



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 20

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you all had a relaxing holiday last week – it is lovely to see everyone back looking refreshed as we enter Term 4. The children have enjoyed a variety of learning opportunities offered to them this week.

On Wednesday this week, we were delighted to welcome Josie from Perform, who led engaging drama sessions for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2. The children embarked on an exciting **Wild West** adventure, determined to uncover the mystery of the horse with the golden mane! Throughout this immersive journey, the children worked on essential skills such as confidence, creativity, co-operation and concentration. The drama activities provided ample opportunities for the children to speak / express themselves in front of their peers, work as a team and use their boundless imagination! The children’s enthusiasm was infectious and they thoroughly embraced the adventure and enjoyed this enriching experience. Here are some photos and comments from children.

*I liked it when we did the Bob Cat and we crept about.* – Harper



*I liked when she kept coming in the room and we stayed still like hay stacks.* - Sebby

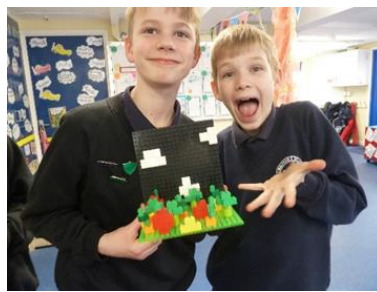
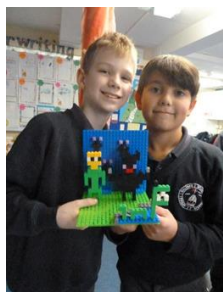


*I liked it when the person came in and they were dressed as the horse.* – Rose



### After School Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are delighted to see so many children continue to enjoy all the clubs on offer this term, learning and developing a wide variety of skills through these experiences. Since January Term 3, the children in LEGO Club have been working on the theme of Rainforest, learning about exciting animals living in the rainforest in Borneo. They have been creating some exciting models using Lego, from crocodile, orangutans, tarsiers, giant insects, hornbill to bats. Here are just a few photos for you to enjoy.



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

Children in the **Art Club** were given the opportunity to unleash their creativity. They have enjoyed the freedom to choose both their project and materials, following the process of designing, making/decorating and evaluating. Some children opted for malleability of clay, while others embraced the charm of wood. They created a variety of models from detailed World War II planes, personal name plaques to cake replicas. The diverse array of models was meticulously crafted with care. We are very impressed with their unique expressive works of art. Here are just a few photos for you to enjoy.



### What have we been learning in school?

As part of their **Maths** Topic on measurement, the children in **Robins Class** have been using different measurement equipment. Having measured small items in centimetres using rulers, they went on to use metre sticks to measure longer/ taller objects around the classroom, including their height. The children are now able to measure accurately and can read measurements in cm and metres. Next week, the children will be going on to measure mass and capacity. Perhaps you can help your child consolidate their learning by using different standard measurements such as cm, m , g, kg etc. at home. Thank you for your continued support.



In **Art and Design** lessons focusing on printing, the children in **Nightingales Class** have been using 2-D shapes and lines to represent the beams of the Tudor Houses. They rearranged the strips to make the structure of their houses. The children will use their Tudor House as a base to recreate a scene of the Great Fire of London. In the next lesson, the children will learn to create an impressive print by using shaving foam and paint to represent the flames. We look forward to their end product.



We continue to use The Big Think as part of our whole school RSHE Curriculum, using core values to support every child's wellbeing and character growth. The focus of The Big Think for this term is **Responsibility** and we will be focusing on the related values of **'Time Well Spent, Courage, Teamwork, Gratitude, Helping Yourself and Hard Choices/ Ethics'**.

This week we have focused on **Time Well Spent** and shared stories and discussed how children can make good use of their time themselves and with their families.

Next week we are working on **Courage** and children will explore the meaning of the word and discuss 'Can you ask for help when you really need it? Perhaps you could discuss with your children what helps they might need when they felt unhappy about something and how they can find the courage to seek help from others. Here is a quote: *'Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes it's the quiet voice at the end of the day whispering, "I will try again tomorrow".'* - Mary Anne Radmacher, American Author and Artist. What might this quote mean?

