



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 17

Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, our children have enjoyed another week of fantastic learning offered to them at WSL.



First of all, a huge WELL DONE and THANK YOU to all the children in Red Kites Class for a fabulous Class Assembly on Wednesday this week. It was an absolute joy to witness the incredible effort and talent that they have put into showcasing their learning across a variety of subjects in Term 3. From the well-organised scripts to the confident speeches, the expressive poetry recitations, the beautiful singing in Mandarin, energetic dance performance and skilfully bringing History, Science, Internet Safety and Art to life etc.– The children have truly demonstrated the breadth of skills and depth of their knowledge. Thank you to parents and friends for coming and we hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did.



Through our class assemblies we want our parents to be kept up to date with what children have been and will be learning. It was wonderful to see what children can do now, which aligns with the all the priorities of our SIP for this year – not only do we equip children with knowledge, skills and core values but also develop them into well-rounded and versatile talents. This year we continue to focus on helping children become effective and independent learners. We teach children the **metacognition skills** explicitly as age appropriate: Plan, Monitor and Evaluate, ensuring that our children have the skills they require to access learning and making sure that our learners are able to activate their prior knowledge. This means that all new learning is linked to and based on previous learning and we ensure that our children are able to know and remember more about what they have been taught through modelling, class discussion and self-reflection etc. In order to support our children in knowing and remembering more, we would ask parents/carers to regularly ask your children what they have been **learning** at school and how this **links** to other learning they have been taught. Together, through our holistic approach, focusing on the whole child, we can foster a community of learners who are not only academically proficient but also socially aware, culturally enriched and technologically responsible.

METACOGNITIVE SKILLS

Metacognition helps you to be self-reflective and take control of your own learning. By using metacognition you can be strategic about your approach. You will be able to reflect on what you already know, what you need to work on and how best to approach learning new skills.

MONITOR

I feel that I have been successful using

The reason that I find difficult is

I feel confident when using as

The resources that I could use to help me ...

I know how well I am currently doing as

I could use existing examples of

PLAN

I understand the task and plan to start

The way that I intend to make progress is ...

I have decided to focus on

It will be important to include knowledge of

The most important parts of the are

By understanding I will be able to

EVALUATE

I have been successful using because

I found it helpful referring to the

I need to practise using as

Having received feedback I will

I feel confident using This is because ...

The skills that I have developed are

What have we been learning in school?

This term children in **Owls Class** are continuing to work on the Balanceability Programme. The children are now learning how to control their bikes by focusing on turning, riding through straight and curved lanes and going around roundabouts. They will further build on this over the term by riding in and out of cones, working on following obstacle courses and speeding up and slowing down.



In **PE**, children in **Kestrels Class** have been learning about **Dance Through the Decades** covering the 1960s to the 20s, looking at key dance styles from each decade. So far they have learned some simple dance movements based on The Twist, such as hip, arm and foot movements; performed a dance in a 1970s disco style and a 1980s hip-hop style. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning various dances, showing good awareness of rhythm and bounce, responding to associated music genres.



- Next week, as part of our Relationships and Health Education Curriculum, we will focus on the related values of **Caring for Yourself**. Children will be thinking about questions such as 'Can you show care for yourself sometimes?' or 'What actions do you take to care for yourself?' We will discuss the benefits of physical exercises and the impact they have on children's physical health, mental wellbeing and happiness. Children will also learn some self-care techniques etc. Perhaps you can have a chat with your children about these including caring relationships.

'It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.' — Mahatma Gandhi, Indian lawyer, social activist, writer (1869 – 1948). What might this hero mean?



Reminder:

- Year 1 Maths Workshop for Parents** will be taking place this afternoon, **Friday 26th January 2023 at 2.30pm** in Nightingales Class. We hope to see as many of you as possible.
- Kestrels Class Assembly** will take place on **Wednesday 31st 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** has been rescheduled and will be held on **Tuesday 30th January** in Kestrels Class at **3.30 and repeated at 6.00pm**
- A delegation of some teachers and pupils from our Sister School will be visiting our school as part of our exchange programme. They will be spending 3 days here, experiencing the British school system, learning alongside their peers at WSL. We look forwards to welcoming them and be an excellent host.
- As part of the celebration of **The Chinese New Year of the Dragon**, we have organised **Chinese Dragon Dance Workshops on Monday 5th February**. Please refer to the letter sent home this week for details.
- The **PTA Meeting will be on Thursday 8th February, 7:30pm** at the Shurlock Inn. Everyone is welcome to join in the meeting or just come along for a social after the meeting at 8:30pm.

