



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 07

Friday 18th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We were so pleased to see so many of you join us in celebrating the Harvest Festival last Friday at WSL Church. The Harvest Assembly is always a treat, particularly this one being the first whole school celebration of this academic year! The theme of our Harvest Festival is based on the following values: Gratitude and Appreciation. Through poems, songs, storytelling and Harvest Art. The children reminded us of all the good things we have in our lives and how we can all share with those who are not so fortunate. There is nothing more joyful than hearing the children singing beautifully, speaking with confidence and clarity. A huge thank you goes to our Year 6 children for leading our Harvest Service so wonderfully and teachers and TAs who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare the children and make the service such a success. Thank you for your generosity for all the donations! The food has been delivered to the Local Foodbank. We would also like to thank Revd. Andy Ferguson for stepping in to support us and parents who helped transport or walk the children to the church.



We have had another busy and successful week. Yesterday morning we held our second **Open Morning** to prospective parents and many prospective parents took the opportunity to visit our school and see teaching and learning in action. Visitors thoroughly enjoyed the tour and the presentation. They were very impressed with our School Values and children's learning behaviour and commented on how engaged they all are with their tasks and what a lovely calm, purposeful learning atmosphere the school has.



On Wednesday this week, we welcomed **Invictus Games Competitor Nerys Pearce** to our school. Nerys led an exciting **Sponsored Fitness Circuit** with all children, followed by an inspirational talk.

The children participated in four challenging fitness activities with enthusiasm and enjoyment. They also supported each other, cheering on every achievement, demonstrating outstanding teamwork. After the fitness circuit, Nerys shared her inspirational life story, with children acting as soldiers and downhill skiers! She also talked about her recent achievements, including winning 43 global medals and holding 7 current world records. Her message **'Push yourself forward'** in the face of challenges aligns perfectly with our School Values and the experience children had is one that they will never forget! Nerys left seven special Great Athletes wristbands which will be awarded to children in each year group who have pushed themselves forward this week.

Please 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.



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”



**WORLD
VALUES
DAY**

The theme for this year's **World Values Day** is **Bringing Values to Life**. In school children in each class have thought carefully and chose their own values and put them into action. Red Kites chose **'Kindness'** and they have worked together to make a real difference. Values are for acting on! Let's all put our school or your chosen values into action day in and day out. If we can do this, we can make a difference.

What have we been learning in school?

As part of their **Science** topic of **'Light'**, this week Year 3 children in Skylarks Class were looking at 'Making shadows'. For their task, the brief was to choose a fabric for a new pair of curtains for a baby's room, to prevent her from waking up and crying too early! To do this, they had to test a number of fabrics and papers to see which were transparent, which were translucent and which were opaque. They did this by shining a torch at each one and looking at how dense the shadow was i.e. how much light they blocked out. Maybe you could ask them, at home, if they can remember those three scientific words they learned?



Reminder: Parents Evenings will be taking place next week:

- Monday 21st October 3.30pm-5.30pm for KS2 Classes only**
- Tuesday 22nd October 5.00pm – 7.00pm for ALL classes**
- Wednesday 23rd October 3.30pm – 5.30pm for ALL classes**

Please book your appointment via our online booking system if you have not done so yet. We would encourage children to join in the meeting with you. You can view your child/ren's books outside their classrooms. Parents in Nightingales Class will have the meetings in the School Hall and can view your children's work in the Library area. We have sent the Guide to Successful Parents Evenings last week. We hope you find it useful. Mrs Whyte, Inclusion Coordinator, will be available to meet with parents on **Wednesday 23rd October from 2.30pm to 5.00pm** if you so wish. Please book an appointment online. We look forward to meeting with you then.



Fancy Dress Halloween Disco will be held in the School Hall on **Thursday 24th October from 5.00pm to 7.00pm**. There will be food, drinks and fun craft activities for children. All the money raised will be spent on our children! If you can spare any time to help out on the day, please let the PTA Committee Members know. Thank you for your support! Please read on for more details...

