



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 06

Friday 11th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

What an eventful week it has been, filled with fascinating learning opportunities for our children! Read on to find out more...

Our **Harvest Festival** will be celebrated in Waltham St Lawrence's Church this afternoon at 2:00pm and we would welcome you to join us in the Church. Please refer to the separate letter sent home last Friday with all the detailed arrangements for the day.

Parents are requested please to remember the following housekeeping rules, in order that everyone can appreciate the hard work that the children and staff have put into the service:

- **The door will be open at 1.50pm for parents and family members to enter the Church.**
- All mobile phones must be on mute or switched off.
- If pre-school children attend, please ensure they stay with you, quietly, and are not allowed to wander around the Church.
- **Once children in Owls Class finished their performance, they can be collected to go home early or stay with you to watch the performance of their siblings. Please collect them from the side door of the vestry.**
- Photos may be permitted during the service but for the safety of our children all images must not be published on social networking sites, they are for your own purposes only.

We all hope you will enjoy our first whole school event of this academic year. We had a lovely display of all the Harvest donations in the School Hall. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.



This Wednesday, we were treated to an exciting Rockadamy Music Assembly led by Leigh Jones, who wowed the children with his performances on the ukulele, guitar, and electric guitar. The children were fully engaged and impressed by the talent on display, sparking a lot of enthusiasm to take up music lessons themselves! Information about lessons has been sent home, so if your child is interested in learning an instrument, please contact Rockadamy directly for further details.



What have we been learning in school?

In English, children in **Red Kites Class** have been working on their skills in writing compelling character descriptions. They have been using expanded noun phrases, powerful adjectives, similes and metaphors to bring their characters to life. The children created their own unique characters and vividly portrayed them using these writing techniques. Here are a few examples for you to enjoy.



Sapphire the Dragon

Sapphire is a powerful and fierce dragon. She is from planet 5 (stands for 5) She's the queen. No one knows about her because her planet is from another galaxy. Her eyes are fiery red and her body is baby blue and her scales feel like a million knives. She has a lunging powerful walk as she struts around the palace. When she is angry, her fangs are like butcher knives cutting through cow meat. Her feet are razor sharp like a katana. Sapphire's fear is rain and water because, when she was 10 years old, her mum and dad got eaten by a megladon whilst they were swimming. Ever since she has been scared of the ocean.

By Cody



The Ogrey Ogre

The ogre is as angry as a crocodile. His hands are scratched and bumpy. He holds his axe and feels grumpy. His scary, mouldy teeth are pointy mountains. His hair is fire, wiggling on his head. His ugly toe nails are as sharp as knives. He eats lots of food because his tummy is as big as an airplane.

By Zamin

Pergly the friendly Monster

Pergly was a very mischievous, cheeky and friendly monster. He had two eagle wings, ten spider legs, that were extremely hairy, a smooth pig face with two pig snouts that were very wrinkly and two furry and soft cat ears. Whenever he walked, he ever so slightly limped.

Did I tell you that Pergly could fly? When he did fly (though he barely ever did) he looked like a gliding, fluttering and shooting star. He had a big broad smile that was as big as a watermelon. Pergly lived in a damp, dark burrow that almost reached the earth's core. The family that he lived with did not make him, they were far too kind to do that, he just felt most comfortable! He had a low pitched and husky voice that was as deep as a canyon!

He spent most of his time being belly rubbed by his master or mistress who he loved with all of his apple sized heart, the rest of his time he spent gossiping away. He wished he could've run off to the circus because he loved flying through the air. Pergly was almost always happy. The only time he wasn't happy was when he wanted more sweets!

By Sophie

The Happy Hamster

Happy is a moving furball because he has escaped from a cramped smelly cage and been growing his lovely ginger fur for years now. He has an iconic quarts white patch on his belly and is wonderfully kind hearted although he can be quite cheeky. He has gorgeous golden feet and a high pitched cheerful voice, although he can pull off an extremely frightening voice.

Happy is tireless and extra rapid. His desire is to get into the Olympics and win gold in the 20m race. His only fear is to lose, he is always happy and loves his best friends who give him food. Happy's eyes are as crystal blue as a delightful lake. His favourite spot in the entire world is a special hole in a beautiful tree trunk that is so hidden no human can find him when he's in it the only animals that know where it is, those animals are happy and the bees.

His special talent is climbing up trees. If you are watching him move around then in the blink of an eye he will be up a tree. He also loves eating more than anything in the whole entire world. The best time he's ever had is when he was plotting his escape plan. He had loads of laughs with his hamster friend, sadly he died now.

