



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 27

Friday 26 April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a pleasure visiting all the classes and observing children continue to demonstrate positive attitude towards learning and engaging with a wide variety of carefully planned activities. Our Year 6 children are diligently preparing for their SATs, taking place in the week beginning 13th May 2024. Although KS1 SATs in English Reading and Maths have now become optional, we think it is important to take part in Year 2 optional SATs and continue our Teacher Assessment in Writing and SPaG. Year 2 children are also making a final push to improve their spelling and writing skills. The children in Owls Class have settled in exceptionally well and are showing increased independence. I am particularly impressed by how our youngest learners confidently apply their phonics skills to reading and writing! Please continue to support your children by **reading daily at home, practising their spelling, mastering number bonds and times tables and ensuring your children are having good learning discussions at home and completing their set homework to a high standard.** Your support at home will really make a huge difference!



A huge well done and thank you to all the children in Owls Class for a fantastic Class Assembly on Wednesday this week. They showcased some of their learning from this term, creatively retold the classic fairy tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' using the story map provided. They acted out the story with great enthusiasm. This assembly effectively integrated with various aspects of the curriculum including Music, Maths and Art. It was wonderful to witness children's remarkable progress and growth. The children sang some of the songs which are part of their daily routines, such as the days of the week and the months of the year, with impressive clarity and confidence, considering this was their first whole school assembly. Thank you to Miss Painter, Mrs Whyte and TAs for their guidance and encouragement. Thank you to parents and friends for coming and we hope you all enjoyed it and feel proud of your child/ren's progress.

What have we been learning in school?

As a part of their **Science topic, 'Ready, Steady, Grow'**, the children in **Robins Class** have been looking at seed dispersal. They have looked at all the ways that plants disperse their seeds and the characteristics that each set of seeds need to spread in that way. The children had fun making sycamore seeds from paper and watching how far their 'wings' helped the wind carry them, out in the playground. In the next lesson, they used clay to make the kind of seed that moves by sticking to an animal's coat. It was easy to make the initial ball, but it was quite tricky to create the burrs all over it by pinching tiny bits of the clay and bending them into a hook. As always at WSL, the children were very good to each other if anyone needed a little bit of help.



In **Art**, children in **Skylarks Class** have been learning about the renowned artist Alberto Giacometti. Giacometti's distinctive style involved creating sculptures of people he knew. Over time, he famously experimented with reducing their size and his sculptures became smaller and smaller. At one point they were no taller than 7cm! They were also extremely thin. Drawing inspiration from Giacometti's unique approach, during their Art lesson, the children have created their own miniature walking sculptures, each standing no taller than 10cm. This project not only encouraged creativity and fine motor skills but also provided a fascinating glimpse into Giacometti's innovative techniques and artistic vision. The children demonstrated remarkable attention to detail and imagination, showcasing their ability to translate complex concepts into tangible, miniature masterpieces. Here are some photos showing the creative process and brilliant work of the children.



The children also wrote an instructional text to explain how they made the sculptures. Here are some examples.

My Sculpture in the style of Albert Giacometti

*First, make the base for the feet to stand on.
 Next, make the feet.
 Then stick the feet to the base.
 Fourth, make the legs.
 Fifth, stick the legs onto the feet.
 Sixth, take a little bit of clay and roll until it looks like a cylinder to create the body.
 Finally, stick the body to the legs. In my case the legs fell off a couple of times but I never gave up. – Beatrice*

Evaluation:
*The problems was that I either didn't have enough clay, my sculpture was too tall, the parts were falling down or the face was looking like a monster.
 The good side - My sculpture actually worked! How I did it?*

1. I sectioned all the parts of the body in lumps.
2. Next, I added the head, legs, arms, feet and the body.
3. I started to put the pieces together.
4. Then I did the face pattern.
5. Finally, I finished the sculpture. – Ethan



We will be focusing on the Core Value of **Community** and its related values of **Helping Our World (KS1), Global Connections (KS2)** for the next two weeks. Children in their class will discuss and think about 'How would you like to help our world? How do global connections impact on YOUR life? You may want to spend some time at home with your child/ren exploring the meaning of this quote 'One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.'- Chinese proverb. What might this quote mean?