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	Henry L	Olivia J
Nightingales	Freya H	Reggie D
Robins	Jemima K	Ridley J
Skylarks	Kaden K	Oscar P
Red Kites	Carter T-S	James H
Kestrels	Rhys J	Lexy G

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	247	1486
Galileo (Green)	203	1067
Redgrave (Red)	225	1257
Yeats (Yellow)	227	1400

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: 14-10-24 to 18-10-24

Owls 93.2% Skylarks 97.5%
Nightingales 97.7% Red Kites 98.1%
Robins 98.7% **Kestrels 99.1%**
Whole School 97.5%



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 form good habits. Thank you.

Curriculum Workshops for Parents in Owls

EYFS Literacy Workshop will take place on **Friday 8th November at 2.30pm** in Owls Classroom. Mrs Whyte will share some strategies on how best to support your children's early stage reading and writing at home.

EYFS Maths Workshop will take place on **Wednesday 20th November at 2.30pm** in Owls Classroom. Miss Painter and Mrs Whyte will share some strategies we teach in school. We hope as many of you can attend as possible.

My First Class Photo

'My First-Class Photo' for Owls Class will be printed in The Maidenhead Advertiser on Friday 25th October. Parents in Owls Class can view the photos on the Maidenhead Advertiser website through the link sent to you earlier this week.

Second Hand School Uniform Sale Every Friday at 3.10

The Second Hand Uniform Sale will take place **every Friday at school pick-up time**, outside the PTA cupboard, located behind Nightingales Classroom. Each uniform item is **just £1**, payable to the school bank account.

We receive new donations every week, so there's always something new to discover. Come and take a look!
Marie-Françoise

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING

There is still a lot of lost property left behind every day **WITHOUT NAMES!** In order to reduce the amount of property your child misplaces in school, we ask parents to ensure that **all children's belongings are clearly NAMED** so that lost property can be returned to their owners easily. Your support is greatly appreciated!

End of the Day Collection Arrangements

At the end of the day, we kindly ask parents to ensure that when collecting your child from school, you wait at the top of the playground, outside the Dining Hall. Please refrain from going beyond Nightingales' classroom. Parents in Owls class may wait near the planter area outside of the EYFS Outdoor Learning Area to avoid blocking the cloakroom exit, where other children are exiting to the playground before being dismissed. This is to ensure everyone's safety and to facilitate a smooth dismissal process. Thank you for your support.

PTA AGM

PTA AGM will take place on **Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 6.00pm in school** with the New Committee elected, financial report shared and events planned for the year. **Governors** will also share their roles and responsibilities whilst the **Headteacher** will also share School Performance data and School Improvement Priorities at the meeting. Please save the date and come along to support the school.

PTA Fancy Dress Halloween Disco and Crafts

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.

Please note that **children should be dropped at 5.00pm and collected at 7.00pm**.

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 Hall from 5.00-6.00pm having dinner and a Quiz session. They will then be in the Hall from 6.00-7.00pm for the Halloween Disco.

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

If you are available to help set-up from 3.00-5.00pm or during the event 5.00-7.00pm please let Phillippa 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 18th	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 4th	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 6th	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 7th	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

Term 4 (30 days)

February	Mon 24 th	Start of Pupil Term	
March	Fri 4 th	End of Pupil Term:	

Spring Holiday: Monday 7th April 2025 to Monday 21st April 2025

(Good Friday is 18th April 2025, Easter Monday is 21st April 2025)

Term 5 (23 days)

April	Mon 22 nd	Start of Pupil Term	
May	Mon 5 th	May Day Bank Holiday	
	Fri 23 rd	End of Pupil Term	

May Holiday: Monday 26th May 2025 to Friday 30th May 2025

Term 6 (38 days)

June	Mon 2nd	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 3 rd	Start of Pupil Term	
July	Wed 23 rd	End of Pupil Term	

Summer Holiday: Thursday 24th July 2025 – Tuesday 2nd September 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:

End of the Day collection Arrangements to all

Nut Allergies Info to all

Parents Evenings Booking Reminder to all

Christmas Card Viewing Reminder to all

Application deadline for secondary school Information to Year 6