### Reminder:

KS1 End of Year Assessment Information Meeting will take place this afternoon **at 2.25pm** in Robins Classroom. DfE updates and some strategies for supporting your child at home will be shared. We hope as many of you can make it as possible.

## Upcoming Events:

**Open Sessions for Parents** next week from 9.00 to 10.00 on the following dates:

- ✚ Skylarks Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February
- ✚ Red kites Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February



Robins Class Assembly will take place on Wednesday **28<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm** in the School Hall. Family and friends of children in Robins Class are welcome to join us.

As part of the **World Book Day Celebration**, we will have a **Non-Uniform Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. Children are invited to come to school dressed in pyjamas or onesies in keeping with our focus on encouraging bedtime reading.

Please refer to the leaflets sent home this week for **Maidenhead Big Read Weekend Programme** as below and also a timetable of the events. The weekend event is taking place in Maidenhead Library on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. Please spread the word and get as many friends and families along as possible. All sessions and activities are free of charge and there are some brilliant authors lined up for the children to meet.



### Saturday 2 March

**Riverview**  
10:45am Rob Lloyd Jones - Ancient Egypt  
11:45am Martin Brown - Horrible Histories  
12:45pm Rob Lloyd Jones - Victorians  
1:45pm Iszi Lawrence - ATA WW2  
2:45pm Paul Seddon - Cookham dig

**Children's Corner**  
10:30am Library volunteers - Storytelling  
11:30am Ruth Burgess - Dinosaurs  
12:30pm Rhian Lynette - Storytelling  
1:30pm Simon Mole - Dinosaurs  
2:30pm Patrice Lawrence - Windrush

**Once Upon a Bus  
Saturday storytelling sessions**  
10:00am - 10:30am  
11:00am - 11:30am  
12:00pm - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 2:00pm  
2:30pm - 3:00pm  
3:15pm - 3:45pm

### Sunday 3 March

**Riverview**  
11:00am Josh Lacey - Vikings & Romans  
12:00pm Kate Poels - WW2  
1:00pm Josh Lacey - Vikings & Romans  
2:00pm Martin Brown - Horrible Histories

**Children's Corner**  
10:45am Library volunteers - Storytelling  
11:45am Martin Brown - Nell and the Cave Bear  
12:45pm Ruth Burgess - Dinosaurs  
1:45pm Rhian Lynette - Storytelling

**Once Upon a Bus  
Sunday storytelling sessions**  
10:30am - 11:00am  
11:30am - 12:00pm  
12:30pm - 1:00pm  
1:40pm - 2:10pm  
2:30pm - 3:00pm



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.

Owls	Freddie Norman	Lily Shuttleworth
Nightingales	Oliver Barry	Olivia Moore
Robins	Eshal Jadoon	Penelope Wilson
Skylarks	Ajooni Thiara	Beatrice Kennedy
Red Kites	Keira Egby	Joshua McIntosh
Kestrels	Kimble Roberts	Lily Taylor

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	299	1567
Galileo (Green)	321	1756
Redgrave (Red)	260	1537
Yeats (Yellow)	<b>333</b>	1760

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:** 19-02-24 to 23-02-24

Owls 94.3% Skylarks 95.0%

Nightingales 92.1% **Red Kites 97.4%**

Robins 91.5% Kestrels 96.3%

Whole School 94.7%



## 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.

## Open Sessions for Parents

You are invited to come to your child's Open Session to see teaching and learning in action. The Open Session will start **from 9.00am to 10.00am** on the following date for each class. Date for Owls Class Open Session will be confirmed. Please save the dates.

