



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

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## Weekly Newsletter Number 12

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, the **Open Morning** on Monday and Wednesday this week went really well. We had many prospective parents coming to see the school in action. A huge 'Thank you' goes to our Year 6 children Hector and Robyn who shared their thoughts about why WSL is a great school, what they like about our school and how they are supported and challenged in lessons etc. They skilfully conveyed distinctive qualities that make our school such a nurturing and inspiring place for learning. They welcomed questions from prospective parents and provided thoughtful and insightful responses that showcased their profound understanding of our School Values. We are immensely proud of Hector and Robyn for their outstanding presentation. Our visitors were very impressed and have given some very positive feedback.



I cannot believe that it is December! This term has flown by. There is, however, still so much to do before we break up for Christmas. With Christmas fast approaching, the corridors are filled with children's beautiful singing in preparation for our Christmas performances: Nativity and Christingles. Throughout the week I have heard snippets of the rehearsal for our **KS1 Nativity Play** which we are all looking forward to watching next week. All parents in KS1 are warmly invited to join us. Please make sure you have booked your seats via sQuid if you have not done so. Two performances for parents next week are on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm** and also on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm** followed by Tea and Coffee in the Dining Hall and PTA Raffle tickets being sold on Friday only. Thank you to the teachers and TAs who are all working very hard to help the children get ready for their performances.

### What have we been learning in school?

In **Mandarin** this week, the children in **Robins Class** were recapping 10s numbers to 100, and learning to say all 2-digit numbers. They had lots of competitions and played games to help with their learning.

Over the past two weeks, some of the Robins have been studying a book called '**Beegu**', by Alexis Deacon. Last week, they thought about the feelings of the main character, Beegu, and worked in pairs to put feeling words where they felt they belonged on a Zone of Relevance. This week, in groups, they made a freeze frame of the part of the book they have read up to. They then had to say what they thought their character was thinking, if a thought bubble was held over them. After this, they decided what they thought would happen next in the story, and acted it out for the rest of the children.



The children continue to enjoy a variety of extracurricular activities we offer after school. Since Term 2 the children in LEGO Club have been working on the theme: **Pole to Pole!** Children have had fun building some exciting models from **Penguins to Polar Bears!** Here are some photos of what they have created Penguins, an Antarctic Explorer, an Igloo and Polar Bears.



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”



Next week we will focus on the value of **Freedom**. Children will be exploring what 'Freedom' means and consider questions as age appropriate, such as 'Do you know when to act freely and when to act safely? Or Can you find the balance between acting freely and acting safely?' Perhaps you can have a discussion at home and spend some time with your child exploring the meaning of the quote: *"Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes."* – Mahatma Gandhi, a non-violent spiritual and political leader (1869-1948). What might this quote mean?

### Reminder and Notice

- You can now order **tea towels** via the PTA-events website [www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/)  
The cost of each single tea towel is £5 with a special price of £9 for 2 and £12 for 3 towels.
- PTA members will be collecting donations for **Toy and Bottle Tombola for Christmas Fair** next week w/c 4<sup>th</sup> December. They will be at the Stop and Drop Zone to collect them. Please bring in new or pre-loved toys (in very good condition), and a bottle of an alcoholic / non-alcoholic beverage on the day. Thank you.
- **Parking** – We have received another complaint from our neighbours about parking. Could we please ask you to ensure that your vehicle is parked legally and considerately at all times, in particular when collecting your child from school at the pickup time, giving due consideration to our neighbours and residents. Please do not park in front of their driveways. Thank you for your cooperation,
- Children in the **Chinese Club** have been learning a Chinese song called 'Thank You and Appreciation'. They would love to sing this song to their parents. Here is the invitation for you to come and watch your children's performance at **4.00pm in the School Hall** just before the children are collected. We hope parents whose children are in this club will be able to come and enjoy their singing.
- Parents in Owls Class, please note that **next week will be the last balanceability session for Term 2**. Children should come to school in their **normal school uniform** on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**. The Balanceability Programme will restart in week 2 w/c commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in Term 3.



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.

<b>Owls</b>	Reggie Dawe	Freya Hemmings
<b>Nightingales</b>	Jemima Kennedy	Theo Paesano
<b>Robins</b>	Isabella Thomson-Hall	Bailey Holdaway
<b>Skylarks</b>	Henry Johnson Isabella Ogilvie Smals	Kaden Koldashi
<b>Red Kites</b>	Finn Harrison	Calyn Lau
<b>Kestrels</b>	Oscar Stagg	Khloe Watts

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	364	2776
Galileo (Green)	318	3253
Redgrave (Red)	309	3092
Yeats (Yellow)	<b>434</b>	3660

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:** 27-11-23 to 01-12-23

Owls 95.5% Skylarks 92.1%

Nightingales 89.4% Red Kites 94.4%

**Robins 97.6%** Kestrels 94.9%

Whole School 94%



## Habit of the Month

In **December**, children will be focusing on **'Showing gratitude by saying Thank You spontaneously without being prompted'**. These are all part of daily routines, please continue to support us and help all of our children form good habits. Thank you.