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	Reggie Dawe	Betsy Marshal-Pullin
Nightingales	Maisie Ball	Henry Mills
Robins	Monty Wilson	Penelope Wilson
Skylarks	Hermione Hewitt	Oscar Butler-Cook
Red Kites	Indie Hooper	Oliver Hearne
Kestrels	Leo Howard	Isobel Dziedzic

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	267	769
Galileo (Green)	290	884
Redgrave (Red)	254	727
Yeats (Yellow)	275	817

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: 22-01-24 to 26-01-24

Owls 85.2% Skylarks 97.9%

Nightingales 97.5% Red Kites 92.7%

Robins 98.9% Kestrels 94.0%

Whole School 94.4%



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.

Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents

Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents will be held on **Friday 26th 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 8th 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 30th January at 3.30pm** and will be **repeated at 6.00pm**. This is an important meeting, we hope you will be able to attend.

Maidenhead Big Read

The **Maidenhead Big Read** will take place between 23rd February and 8th 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.

Class Assembly

Kestrels Class Assembly will take place on Wednesday **31st January at 2.30pm** in the School Hall. Family and friends of children in Red Kites Class are welcome to join us.



Chinese Dragon Dance Workshops

As part of the celebration of **The Chinese New Year of the Dragon**, we have organised **Chinese Dragon Dance Workshops on Monday 5th February**. We would appreciate it if you could **make the payment via SCOPAY by Friday 2nd February**. You are all invited to see the performance at the end of the day at 3.10pm. Please refer to the letter sent home this week for details. Thank you.

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 9th 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 23rd February at 2.25pm** in Robins Classroom.

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 13th – Thursday 16th May 2024**. If your child is in Year 6, it is vital that they are in school that week.



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	Wed 26 th	Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents	2.30-3.10pm
	Tues 30 th	KS2 SATs Information Meeting for Year 6 Parents -rescheduled	3.30pm/6.00pm
February	Wed 31 st	Kestrels Class Assembly	2.30pm
	1 st 2 nd 5 th	Sister School from China Visiting WSL	
	Mon 5 th	The Dragon Dance Workshop to Year 1-6 / Show to EYFS	1.00-3.10pm
	Tues 6 th	Safer internet Day	
	Wed 7 th	Dance Festival (Red Kites Taking Part) – Details to follow	All day
	Thurs 8 th	Maths Workshop for Owls Parents	2.30pm
	Fri 9 th	Police Presentation to Year 6 - Internet Safety, Bullying etc.	2.00pm
	Sat 10 th	End of Pupil Term	3.10pm
		Chinese New Year of the Dragon	

Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024 February Holiday

Term 4 (29 days)

February	Mon 19 th	Start of Pupil Term	
	Fri 23 rd	KS1 End of Year Assessment Information Meeting for Year 2 Parents	2.25pm
	Wed 28 th	Robins Class Assembly	2.30pm
March	23/02 to 8/03	Maidenhead Big Read Events – detail to follow	
	Thurs 7 th	World Book Day	
	Fri 8 th	Year 1 Phonics Information Meeting for Parents in Nightingales	2.30pm
	Wed 13 th	Nightingales Class Assembly	2.30pm
	Wed 13 th	Road Safety Show for Year 3/4	13.15
	Tues 19 th	Parents Evening for KS2 Classes	3.30-5.30pm
	Wed 20 th	Owls Class Assembly	2.30pm
	Wed 20 th	Parents Evening for All Classes	5.00-7.00pm
	Thurs 21 st	Parents Evenings for All Classes	3.30-5.30pm
	Wed 27 th	PTA Easter Fundraiser and School Easter Egg Hunt	
	Thurs 28 th	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)

Term 5 (29 days)

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

May Holiday: Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024

Term 6 (39 days)

June	Mon 3 rd	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 4 th	Start of Pupil Term	
July	Thurs 25 th	End of Pupil Term	

Summer Holiday: Friday 26th July 2024 – Friday 30th 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

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

National MMR Catch-Up Campaign Information from RBWM to all

Dragon Dance Workshops Letter to all

ABC to Read Recruitment Leaflet to all

PTA Meeting & AGM Minutes to all