By Felix



World Values Day is an annual campaign to increase the awareness and practice of values around the world. The theme this year is **Bringing Values to Life**. Values are for acting on! So, on World Values Day, let's put our school or your chosen values into action. If we can do this, we can make a difference. In school we will discuss with children how we can all work together putting our chosen values into action and make a difference.



Next week we will be celebrating the World Values Day and also looking at the value of **Self-Esteem**. The children in their classes will discuss when they feel confident or strong about themselves and what helps them feel confident. Children will be given time to have Self-reflection: 'What different feelings do you have when your self-esteem is high vs low? Where do you get your feelings of high self-esteem from?' At home, to further support your children, you can perhaps explore the meaning of this quote 'The moment you doubt whether you can fly, you cease for ever to be able to do it.' — Peter Pan by J.M. Barrie, Scottish novelist (1860-1937). We want all of our children to believe in themselves, be content with themselves and accept themselves as they are.

Reminder:



We are thrilled to welcome **Invictus Games Competitor Nerys Pearce** to our school on **Wednesday 16th October 2024!** Nerys will lead an exciting **Sponsored Fitness Circuit** with all children, followed by an inspirational talk and a question and answer session. Please make sure your child has their PE Kits in school on the day. We encourage you to help your child/ren raise as much sponsorship as possible. Children who reach these milestones of raising £5, £15 or £30 or more, will receive thank you gifts as indicated on the sponsorship form. Your support for this event is greatly appreciated! All sponsorship should be returned to school by 23rd October 2024.



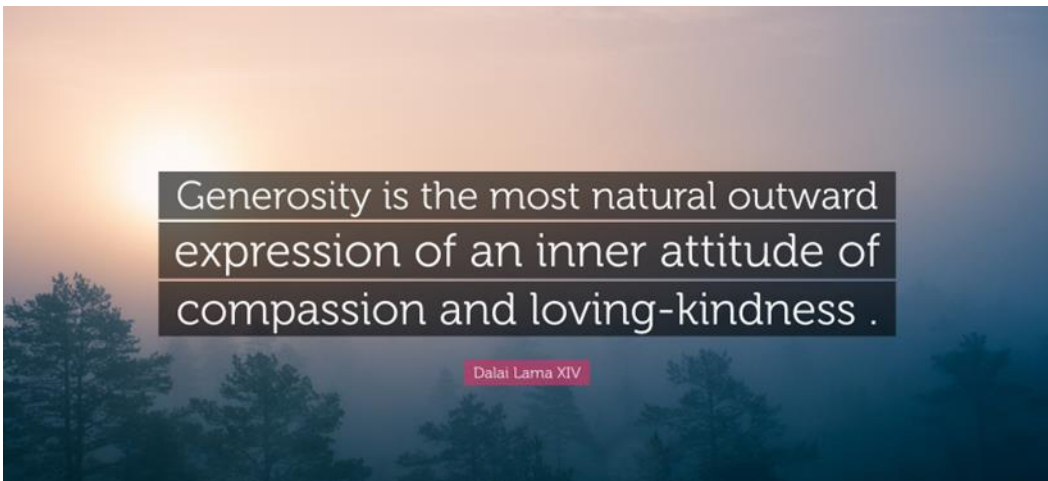
Currently, the PTA have **open positions for a Co-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Co-Events Organiser**, if anyone wants to get involved, please contact Philippa Pitt at 07484 766059. Please refer to the letter sent home last week for more details. Please come along to the social evening at Shurlock Inn on **Thursday 17th October at 7.30pm.**

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Li-Juan Ellerton
Headteacher



DON'T DECIDE
THAT **YOU**
CAN'T
BEFORE YOU
DISCOVER
THAT YOU
CAN



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	Demi G	Emily V
Nightingales	Harper R	Jay E
Robins	Mia A-M	Oliver B
Skylarks	Blake R	Mason W-P
Red Kites	Harry M	William E
Kestrels	Ava W	Monty W

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	211	1239
Galileo (Green)	163	863
Redgrave (Red)	187	1031
Yeats (Yellow)	202	1173

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: 07-10-24 to 11-10-24

Owls 96.4% Skylarks 98.7%
Nightingales **99.1%** Red Kites 97.0%
Robins 97.8% Kestrels 95.5%
Whole School 97.4%



Habit of the Month

In **October**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do – Presentation of All My Work** – focusing on writing clearly and neatly; organisation and layout of their work and attention to details by checking for spelling, punctuation and grammar and calculations etc. 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.