## Football News



On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December after school our School Football Team will play a match at Holy Trinity Primary School in Cookham. The Children have worked extremely hard and are all looking forward to this event. Let's wish them good luck. Thanks to Mr Errington for coordinating this event and thank you to parents for providing transport.

## Reminder - After School Clubs

Please make a note of the date of final sessions for After School Extracurricular Clubs for this term.

**Reading Club** ends on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Singing Club** end on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Yoga Club** ends on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

**Forest Fun Club** ends on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**Football Club** (Yr1-4) ends on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**LEGO Club** ends on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

**Dance Club** ends on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**Chinese Club** ends on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Football Club** (Yr5-6) ends on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Multi-Sports Club** ends on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## Owls Class Christmas Concert

Children in Owls Class will put on a Christmas Concert for their parents on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2.45pm** in the School Hall. Hope you can all make it.

## Christmas Post Box



The Christmas Post Box will be in operation next Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. It can be found outside the Kestrels class next to the Christmas Tree. The Christmas Elves are to deliver children's cards daily and the last delivery day is Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. If your children would like to send a card to other children or members of staff, all they need to do is write their first names and surnames and the name of the Class on the envelopes. The Postal Elves can only deliver to pupils and staff at WLS Primary School.

## KS1 Nativity Play

The Key Stage 1 Nativity Play 'Little Angel Gets her Wings' will be staged at the following times:

- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2:00pm**
- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2:00pm**

Please remember to book your seats via sQuid which has been set up for you. We are setting a limit of two seats per child over two performances. Small children should sit on knees where possible thus freeing up more seats for adults. Parents with very small children are welcome to join us on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December to watch Dress Rehearsal. Please let the School Office know.

## Christmas Raffle Tickets



The WSL PTA Christmas Raffle is one of our biggest fundraisers, so we would appreciate if you can sell as many tickets as you can to friends and family. We thank you in advance for your support. Please send any named sold ticket stubs (ideally folded in 4) and unsold tickets back asap, along with the money in an envelope labelled **"RAFFLE"** and ask your child/ren to give the envelope to their Class Teacher, or drop in to the School Office or the Letter Box outside the school entrance. If you would like more tickets, please contact the School Office.

The raffle will be drawn on **THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023** during the Christmas Fair, 3:30-6.00pm.

## Christingle Service

**Christingle Service will take place in Waltham St Lawrence Church on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at**



**2:00pm.** After lunch at 1.10pm, children in Year 1-6 will walk to the Church for the service. We would be grateful to any **parents in Owls who are able to take your child/ren to the Church by car in the afternoon at 1.30pm.** Please make sure your child's hair is tied back for safety reasons. please refer to the letter sent home today for details.

**No School Bags on the day please.**

## PTA Christmas Fair

**Christmas Fair will be taking place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 3:30-6pm at school.** Tickets to see Santa are now live on PTA-Events: [www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/) Come and enjoy a visit to Santa, stalls, games, music, hot snacks, s'mores and mulled wine around the fire pits. £1 entry on the day. We are in need of **helpers** - even just an hour on the day would be a huge help.....please get in touch with Phillippa if you can help (07484 766059).

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 2 (35 days)**

<b>November</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup>	Scholastic Book Fair Week in School	3.10-4.00pm
	Mon 27 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	Additional Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
<b>December</b>	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal to Whole School	2.00pm
	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Nativity Play to Parents	2.00pm
	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	Last Swimming Lesson for Robins Class	
	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Nativity Play to Parents	2.00pm
	Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	Owls Class Christmas Concert to Parents	2.45pm
	Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 & KS2 children drop off at WSL Church for Christingle Rehearsal	8.30am
	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Christingle Service in WSL Church	2.00pm
	Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day	12.00pm
		PTA Christmas Fair	3.30-6.00pm
	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term 2	1.00pm

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

**Term 3 (28 days)**

<b>January 2024</b>	Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Staff Inset Day
	Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
<b>February</b>	Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term

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

**Term 4 (29 days)**

<b>February</b>	Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
<b>March</b>	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day	
	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety Show for Year 3/4	13.15
	Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Easter Fundraiser and School Easter Egg Hunt	
	Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term	

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

**Term 5 (29 days)**

<b>April</b>	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
<b>May</b>	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	May Day Bank Holiday
	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATs
	Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term
<b>May Holiday: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024</b>		

**Term 6 (39 days)**

<b>June</b>	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Staff Inset Day
	Tues 4 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term
<b>July</b>	Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term
	<b>Summer Holiday: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024</b>	

**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:**

- Toilet Refurbishment Letter to all
- NHS the Prevention and Treatment of Head Lice Leaflet to Robins
- Christingle Service Letter to all
- PTA Raffle Tickets and Letter to all