



# 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 03

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are certainly into the full swing of things this academic year, with the school organising a range of learning activities for the children, what a packed week of learning, please read on to find out more...

This year we have made some exciting changes to our lunchtime activities. Now the children have the freedom to choose from a variety of activities during their lunch hour. We all know play is essential for learning important life skills that may not be taught in a classroom. This structured free choice arrangement helps our children develop a wide range of 'soft' or 'life' skills, including cooperation, imagination, initiative, collaboration, resilience, problem solving and risk-taking.

We are thrilled to see the children thoroughly enjoying this independent and active hour. Our Year 6 Playground Leaders assist in setting up a carousel of activities for all children to choose from and enjoy every day. We are delighted to report that every child is happy and fully engaged with their games and activities such as skipping, LEGO, giant Connect 4, Snake and Ladders, building blocks, hula hoops and table tennis etc.. The quality of play has improved even further.



Here are some staff and children's comments:

*The engagement in the playground between year groups is wonderful! Children are team building every lunchtime – Mrs Clark*

*I like to be able to do everything we like – Keira*

*I like choosing Lego and enjoy having lots to do – William L*

*I love the big Lego bricks and the hula hoops – Harper*

*We are making a giant bed today out of wooden bricks! Will will make bunk beds – Noah and Demi*

*We are using the ropes on the fence – Zamin*

*Hula hooping as a team is my favourite. - Wilf*

### What have we been learning in school?

As part of our Harvest theme and to build upon their prior learning on Plants last term, on Wednesday this week, the children in Robins Class had an exciting visit to Waltham Place. The highlight of their trip was **making soda bread** from scratch. Guided by Nick and our staff, the children mixed the ingredients, kneaded the dough and watched in awe as their bread baked to perfection. The children enjoyed the fruits of their labour, spreading delicious jam on their freshly baked soda bread. The children learned about the origins of their food. From the wheat to the kitchen, the children took part in **flour milling**, gaining a deeper understanding of where the flour comes from.

The visit to Waltham Place Farm was a memorable and enriching experience. Here are what the children say about their day and some photos for you to enjoy.

“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”



*I liked to feed the pigs, I learned that sometimes scavengers like foxes take the apples – William L*

*I loved the twirly maze because it felt like it never stopped – Oliver*

*We made bread and I liked to see how to grind the flour – Theo*

*We ate honey, blackcurrant jam with our bread, made from the plants from last year, it was yummy – Ava*

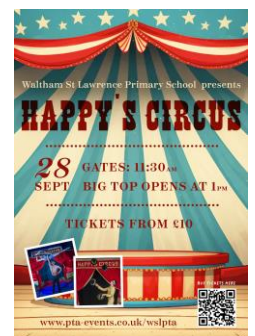
*The muddy pig had an apple stuck to her bottom – Oakley*



Next week we will be looking at the value of **Happiness**. The children in their classes will discuss and reflect on "Where does your happiness come from?" Perhaps you can have further discussions with your child/ren at home and ask your child/ren: Have you ever bought something to make you feel happy? Did it work? How long did the happiness last? What might give you a more lasting happiness? You may also want to explore the meaning of this quote *'Happiness always looks small while you hold it in your hands, but let it go, and you learn at once how big and precious it is.'* - Maxim Gorky, Russian-Soviet Writer (1868 - 1936)



**Happy's Circus** is coming to WSL Primary School on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024** (Gates open 11:30am, Big Top opens at 1.00pm and the Show runs 1:30-3:30pm). **Tickets are selling fast, so don't miss out!** Purchase your tickets on PTA-Events and share the excitement with friends and family. [Waltham St Lawrence PTA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://pta-events.co.uk)  
**Tickets will also be on sale in the playground every Friday until 27<sup>th</sup> September.**



**Please support if you can:**

- **Helpers wanted:** Set-up on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 3.00-5.00pm or Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 8.00-11.00am, or to help during the event, please contact Phillippa (07484 766059).
- **Toy and Bottle Tombola:** Bottles (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) and new/great condition used toys will be collected at morning Stop and Drop every Friday prior to the event. Please donate if you are able to.



The photographer will be visiting the school to take **individual and siblings photographs** including pre-school children on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September from 8.30am**. Sibling photos will be taken first followed by individual ones. You may wish to ensure your child/ren are looking particularly smart for the occasion

**Perfect Punctuality:** We would like to say a huge **Thank You and Well Done** for your support, making sure your children **arrive on time every day** and are being **punctual**, getting on with their learning in class. It has made a noticeable difference and has had some positive impact! Keep it up!

Please continue to reinforce the message – 'Only Our Best will do' and support us to help your child develop good habits: Habit of the Month – Look after my belongings and school property.

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>	Henrietta B	Roman R
<b>Nightingales</b>	Betsy M-P	Abdullah J
<b>Robins</b>	Dolly P	William L
<b>Skylarks</b>	Bailey H	
<b>Red Kites</b>	Jorgie G	Darcy E
<b>Kestrels</b>	Phoebe C	Tilley M

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
<b>Brunel (Blue)</b>	<b>265</b>	464
<b>Galileo (Green)</b>	181	320
<b>Redgrave (Red)</b>	236	421
<b>Yeats (Yellow)</b>	234	432

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:** 16-09-24 to 20-09-24

Owls 98.9% Skylarks 97.0%

Nightingales 98.9% Red Kites 98.1%

**Robins 100%** Kestrels 97.0%

Whole School 98.1%



## Habit of the Month

In **September**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do – Looking after my belongings and 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.

