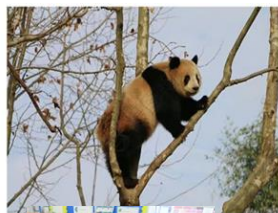


The children in **Singing Club** have been learning some short songs from different cultures. Some of these have had rhythm stick patterns to accompany them. These have not always been easy to master, but have all been great fun and the children have all succeeded in the end. All the children are enjoying Singing Club and it would be lovely if there were any more who would like to join us on a Monday, after school.

“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”



This week, the children in **Chinese Club** learned a lot of interesting facts about Pandas such as panda cubs weigh only 100g and they are pink and blind. Their iconic black and white coat grows after about three weeks, the number of fingers a panda has, their diet, what they like to do and their life expectancy etc. The children were all engaged and thoroughly enjoyed making their own paper collages of 'Pandas in the Bamboo Forest'.



PEACE- Next week we will focus on the related value of **Joy**. The children in their classes will discuss and reflect on what Joy means and "What brings you joy? Why is it important to notice when we feel joy? Sometimes it can be hard to capture the feeling of joy. Perhaps you can have further discussions with your child/ren at home and ask your child/ren – 'How do you feel when you are joyful? What ingredients have helped bring you joy? How do you feel when you get the help you need? You may also want to explore the meaning of this quote *"Joy is to fun what the deep sea is to a puddle. It's a feeling inside that can hardly be contained."* – Terry Pratchett (English Author, 1948-2015).



Friday 13th October 2023 Pre-Loved Halloween Costume Sale after school on Playground. They will be resold for a small profit to support our school.

Fancy Dress Halloween Disco will be held in the School Hall on **Thursday 19th October from 5.00pm to 7.00pm** There will be food, drinks and fun activities for children. All the money raised will be spent on our children! If you can spare any time to help out on the day, please let the PTA Committee Members know, you can contact Phillipa on 07484 766059. Thank you for your support!

Upcoming Events:



RWI Phonics / Reading Workshop for Owls Parents will take place this afternoon at 2.30pm in Owls Classroom. Please come along and learn about how we teach reading at WSL and some strategies as to how you can best support your child's reading at home. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

Flu Immunisation Vaccinations: Please ensure the e-Consent form is completed online as soon as possible, indicating whether you wish your child(ren) to receive the vaccination or not. This vaccination will take place on **Wednesday 18th October** in school



Currently there is a vacancy for a Catering Assistant for our school. If you are interested in the job, please send your CV to CaterLink via lblackmore@caterlinkltd.co.uk Detailed information can be found in the CaterLink Recruitment Leaflet sent home last week.

Please continue to reinforce the message – '**Only Our Best will do**' and support us to help your child develop good habits: The **Habit of the Month – Look After My Belongings**.

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 | Constantine Meyer | Emilie Wilsdon | |
| Nightingales | Lily Prickett | Eila Bakshi | |
| Robins | Penelope Wilson | Dixie Bingle | |
| Skylarks | Sophie Mason | Dorothy Meyer | Jamie Harris |
| Red Kites | Charlotte Lacey | Maya Bakshi | |
| Kestrels | Lily Taylor | Rayyan Jadoon | |

House Points

| | Weekly Total | Rolling Total |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Brunel (Blue) | 271 | 989 |
| Galileo (Green) | 347 | 1394 |
| Redgrave (Red) | 290 | 1280 |
| Yeats (Yellow) | 323 | 1405 |

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: 09-10-23 to 13-10-23

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| Owls | 91.8% | Skylarks | 96.7% |
| Nightingales | 92.5% | Red Kites | 94.1% |
| Robins | 91.0% | Kestrels | 99.6% |
| Whole School | 94.6% | | |



Habit of the Month

In **October**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do - Looking after my belongings** - This is part of daily routines, please continue to support us by having high expectations for your child/ren and helping them all form good habits. Thank you.

Bag2School Collection – THANK YOU

Together we have raised £172 for 344kg of donated bags of clothes etc. Thank you so much for your ongoing support. Your kindness and generosity are much appreciated.

Amazon Wish List

We regularly update our **Amazon Wish List** and would appreciate your continued support. If you would like to purchase something for the school, please click the link https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=wl_share

Thank you for your continued assistance and generosity.

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING

There is a lot of lost property left behind every day **WITHOUT NAMES!** In order to reduce the amount of property your child misplaces in school, we ask parents to ensure that **all children's belongings are clearly NAMED** so that lost property can be returned to their owners easily.

PTA AGM

PTA AGM will take place on **Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 6.00pm in school**, covering financial report, events planned for the year. Some updates will be presented by representative of the Governing Board and the school.