Reminder:

- **The deposit of £80 for Residential Trip** for Year 5/6 in September 2024 is due today. Thank you for those who have paid, if you have not done so, please can you pay via SCOPAY as soon as you can. Thank you.
- **The Open Session for Owls parents** will take place on **Friday 3rd May at 2.30pm in Owls classroom**. It will be an interactive session with Mrs Whyte demonstrating how to develop children's handwriting, sentence writing and writing for a purpose. We hope you can all make it and learn some strategies to help support your child's writing.

PTA Upcoming Events:

- **May Half-term SMARTIES TUBE CHALLENGE:** Will you be able to do enough good deeds to fill the tube?!
- **Friday 14th June 2024 FATHERS DAY EVENT:** Make a fabulous gift for your father/carer. Event will take place during the school day.
- **Saturday 15th June 2024 VILLAGE SUMMER FESTIVAL** – Volunteers needed, please contact Sarah Turnbull on 07776 237990.

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 | All children for a brilliant Class Assembly | |
| Nightingales | Mia Paul | Keenan Kalomar |
| Robins | Oscar Priddy | Blake Robinson |
| Skylarks | Harry Mills | Dorothy Meyer |
| Red Kites | Cody Rapley | Aaron Harrison |
| Kestrels | Axel Mordt | Ariella Bolt |

House Points

| | Weekly Total | Rolling Total |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Brunel (Blue) | 385 | 718 |
| Galileo (Green) | 273 | 571 |
| Redgrave (Red) | 292 | 573 |
| Yeats (Yellow) | 299 | 614 |

The Winning House for this week is **Brunel**, Well done.

Attendance for the Week

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

Class Attendance: 22-04-24 to 26-04-24

Owls 98.6% Skylarks 97.3%

Nightingales 100% Red Kites 99.3%

Robins 97.7% Kestrels 98.5%

Whole School 98.5%



Habit of the Month

In **March** children will focus on **Only My Best Will Do - Having good learning discussions**. Children are expected to have good discussions about their learning with their peers and at home. Please continue to support us and help all of our children form good habits.

Curriculum Overview

Termly Curriculum Overviews have been uploaded on the school website under 'Curriculum' Section. You can access them via the link here <http://wslprimary.com/curriculum/> They give you a broad overview of the learning that takes place in Term 5 & 6 for your children.

Reading, Reading, Reading

Daily reading is vital in supporting our learners to become fluent readers who develop a love of books. Reading is the most crucial skill any child will learn. It is our schools clear expectation that every child reads every night without any distraction. Please support us by ensuring that there is a time set aside every evening to ensure your child can read and, ideally, to be read to by an adult

WSL Woodpeckers Club

We are pleased to report that WSL Woodpeckers Club runs smoothly with children enjoying a variety of activities. This wraparound CARE club runs from 3.10 to 6.00pm, Monday to Thursday during term time only. However, you can collect your child/ren at any time before 6.00pm. Pre-booking is preferable, although ad hoc bookings are acceptable on the day before 2.00pm. **Payment in advance via SCOPAY** has been set up for convenience.

Owls Balanceability Programme

The Balanceability Programme for children in Owls Class will continue throughout Term 5 and 6. Children can come into school in their PE Kit every Monday as usual.

Summer School Uniform

As we are now in Summer Terms, Summer uniform can be worn:

Girls: pale blue gingham dress or grey skirt with School's logo polo shirt, white socks;

Boys: School's logo polo shirt with trousers (long or short), grey socks.

Black, hard-wearing shoes must be worn, trainers, plimsolls open-toe sandals, and shoes with inappropriate heels may not worn. **No make-up or nail vanish are allowed.**

All the children are expected to have their PE kit in school every day. Please make sure that **ALL ITEMS must be clearly labelled**. Children with shoulder length hair or longer should have it tied back using plain hair-ties, hair bands or clips please. Not only will this contribute to their smartness but will also keep tackle the ongoing head lice problems.

