



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 05

Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our **Harvest Festival** will be celebrated in Waltham St Lawrence's Church this afternoon at 2:00pm and we would welcome you to join us in the Church. Please refer to the separate letter sent home last week with all the detailed arrangement for the day. Parents are requested please to remember the following housekeeping rules, in order that everyone can appreciate the hard work that the children and staff have put into the service:

- **The door will be open at 1.45pm. Parents will be allocated to sit in the front part of the church** whilst KS2 children will be sitting at the back, KS1 children will be sitting in Choir Stalls and EYFS children will be in the vestry.
- All mobile phones must be on mute or switched off.
- If pre-school children attend, please ensure they stay with you, quietly, and are not allowed to wander around the Church.
- Once children in Owls Class finished their performance, they can be collected to go home early if you so wish. Please collect them from the side door of the vestry.
- Photos may be permitted during the service but for the safety of our children all images must not be published on social networking sites, they are for your own purposes only.

We all hope you will enjoy our first whole school event of this academic year. We had a lovely display of all the Harvest donations in the School Hall. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.



This year we continue with **Active Lunch Hour Club** led by uSports on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition to this, our Year 6 Playground Leaders also organise the carousel of activities during the Lunch Break for each class to enjoy every day /week. We are very pleased to say that every child is being active, engaged with their games and a range of activities.



What have we been learning in school?

On Monday this week, the children in Year 3 and 4 were inspired by an online workshop about the **Bayeux Tapestry** led by Reading Museum. They were immersed in the fascinating tale of how the replica of the Bayeux Tapestry came into existence in Reading during the Victorian era. Moreover, the children engaged in the discussions about the compelling story of the Norman Invasion, a pivotal moment in history. They delved into the various characters and events in the story and how the key figures were portrayed on the tapestry. This interactive workshop not only broadened the children's historical knowledge but also ignited their curiosity about the past. It served as an inspiring educational journey that brought the Bayeux Tapestry to life and


“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

left a lasting impression on their understanding of history and art. The children have learned a lot and thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. You may want to take your children to visit Reading Museum as a follow-up.



Miss Zhang, our new Chinese Language Assistant (CLA) has started teaching the **Mandarin Curriculum** this week. Miss Zhang spent a week receiving induction, visiting every class, observing lessons and learning about classroom management from our experienced teachers. Miss Zhang has planned lessons carefully from children's starting points to ensure continuity. The children have done some revision work this week, using the correct tones and intonations, very impressive, well done, children.



 **PEACE**- Next week we will focus on the related value of **Resilience**. The children in their classes will discuss and reflect on what Resilience means and "Have you ever had to be resilient to get through something hard?" Resilience is when you can bounce back from something hard. It often means asking for help or support. Perhaps you can have further discussions with your child/ren at home and ask your child/ren – 'How do you feel when you are worrying about something hard? How do you feel when you get the help you need? You may also want to explore the meaning of this quote *"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."* – Thomas Edison (February 11, 1847 – October 18, 1931), an American inventor and businessman.

PTA Upcoming Events:

- **Friday 13th October 2023 Pre-Loved Halloween Costume Sale**– Please drop any Halloween outfits that are no longer wanted at morning stop and drop between now and Wednesday 11th October. They will be resold for a small profit to support our school.
- **Thursday 19th October 2023 5.00-7.00pm Halloween Disco** at school for children currently attending WSL. Please drop children at 5.00pm and collect at 7.00pm. Hot dogs/not dogs, popcorn and a treat will be provided. Please bring school water bottles. There will be prizes for the best dressed in each class. (tickets on PTA-events now)
- **Tuesday 14th November, 6.00-7.00pm PTA AGM** at school – covers PTA, School and Governors Annual Update. All parents are welcome to attend.
- **Thursday 14th December 3:30pm** - Christmas **Fair** at school.



If you would like to get involved and help organise any events at school please contact Phillippa on 07484 766059

Upcoming Events:



RWI Phonics / Reading Workshop for Owls Parents will take place on Friday 13th October 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.



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 blackmore@caterlinkltd.co.uk Detailed information can be found in the CaterLink Recruitment Leaflet sent home today.

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	Phoebe Prowse	Jay Egby
Nightingales	Oakley Taylor	Ava-Grace Allan
Robins	Oscar Priddy	Rupert Marshall-Pullin
Skylarks	Lawrence Gleave	Lowry Jahanshahi
Red Kites	Chloe Newman	William Creffield
Kestrels	James Roylance	Robyn Wynn

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	185	718
Galileo (Green)	292	755
Redgrave (Red)	300	990
Yeats (Yellow)	277	1082

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: 02-10-23 to 06-10-23

Owls 100% Skylarks 97.7%
Nightingales 99.0% Red Kites 98.6%
Robins 95.7% Kestrels 96.7%
Whole School 97.9%



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.

RWI Phonics Workshop for Parents in Owls

RWI /Reading Workshop will take place in Owls Classroom on **Friday 13th October 2023 at 2.30pm**. This workshop is to support parents with their children's reading and to show how we teach reading at WSL using Read Write Inc Phonics Programme, including practical elements e.g. FRED Talk etc. We hope you can make it.

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**.

Bag2School Collection

Bags of old clothes etc. will be collected at 9.00am on **Wednesday 11th October 2023**. Your child has taken home a bag. You may use ordinary bin bags or plastic carriers. **Please DO NOT bring bags to School before the date as we have no places in School to store them. Thank you.**

Nut /Food Allergy

Just a gentle reminder that 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. No birthday treats are allowed in school. Children are not allowed to share food with each other to avoid any incidents. Thank you for your support. Please refer to the letter sent home today for more details.

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**.

Parents Evenings

Parents Evenings will take place on:

Monday 16th October 3.30pm-5.30pm for
Skylarks & Red Kites & Kestrels
Tuesday 17th October 5.00pm – 7.00pm for all classes
Wednesday 18th October 3.30pm – 5.30pm for all classes
Booking can be done online as from Monday 9th October.
Please look out for the email from the School Office next week. **There will be No Internal Teachers led Clubs during the Parent Evening Week.**


Nasal Flu Vaccinations for All Year Groups

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.

Class Representatives 2023-24

OWLS Class	Jess Marshall-Pullin & Sheena Egby
NIGHTINGALES Class	Sarah Anderson & Vicky Lomas
ROBINS Class	Amy Leonard & Cat Wilder
SKYLARKS Class	Ginny Lavers & Debbie Dziedzic
RED KITES Class	Vicki Newman & Sarah Hemmings
KESTRELS Class	Jess Marshall-Pullin & Jo Turnbull

PTA Upcoming Events

 Thursday 19th October, 5:00pm-7:00pm – **Halloween Disco** (tickets will be available shortly on PTA-events) at school.

Tuesday 14th November, 6:00pm-7:00pm – **PTA AGM** with Governors and School Updates at school.

Thursday 14th December 3:30pm - Christmas **Fair** at school.

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 6 th	Harvest Service in WSL Church	2.00pm
		School Census Day & National Poetry Day	
	Wed 11 th	Bags2School Collection	9.00am
	Thurs 12 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
	Mon 27 th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
December	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:

Nut Free School Letter to all

Pupil Premium Information to all

Harvest Updated Food List to all

Cauliflower Christmas Card Reminder to all

Harvest Festival Reminder to all

Mooncakes Tasting Session information to Chinese Club

NHS MMR and Vaccine Posters to all

CaterLink Recruitment Leaflet to all