PTA Fancy Dress Halloween Disco and Movie Night

This is the first PTA fund raising event of this academic year. This very popular **Fancy-Dress Halloween Disco will take place on Thursday 19th October from 5.00-7.00pm**. Due to safety reasons, only children attending the school are allowed to take part in this event, no pre-school children or ex-pupils are allowed on this occasion. If you can spare any time to help out before or on the day, please let the PTA Committee Members know via email wsl.pta@gmail.com Thank you for your support!

New Parent Governor Election

We have one Vacancy for Parent Governor and have started the election process and the Governing Board are looking for a new Parent Governor who has the time, energy and will commit to help strengthen the team and support the school. If you would like to know more about the role, please contact our Chair, Fiona Edwards via the School Office. The deadline for returning the Nomination Form is **Friday 20th October 2023 by 12.00 noon**.

Dangerous Driving

We continue to have parents and members of the community raise concerns regarding **dangerous driving and parking** during drop off and pick up time. This week, we received another complaint regarding speeding at drop off time in the morning. For the safety of our school community, please drive sensibly within the speed limit of 20/30 mph around the school area. Thank you for your support with this.

The Big Ambition Survey

Dame Rachel De Souza, the children's commissioner has launched a nationwide survey for all children to take part in. This is for the children to share their views of what they would like in their future. This is a chance for children to have a voice shared directly with the Government. The survey will be used to encourage policymakers to think about children and young people's needs, to ensure children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come. To find out more - [Click here for more information](#).

You can complete The Big Ambition survey at home with your child using the link here visit: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition. this at home

This survey is open to children from 0-18 and **will close on 15th December 2023**.

October Holiday

The school will be **closed** from **Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October** for October Holiday and **also closed on Monday 30th October** for Staff Inset Day. We **re-open** at 8.30 for the start of Term 2 on **Tuesday 31st October 2023**.

Open Mornings for Prospective Parents Year R Sept 2024

If you have a child due to start school next September, or you know anybody who does, please note that we are holding three more Open Mornings. These will take place from 9.45-10.45am on

Wednesday 8th November 2023

Monday 27th November 2023

Tuesday 9th January 2024

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

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 2023-2024

Term 1 (35 days)

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------|---|----------------|
| October | Thurs 11 th | Open Morning for Prospective Parents | 9.45-10.45am |
| | Fri 13 th | Pre-Loved Halloween Costume Sale | 3.10pm |
| | Fri 13 th | RWI Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents | 2.30pm |
| | Mon 16 th | Parents Evening for KS2 Classes ONLY | 3.30-5.30pm |
| | Tues 17 th | Parents Evening – for ALL Classes | 5.00-7.00pm |
| | Wed 18 th | Parents Evening – for ALL Classes | 3.30-5.30pm |
| | | Flu Immunisation Vaccination for all children in school | 8.30 – 10.30am |
| | Thurs 19 th | PTA Halloween Disco / Movie | 5.00-7.00pm |
| | Fri 20 th | End of Term 1 | 3.10pm |

October Holiday Monday 23rd October 2023 to Friday 27th October 2023

Term 2 (35 days)

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| October | Mon 30 th | Staff Inset Day | |
| | Tues 31 st | Start of Pupil Term | |
| November | 1 st – 3 rd | Year 6 Bikeability Training - detail to follow | |
| | Tues 8 th | Open Morning for Prospective Parents | 9.45-10.45am |
| | 10 th -14 th | Diwali Festival | |
| | Tues 11 th | PTA AGM with Governors attending | 6.00pm |
| | Sat 11 th | Armistice Day | |
| | Sun 12 th | Remembrance Sunday | |
| | Tues 14 th | PTA AGM | 6.00-7.00pm |
| | 13 th -17 th | Anti-Bullying Week – Theme ‘Make A Noise About Bullying’ | |
| | Fri 17 th | School Dinner Tasting Session | 2.30-4.00pm |
| | 21 st -27 th | Scholastic Book Fair Week in School | 3.10-4.00pm |
| December | Mon 27 th | Open Morning for Prospective Parents | 9.45-10.45am |
| | Mon 4 th | Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal to Whole School | 2.00pm |
| | Wed 6 th | Nativity Play to Parents | 2.00pm |
| | Thurs 7 th | Last Swimming Lesson for Robins Class | |
| | Fri 8 th | Nativity Play to Parents | 2.00pm |
| | Tues 12 th | All children are dropped off at WSL Church for Christingle Rehearsal | 8.30am |
| | Wed 13 th | Whole School Christingle Service in WSL Church – detail to follow | 2.00pm |
| | Thurs 14 th | Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day | 12.00pm |
| | | PTA Christmas Fair | 3.30pm |
| Fri 15 th | End of Term 2 | 1.00pm | |

Monday 18th December 2023 to Tuesday 2nd January 2024 Christmas Holiday

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 last & this week:

Parents Evenings Letter to all

Guide to Successful Parent Evening to all

Notification of Vacancy for Parent Governor Letter to all

Bonfire Night Colouring Competition Information and Sheet to all

Primary Times Magazine to all

Confidence Building Fun Leaflet to all