✚ Skylarks	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February
✚ Red kites	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February
✚ Nightingales	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March
✚ Robins	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
✚ Kestrels	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March

## Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Information Meeting

The Phonics Screening Check Information Meeting for Year 1 Parents will be held on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm** in **Nightingales Classroom.**

## Labelling all items

Please make sure **every item of clothing, water bottle and lunch box are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.** Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Parents Evenings

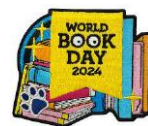
Parents Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** for KS2 classes only, **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March** and **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** for all classes. The online booking system will again be used and will be available from w/c 11<sup>th</sup> March for you to reserve your slot(s). Look out for the emails.

## 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/ZK98E8KNOSZO?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZO?ref=wl_share)

Thank you for your continued assistance and generosity.

## World Book Day & Maidenhead Big Read



Celebrating **World Book Day** is one of the highlights of the School Year at WSL. To mark the **World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** this year, we will have a Non-Uniform Day on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March** when children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas or onesies to further promote bedtime reading and a love of reading. There will be a lot of reading activities / events planned for that week, please refer to the letter sent home this week.

**The Maidenhead Big Read Event** will take place between 23<sup>rd</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in and around Maidenhead. We will be taking part in this event as part of the celebration of World Book Day on 7<sup>th</sup> March as usual this year. Please refer to the letter sent home for more details. Here is the link to Maidenhead's Big Read Newsletter. It has details of the Weekdays and Weekend MBR events: [Maidenhead's Big Read Newsletter mailchi.mp](mailto:mailchi.mp)

## FREE Parenting Courses

The following online parenting courses have been recommended by Early Help. They cover a range of parenting areas/concerns for families with children from birth to 18. The courses are free and can be accessed at a pace to suit parents. Here is the link and password: [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)  
Password: parenting

## E- Safety and Resources

Online safety is an important issue which as a school we are committed to teaching our pupils about. Here are some resources which you may find helpful in supporting your children online:

- Tips, advice and guides for parents and carers from the [UK Safer Internet Centre \(saferinternet.org.uk/parents\)](http://saferinternet.org.uk/parents)
- Advice for parents and carers from [Childnet \(childnet.com/parents-and-carers\)](http://childnet.com/parents-and-carers)
- Reviews and information about games, apps, TV shows and websites from [Common Sense Media \(commonsense.org\)](http://commonsense.org)
- Help on using parental controls and privacy settings from [Internet Matters \(internetmatters.org/controls\)](http://internetmatters.org/controls)
- Information and reporting of online grooming or sexual abuse from [CEOP \(ceop.police.uk\)](http://ceop.police.uk)

## Gentle Reminder - No Toys from Home

For Parents in Owls Class - **Please help us by encouraging your child to leave their toys at home as our classroom space is limited.** This will help prevent any potential distractions during the lesson time and ensure we have a focused and conducive learning environment for every child. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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 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>	Open Session for Parents in Skylarks Class	9.00-10.00am
	Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	Robins Class Assembly	2.30pm
March	Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	Open Session for Parents in Red Kites Class	9.00-10.00am
	23/02 to 8/03	Maidenhead Big Read Events	
	Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	Open Session for Parents in Nightingales Class	9.00-10.00am
	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	The Mary Rose Workshop for KS2	9.30am
		The Great Fire of London Workshop for KS1	10.50am
	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	Open Session for Parents in Robins Class	9.00-10.00am
	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day	
	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	Open Session for Parents in Kestrels Class	9.00-10.00am
	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Movie Night as part of book Day Celebration	3.10-5.30pm
	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Nightingales Class Assembly	2.30pm
	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety Show for Year 3/4	13.15
	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Phonics Information Meeting for Parents in Nightingales	2.30pm
	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	
	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Father's Day Craft Activity in School – Details to follow	
	Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	Village Summer Festival	
July	Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day – Details to follow	1.00-3.10pm
	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:

World Book Day Letter to all	Signed Book Letter to all	Author's Books to Kestrels
20 Ways to Help Your Child Read Information Sheet to all	Maidenhead Big Read Events Programme to all	
School Days Direct Voucher Information to all	Mother's Day Teas and Service Leaflet to all	
Educational Support -Online Session for Parents and Carers Leaflet to all	PTA Movie Night information to all	