



# 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 16

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Although it is only the second full week of Term 3, I am pleased to share with you that we have started the year with a determined and earnest approach and we have seen some great learning across the school. One of my highlights is going around each class, looking at the learning and progress across the school. This week I have seen some real high standard of writing, in terms of the content and presentation, from the youngest children to the top Year 6 pupils, in particular, seeing some of our youngest learners writing sentences independently. Writing is such a hard skill to master... just think about it: the development of fine motor skills allowing our learners to correctly hold a pencil, learning the letter sounds and also how to form each letter and then transferring this knowledge into forming written words by blending sounds. Not to mention the need to remember to separate words and punctuate a sentence. WOW! Learning to write is hard! However, alongside this I am so proud of how our learners have embraced our school value of having highest expectations, facing challenges and are moving themselves into their stretch zones by seeking encouragement (and feedback); reflecting on mistakes and being resilient by changing their plans based on the feedback they have received. We appreciate your support and help our learners to achieve their true potential.



A huge WELL DONE and THANK YOU to all the children in Skylarks Class for a wonderful Class Assembly on Wednesday this week. They shared what they have learned or will be learning in a range of subjects in Term 3. They spoke clearly and confidently. What fantastic reading and singing! They have indeed demonstrated some important skills. Their Tudors dance movement showed their understanding of the period. Thank you to parents and friends for coming and we hope you enjoyed it.



On Wednesday this week, we received a message and **Thank You Certificate** from Daisy's Dream:

Thank you so much for your generous donation from your Christmas Jumper Day 2023. This is what your donation could pay for:

**£10** could pay for the materials to make a memory jar.

*This therapeutic activity enables a child to talk about their loved one and capture lasting memories.*

**£25** could pay for a parent or carer to receive phone advice from a Therapeutic Practitioner.

*This is often a lifeline to parents when they are coping with devastating news and dealing with their own grief.*

**£60** could pay for a 1:1 therapeutic session with a child.

*This element of our service allows a child the time and space to understand what has happened and explore their grief.*

Over 700 children and young people were helped by Daisy's Dream last year, and your donation will ensure that we can continue our valuable work going forwards.

Thank you so much for choosing to support Daisy's Dream.

Kind regards, Jo

Thank you once again for all your amazing support for our chosen charity.



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

### What have we been learning in school?

In **Geography** this term, the children in **Robins Class** are learning about **Seas and Oceans**. After learning about the seas and oceans around the UK (and remembering the names of many of them during our recap), this week, we looked at Oceans around the world. They worked in pairs, throwing a pair of dice, adding up the numbers and finding the answer on their sheet. The numbers corresponded to either a continent or an ocean, which they then needed to write on the sheet. They learnt why it appears that the world has 2 Pacific Oceans in an atlas!



In **Music**, the children always enjoy their warm-up. It involves a lot of concentration and a lot of fun too, as you can see from their faces! They need to copy, or answer, given movements, rhythms and melodies. They have got so much better at all of these since the start of the year.



Next week, we will focus on the related values of **Appreciation**. Children will be thinking about questions such as 'What healthy choices do you make to show you appreciate your body?' or 'Do you appreciate your physical health?' We will also discuss healthy diet and benefits of an active lifestyle etc. you may want to discuss this quote with your child/ren at home:  
*'Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live.'*—Jim Rohn, American entrepreneur and author (1930 - 2009) What might this hero mean?



### Reminder:

- **Year 1 Maths Workshop for Parents** will be taking place this afternoon, **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 2.30pm** in Nightingales Class. We hope to see as many of you as possible.
- **Red Kites Class Assembly** will take place on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 14.30** in the **School Hall**. Family and friends of children in Skylarks Class are welcome to join us.
- **KS2 SATs Information Meeting for Parents** will be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January in Kestrels Class at 3.30 and repeated at 6.00pm

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>         | Hunter Holdaway |                      |
| <b>Nightingales</b> | Lilly Prickett  | Eduardo Harrison     |
| <b>Robins</b>       | Blake Robinson  | Sienna Oldacre-Digby |
| <b>Skylarks</b>     | Ava Stagg       | Ethan Chang          |
| <b>Red Kites</b>    | Harlow Levett   | William Creffield    |
| <b>Kestrels</b>     | William Quinn   | Tejes Dholivwar      |

## House Points

|                 | Weekly Total | Rolling Total |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Brunel (Blue)   | 254          | 502           |
| Galileo (Green) | 502          | 594           |
| Redgrave (Red)  | 232          | 473           |
| Yeats (Yellow)  | 297          | 542           |

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

## Attendance for the Week

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

**Class Attendance:** 15-01-24 to 19-01-24

Owls 91.5% Skylarks **99.2%**

Nightingales 87.5% Red Kites 97.8%

Robins 92.6% Kestrels 98.1%

Whole School 95.1%



## Habit of the Month

In **January**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do - Showing respect for school property!** 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.

## Termly Curriculum Overview

Termly Curriculum Overview for each Year group have been uploaded on the School Website and can be accessed via <http://wslprimary.com/curriculum/>

These give you a broad overview of the learning that takes place in Term 1 & 2 for your children. It is a useful starting point for you to do some research, support homework or just have a conversation with your child about what they are learning at school.

## Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents

Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents will be held on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm** in **Nightingales Classroom**. This will give you an opportunity to find out more about **how** and **what** the children are learning in Maths and how you can best support them at home, applying the right kind of strategies we teach in school.

