



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

School Road, West End, Berkshire RG10 0NU | Telephone: 0118 9343248 | Email: office@wslprimary.org | Headteacher: Mrs L-J Ellerton

Weekly Newsletter Number 07

Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy and successful week we have had at WSL!

Thank you to many parents who attended **RWI Phonics / Reading Workshop for Owls Parents** last Friday. We hope you found the session very useful and have learned about how we teach early reading in our school and some strategies which you can now use to best support your child's reading at home. If you need any clarifications, please come to speak with Miss Painter and Mrs Whyte.

It was so good to see so many of you attending the **Parents' Evenings** with your children and contributing to the discussions about your child's learning with their Class Teachers. We believe that working in partnership is key in ensuring your child's success and we are always looking to give you the information that you find most useful to help your child's progress and overall development such as how we can work together to help children form good habits and acquire basic life skills to become more effective, independent learners. We hope you found the discussions with your child's direct involvement very valuable. If for any reason, you were not able to attend on either of the specified nights, please do speak to your child's Class Teacher to arrange a mutually convenient appointment. If you have any feedback for us, both positive and developmental, please let us know.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped to make last night's **Halloween Disco, Quiz and Movie Night Fundraiser** a great success!!! **An amazing £400+ was raised!** A huge Well Done to the PTA Committee who organised this event and funded the prizes for winners. A special THANK YOU to Keri and Mark Alvarez who spent hours making the fantastic decorations. HUGE thanks to The Tea Pot Cafe in Maidenhead for their generous donation of sausages and buns and managing the kitchen during the event. A Massive thanks to all of the wonderful helpers before and on the day. We are very lucky to have such a great community. Thank you again to EVERYONE, staff, parents and children who supported and enjoyed the fun event! We were very impressed with the amazing efforts that children and parents have put into this fancy dress event! **The winners for the BEST DRESSED per year group are as follows:**

EYFS:	Abdullah	Emillie
Year 1:	Mia A	Ridley
Year 2:	Cooper	Jenson G
Year 3:	Sophie	William E
Year 4:	Phoebe	Zamin
Year 5:	Rhys	Chloe
Year 6:	Theo	Esther



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

Congratulations to **Team Boo** who are the winners of KS2 Halloween Quiz: **Margot T, Aaron H, Charlotte L and Kimble R**. Well done for their remarkable team effort. A HUGE Thank You to Mr Errington for his role as the Quiz Master! The children in Team Boo can look forward to receiving their well-deserved prizes during the Celebration Assembly later this afternoon.

BRAVE THE SHAVE

Aaron's parents shared this wonderful news about what **Aaron** in Year 5 did for charity last week. *He decided all by himself he wanted to do something big for charity in Macmillan's Beat Cancer month of October. Aaron asked his dad to create a donation page with **Macmillan Brave the Shave** where Aaron was sponsored to have his head shaved to experience what it feels like for unfortunate children going through chemotherapy. On Monday 9th October, Aaron set himself a £100 target he thought reasonable given 'how little money people have got at the moment' but over the last week friends from WSL, his Rugby Club and across the family friend groups have donated a staggering **£1,303.00!!!** Aaron is taking it all in his stride, definitely showing his resilience but also his extremely thoughtful personality.*



The theme for this year's **World Values Day** (19th October 2023) is **Values Bring Us Together**. In school we reminded the children how we can all work together and make a difference by always acting on our School Values. We are all very proud of Aaron who has put the values into action and has set an excellent example for his peers. Many congratulations, Aaron on your amazing achievements. Thank you, parents, for sharing this brilliant news. Aaron's donation page is still open in case more people think his cause is worthwhile and want to donate.



What have we been learning in school?

In their **PE Gymnastics** lessons, the children in Red Kites have been working on telling a story using balances and linking movements. They experimented with Point Balances, Part Weight Balances and explored different ways of moving, such as turning, jumping, twisting and rolling, to achieve these balances. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their PE lessons based on the theme of Shape and Balance with Mrs Macaulay-Brown.



It is hard to believe that we are already approaching October Holiday. The first term of this academic year has flown by! It is amazing to see how children have settled well into the term and how resilient and adaptable our children can be, their energy, enthusiasm and desire to learn, infectious to all. They have all made very pleasing and impressive progress from their starting points! Thank you for your support and partnership.