Parents Evenings

Parents Evenings will take place on:

Monday 21st October 3.30pm-5.30pm for KS2 Classes
Tuesday 22nd October 5.00pm – 7.00pm for all classes
Wednesday 23rd October 3.30pm – 5.30pm for all classes
Booking can be done online as from Monday 14th October.
Please look out for the email from the School Office.

My First Class Photo

Children in Owls Class had their photos last week and their 'My First-Class Photo' will be in The Maidenhead Advertiser shortly. Prior to this, parents in Owls Class can view the photo via our school's pictures on Maidenhead Advertiser website. The link to their website will be sent to you in due course.

Safe Entry and Exit Reminder

Children should enter and exit the school premises exclusively through the blue pedestrian gate in front of the school main building. **The staff car park gate is NOT a safe entry or exit point for children**, especially during the busy end-of-day traffic when cars are leaving the car park. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Expectation for Morning Drop-Off

As we enter October, **we would expect the children from Year 1 to Year 6 to come to school independently**. We are impressed that some of Reception children are already coming in independently – WELL DONE. Please say good bye to your child at the entrance gate or use Stop and Drop Zone and let your child/ren walk into the school by themselves. This will encourage children to **develop self-help skills and independence** and settle in quickly to the day ahead. Thank you for your support.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations for All Year Groups

Please ensure the e-Consent form is completed online as soon as possible, indicating whether you wish your child(ren) to receive the vaccination or not. This vaccination will take place on **Tuesday 15th October** in school.

PTA Notice

Currently, the PTA have **open positions for a Co-Chair, Secretary and /or Treasurer and Events Organiser**. A New PTA Committee will be elected at AGM on Tuesday 12th November 2024. if anyone wants to get involved, please contact Philippa Pitt at 07484 766059.

There will be a social event for parents at **Shurlock Inn on Thursday 17th October at 7.30pm**. Please come along to find out more about PTA roles.

PTA Fancy Dress Halloween Disco and Crafts

This is the first PTA fund raising event of this academic year. This very popular **Fancy-Dress Halloween Disco will take place on Thursday 24th October from 5.00-7.00pm**. Tickets for the Spooktacular Halloween Party are now available on PTA-Events! [Waltham St Lawrence PTA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://waltham-st-lawrence.pta-events.co.uk) Tickets include a hot dog (or not dog), veg sticks and a sweet treat. Please bring named school water bottles. Please add a note in your booking if your child has any dietary requirements or allergies.

EYFS and KS1 will be in the School Hall for the Halloween Disco from 5.00-6.00pm. They will then be in the Dining Hall 6.00-7.00pm having dinner and doing some crafts.

KS2 will be in the dining room from 5-6pm having dinner and playing a quiz. They will then be in the hall from 6-7pm for the Halloween disco.

1st and 2nd prizes will be given to the best dressed in each year!

Note that there will be **flashing lights at the disco**. Ear muffs will be available for children that find the music loud.

Please note that children should be dropped at 5.00pm and collected at 7.00pm. If you are available to help set-up from 3.00-5.00pm or during the event 5.00-7.00pm please let Phillipa know (07484 766059)

Due to safety reasons, only children attending the school are allowed to take part in this event, no pre-school children or ex-pupils are allowed on this occasion. If you can spare any time to help out before or on the day, please let the PTA Committee Members know via email wsl.pta@gmail.com Thank you for your support!

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)

October	Fri 11 th	Harvest Service in WSL Church	2.00pm
	Tue 15 th	Flu Vaccination for all children – details to follow	9.00am
	Wed 16 th	Sports for School Event	13.00pm
	Thurs 17 th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
		Social evening for parents at Shurlock Inn ref new PTA	7.30pm
	Fri 18 th	PGL Assembly for Year 5/6 Parents	2.15pm
	Mon 21 st	Parents Evening for KS2 Classes ONLY	3.30-5.30pm
	Tues 22 nd	Parents Evening – for ALL Classes	5.00-7.00pm
	Wed 23 rd	Parents Evening – for ALL Classes	3.30-5.30pm
	Thurs 24 th	PTA Halloween Disco / Movie	5.00-7.00pm
Fri 25 th	End of Pupil Term		

October Holiday: Monday 28th October 2024 to Friday 1st November 2024

Term 2 (35 days)

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

Christmas Holiday: Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025

Term 3 (30 days)

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

February Holiday: Monday 17th February 2025 to Friday 21st 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

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

Parents Evenings Letter to all

Guide to Successful Parents Evenings to all

Sports for Schools Letter to all

My Sponsorship Form to all

Rockadamy Music Lessons Leaflet to all

Forest Fun Halloween Holiday Club Leaflet to all