## Class Representatives 2024-25

Many of you are aware that each class has two parent Class Representatives. Their role is to be a contact between parents and staff and they also act as the link to the PTA, helping to coordinate fundraising events. The role is a voluntary one and as such can be adapted to suit individuals. There is still a vacancy for Skylarks Class. If you are interested, please let the PTA or the School Office know. Thank you for your continued support.

**Owls** Susie Gray-Jones & Laura Owen

**Nightingales** Sheena Egby & Annabel Garson

**Robins** Sarah Anderson & Vicky Lomas

**Skylarks** Helen Hall & TBC

**Red Kites** Jess Marshall-Pullin & Cassie Gray

**Kestrels** Vicky Newman & Sarah Hemmings

## My First Class Photo

For parents in Reception Owls Class - My First Class photo will be taken by professional photographer from Maidenhead Advertiser on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am. No names will be mentioned. Please inform us if you do not want your child to be photographed. The photo will then be published in the Maidenhead Advertiser Newspaper in October, date to be confirmed. Please make sure your child looks smart for the photo.

## 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.

## School Lunches

Please remember - **Lunches for the following day must be ordered and paid for IN ADVANCE by 12.00 midnight every day.** You can order lunches for your children for the whole week or term via ScoPay [www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com) **LATE ORDERS AND PAYMENTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.** The school kitchen needs to know how many children will be having lunch before they place the weekly food order on Fridays. If you have any problem please do come and discuss with us. Many thanks.

## School Census Day Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

It is School Census Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Part of **next year's funding** will be decided by the number of children having school meals that day. The more children who have a meal on just this day, the more funding the school will receive to further improve provision. Even if your child does not usually have hot dinners, please consider persuading them and book your child/ren in for lunch on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October if you can. To promote and encourage children to have a school lunch that day, we have swapped the menu around. The Thursday menu will be Jumbo Fish Fingers with Chips or Cheese and Tomato Quiche with Chips and Friday will be BBQ chicken Pizza or Lentil & spinach curry with Rice. Thank you for your support.

## Bag2School Collection

We have organised Bag2School fundraising event which raises some extra amount money for School Fund whilst helping others less. Clear bags with information leaflets were sent home last week for you to put in any **old clothes, handbags and shoes** etc. These bags can be brought into school **at drop off time by 9.00am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024.** You can use your own bags. Thank you for your support. **Please do not bring any filled bags to school before this date, as we are unable to store them. bags must be dropped off by 9.00am at the latest, only on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024.**

## Nasal Flu Vaccinations for All Year Groups

This vaccination will take place on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** in school. Detailed information to follow.

## Open Mornings for Prospective Parents Year R Sept 2025

If you have a child due to start school next September, or you know anybody who does, please note that we are holding four Open Mornings when parents/carers can come and look around the school and ask any questions they may have. These will take place from 9.45-10.45am on

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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: Mr Hamit Thiara (Parent Governor)

### Dates for Your Diary

#### The Academic Year 2024-2025

#### Term 1 (39 days)

September	W/C 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Baseline Assessment for Reception Children in Owls Class	
	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Robins Class Visit to Waltham Place	8.45am-2.00pm
	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	PGL Residential Trip Final Arrangements Meeting for Year 5/6 Parents	3.15pm
	Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	School Photograph – Individual and Siblings	8.30am
	Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Drama 4 All Workshop for EYFS and KS1	10.20am-12.00pm
October		My First Class Photo by Maidenhead Advertiser	9.30am
	Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	Happy's Circus at School Playing Field – Gates: 11.30 / Show Starts	1.00pm
	Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Autumn Schol Census Day	
	Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	Bag2School Collection	9.00am
	Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Service in WSL Church – detail to follow	2.00pm
	Tue 15 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Vaccination for all children – details to follow	9.00am
	Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sports for School Event	13.00pm
	Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	PGL Assembly for Year 5/6 Parents	2.15pm
	Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	Parents Evening for KS2 Classes ONLY	3.30-5.30pm
	Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Parents Evening – for ALL Classes	5.00-7.00pm
	Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening – for ALL Classes	3.30-5.30pm
	Flu Immunisation Vaccination for all children in school	8.30 – 10.30am	
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Halloween Disco / Movie	5.00-7.00pm	
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term		

October Holiday: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

#### Term 2 (35 days)

November	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day		
	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term		
	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am	
	11 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-Bullying Week – Theme 'Choose Respect'		
	Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am	
	Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Sunday		
	19 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup>	Scholastic Book Fair Week in School	3.10-4.00pm	
	Mon 25 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am	
	December	Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal to Whole School	2.15pm
		Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Nativity Performance to KS1 Parents	2.15pm
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>		KS1 Nativity Performance to KS1 Parents	2.15pm	
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>		End of Pupil Term		

Christmas Holiday: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

#### Term 3 (30 days)

January	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
February	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term	

February Holiday: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

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:

Mini Maestros Lessons for 0-7 Leaflet to EYFS and KS1

Bags2School Bags sent home to all