Gentle Reminder:

- 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**.
- **Year 6 Bikeability Training** will take place during the first week of Term 2, starting on Wednesday 1st November for 3 days. Please refer to the letter sent home for details.
- This year's **Poppy Appeal** launches on Thursday 26th October 2023. We will once again support The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal by selling the following items in school: **Pencils, Pencil Sharpeners, rulers, Rubbers, Reflectors, Wristband, and Zip Pull** during the first 2 weeks of Term 2. Price for each item is only suggested donation, ranging from **50p to £1.50, you can donate more if you wish**. Please remind your child to bring some small change to support the work of the Royal British Legion in asking the nation to *Rethink Remembrance* by recognising the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces community, past and present and support those suffering from social isolation and those facing challenges.



Wishing you all a happy and safe October Holiday.

Li-Juan Ellerton
Headteacher

Star Pupils of Term 1

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been a good role model demonstrating and promoting our School values: having positive attitude to learning, doing their best, working hard, being respectful and showing good manners. Their photographs are displayed on the Star Pupils Board in the School Hall.

EYFS: Lily Egby
Year 1: Mia Anderson-Mayo
Year 2: Emily Creffield
Year 3: Grace O'Hara
Year 4: Toby Hassell
Year 5: Caitlin Chang
Year 6: Khloe Watts



House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	204	1193
Galileo (Green)	251	1645
Redgrave (Red)	302	1582
Yeats (Yellow)	387	1792

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

Attendance for the Week

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

Class Attendance: 16-10-23 to 20-10-23

Owls 96.4% Skylarks 92.0%
Nightingales 90.0% Red Kites 95.2%
Robins 97.1% Kestrels 95.6%
Whole School 94.4%



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.

Thank You...

To all the parents and community members who give up their time to help and support the children in class or school in so many different ways throughout Term 1, such as hearing children read, donating resources A4 Paper, other learning resources and help at Stop and Drop. Thank you!

Target Sheet

At the Parents Evenings Class Teachers shared with you your child's Targets for your child to work on in order to make further progress. Please support your child's learning at home, working together we will enable your children to achieve their potential.

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.

Reading, Reading, Reading

Daily reading is vital in supporting our learners to become fluent readers who develop a love of books. Reading is the most crucial skill any child will learn. It is our schools clear expectation that every child reads every night without any distraction. Please support us by ensuring that there is a time set aside every evening to ensure your child can read and, ideally, to be read to by an adult. **Reading is one of the greatest gifts you can give children**

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.

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 has been extended to **Friday 3rd November 2023 by 12.00 noon**.

School Uniform

Due to the change in weather please can we remind all parent/carers that children should be bringing a coat into school every day. We also request that long hair is tied back and only plain/blue hair accessories are worn if necessary. The only jewellery that is allowed in school are small plain earring studs and they must be removed for PE and games lessons. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings it would be advisable for them not to be worn to school on PE days.

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.

My First Class Photo for Owls Class

My First Class Photos will be in the **Maidenhead Advertiser this Friday, October 20**, Please see The First Class Supplement inside the **Maidenhead Advertiser**. Thank you very much for your child to take part.

Secondary School Application Deadline

Urgent Reminder for parents of Year 6 pupils: The deadline for secondary school application is **31st October 2023**. Any applications received after 31 October 2023 will be treated as late and will not be considered until after National Offer Day on 1 March 2024.

Open Mornings for Prospective Parents Year R Sept 2024

Our next Open Morning will take place from 9.45-10.45am on **Wednesday 8th November 2023**

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 Fri 20th End of Term 1 3.10pm
October Holiday Monday 23rd October 2023 to Friday 27th October 2023

Term 2 (35 days)

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

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

Term 3 (28 days)

January 2024 Wed 3rd Staff Inset Day
 Thurs 4th Start of Pupil Term
 February Fri 9th End of Pupil Term
Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024 February Holiday

Term 4 (29 days)

February Mon 19th Start of Pupil Term
 March Thurs 28th End of Pupil Term
Friday 29th March 2024 to Friday 12th April 2024 Spring Holiday
(Good Friday is 29th March 2024 and Easter Monday is 1st 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

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

- Bikeability Level 2 Letter and Consent Form to Year 6
- Parent Governor Vacancy Reminder to all
- uSports October Holiday Camp Leaflet to all
- Forest Fun Halloween Club at Braywick Nature Centre Leaflet to all
- Payment Reminder for Online Workshop to Year 3 /4