## Maths Workshop for Parents in Owls

Maths Workshop for Parents in Owls Class will be held on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm** in **Owls Classroom**. This workshop will focus on **'Number Sense / Subitising'**. You will be provided with some strategies on how you can best support your child/ren at home, in line with our approach used in school. hope you can all make it.

## KS2 SATs information Meeting

KS2 SATs Information Meeting for Year 6 Parents will take place in Kestrels Class **on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 3.30pm** and will be **repeated at 6.00pm**. This is an important meeting, we hope you will be able to attend.

## Class Assembly

Red Kites Class Assembly will take place on Wednesday **24<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm** in the



School Hall. Family and friends of children in Red Kites Class are welcome to join us.

## Online Safety & Bullying Presentation by Police to Year 6

As part of Internet Safety Day and Transition for Year 6, PC Lorraine Holmes will come in and give a presentation to Year 6 children on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00pm**. Parents/carers are welcome to see the police and ask any questions you may have regarding online safety, bullying, crimes and consequences, following the talk to Year 6 children at the end of day, 3.10pm.

## KS1 End of Year Assessment Information Meeting

KS1 End of Year Assessment Information Meeting will take place on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 2.25pm** in Robins Classroom.

## Outstanding Payment

We have terminated the contract with sQuid. We would ask parents/carers please can you clear all the outstanding dues for Breakfast Club **via SCOPAY**, which will be set up for you. Office will notify you of the exact payment. Thank you for your cooperation.

## A Vacancy for a Community Governor

A vacancy has arisen for a Community Governor on the School's Governing Board. This role requires someone who has no connection with the school. If you know anyone who may be interested in becoming a Community Governor, please contact the School Office.

## KS2 Year 6 SATs Dates 2024

The dates for this year's Year 6 SATs Exams have changed due to the additional Bank Holiday in honour of the coronation of King Charles III. **New KS2 SATs dates are Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. If your child is in Year 6, it is vital that they are in school that week.

## The Lych Gate Magazine

As we have many families who live outside the village, to keep you up to date and possibly involved in any village events, The Lych Gate magazine provides an ideal source of information, **in addition our children's work is regularly published in the magazine**.

Copies are available at **£1.00** each from the school. They are located on the window sill opposite the School Office with an 'Honesty Box' for the £1.00 charge per magazine or 50p for any old issues. All money will be used to cover the cost of printing.

## Maidenhead Big Read

**The Maidenhead Big Read** will take place between **23<sup>rd</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024**. We will be taking part in this event as part of the celebration of World Book Day this year. More details to follow.

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 (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr David Errington (Deputy Headteacher)

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Harmit Kaur Thiara (Parent Governor)

### Dates for Your Diary

#### The Academic Year 2023-2024

##### Term 3 (28 days)

|              |                                  |  |               |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| January 2024 | Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>            | KS2 SATs Information Meeting for Year 6 Parents                | 3.30pm/6.00pm |
|              | Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>             | Red Kites Class Assembly                                       | 2.30pm        |
|              | Wed 26 <sup>th</sup>             | Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents                              | 2.30-3.10pm   |
|              | Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>             | Kestrels Class Assembly  | 2.30pm        |
| February     | 1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> | Sister School from China Visiting WSL                          |               |
|              | Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>              | The Dragon Dance Workshop to Year 1-6 / Show to EYFS           | 1.00-3.10pm   |
|              | Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>             | Safer internet Day   |               |
|              | Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>              | Dance Festival (Red Kites Taking Part) – Details to follow     | All day       |
|              | Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>            | Maths Workshop for Owls Parents                                | 2.30pm        |
|              | Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>              | Police Presentation to Year 6 - Internet Safety, Bullying etc. | 2.00pm        |
|              |                                  | End of Pupil Term  | 3.10pm        |
|              | Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>             | Chinese New Year of the Dragon                                 |               |

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

##### Term 4 (29 days)

|                        |                        |   |             |
|------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------|
| February               | Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>   | Start of Pupil Term   |             |
|                        | Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | KS1 End of Year Assessment Information Meeting for Year 2 Parents | 2.25pm      |
|                        | Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>   | Robins Class Assembly   | 2.30pm      |
| March                  | 23/02 to 8/03          | Maidenhead Big Read Events – detail to follow                     |             |
|                        | Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>  | World Book Day  |             |
|                        | Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>    | Year 1 Phonics Information Meeting for Parents in Nightingales    | 2.30pm      |
|                        | Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Nightingales Class Assembly                                       | 2.30pm      |
|                        | Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Road Safety Show for Year 3/4                                     | 13.15       |
|                        | Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>  | Parents Evening for KS2 Classes                                   | 3.30-5.30pm |
|                        | Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>   | Owls Class Assembly   | 2.30pm      |
|                        | Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>   | Parents Evening for All Classes                                   | 5.00-7.00pm |
|                        | Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> | Parents Evenings for All Classes                                  | 3.30-5.30pm |
|                        | 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)

|       |                                    |                      |  |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| April | Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>               | Start of Pupil Term  |  |
| May   | Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>                | May Day Bank Holiday |  |
|       | 13 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> | KS2 SATs             |  |
|       | Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>               | End of Pupil Term    |  |

May Holiday: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

##### Term 6 (39 days)

|      |                        |                     |  |
|------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| June | Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>    | Staff Inset Day     |  |
|      | Tues 4 <sup>th</sup>   | Start of Pupil Term |  |
| July | Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> | End of Pupil Term   |  |

Summer Holiday: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 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:

Dance Festival Reminder to Red Kites

Football Match Letter to Football Team

RBWM Car Parking Leaflet to all

Amber cold Weather Alert Leaflet to all

sQuid Outstanding payment Reminder to Relevant Parents

1st Twyford Brownies Leaflet to all