PTA Upcoming Events

- **May Half-term SMARTIES TUBE CHALLENGE:** Will you be able to do enough good deeds to fill the tube?!
- **Friday 14th June 2024** Father's Day Craft Activity
- **Saturday 15th June 2024** Village Summer Festival
- **Friday 19th July 2024** Class of 2024 Camp Out
- **Saturday 15th June 2.00pm – 10.00pm Village Summer Festival.** Helpers needed, please [contact Sarah Turnbull on 07776 237990](mailto:sarah.turnbull@wslprimary.com). For more information and to buy early bird tickets at a reduced price, please visit <https://www.wslsrevents.com/>
- **Saturday 28th September 2024 WSL CIRCUS:** An external circus will be coming to school and we NEED YOUR HELP to sell 600 tickets and to help make this a magnificent event for our children, family and friends! Tickets will be available on PTA-Events next week and if you are available to help with event planning or on the day, please let Phillippa know (07484 766 059).

Bag2School Collection

Please bring in your bags to school **at drop off time 8.40am on Wednesday 8th May, ready for 9.00am** when they will be collected. Bags have been sent home. You may use ordinary bin bags or plastic carriers. This event raises a considerable amount for School Fund whilst helping others less fortunate. Thank you for your support.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

We are looking for someone to run the second hand uniform shop once a month. All uniform is kept at school and uniform donations are received on an ongoing basis. Funds from uniform sales go directly to the school and are used to buy valuable supplies. If you are interested and can offer your help, please contact the School Office. Thank you.

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 5 (29 days)

| | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|---|--------|
| May | Fri 3 rd | Writing Workshop /Open Session for Parents in Owls | 2.30pm |
| | Fri 3 rd | Skylarks Cake Sale | 3.10pm |
| | Mon 6 th | May Day Bank Holiday – School is closed | |
| | Wed 8 th | Bag2School Collection | 9.00am |
| | Wed 8 th | Health Check for EYFS in School | 9.15am |
| | 13 th -16 th | KS2 SATs | |
| | Thurs 16 th | Summer Census Day | |
| | Thurs 16 th | Road Safety Show for Year 5 | 2.00pm |
| | Wed 22 nd | It's Your Move for Year 6 – Transition Talk in school | 1.15pm |
| | 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 | | |
| | Wed 5 th | RBWM Rotary Club Year 4 Mathematical Competition at Cookham Dean | 4.00-5.30pm | |
| | 3 rd – 21 st | Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Period | | |
| | Mon 10 th | Class and Whole School Photos | 9.00am | |
| | w/c 10 th | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week | | |
| | Thurs 13 th | Road Safety Show for Year 6 | 1.15pm | |
| | Fri 14 th | PTA Father's Day Craft Activity in School – Details to follow | | |
| | Sat 15 th | Village Summer Festival | | |
| | Thurs 18 th | RBWM Rotary Club Year 2 Mighty Maths Competition at WSL | 4.00-5.30pm | |
| | Fri 21 st | Whole School Trip to Tate Modern – Details to follow | All Day | |
| | Fri 28 th | Sports Day – Details to follow | 1.00-3.10pm | |
| | July | Fri 5 th | Annual Report to Parents | |
| | | w/c 8 th | Transition Week | |
| | | Thurs 11 th | Transition morning for new children in Owls Class | 9.00am-12.00pm |
| | | Information Meeting for New Parents | 11.00am-12.00pm | |
| Mon 8 th | | KS2 end of the Year Production Dress Rehearsal | 1.15pm | |
| Tues 9 th | | KS2 End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents | 1.15pm | |
| Wed 10 th | | KS2 End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents | 6.00pm | |
| Thurs 11 th | | KS2 End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents | 6.00pm | |
| Mon 15 th | | Open Evening for Parents to view Children's Learning/Work | 3.10-5.00pm | |
| Fri 19 th | | PTA Camp Out for Class of 2024 | 5.00pm onwards | |
| Tues 23 rd | End of Pupil Term | 1.00pm | | |

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:

Staffing Update Letter to all

Waltham St Lawrence & Shurlock Row 'Festival 24' Raffle Tickets to all