



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 04

Friday 27th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

The role of the governors is to provide strategic leadership and accountability in the school. They help set the vision and ethos, ensure financial stability, and monitor the school's performance. Last Tuesday, the **Governing Board** held its first meeting of the academic year. During this meeting, we reviewed and agreed upon the school priorities for the year. Here are the key focus areas for our governors:

- **Curriculum Consolidation:** To support the successful implementation of the Curriculum, with a particular focus on enhancing speaking and writing skills across the school. This includes ensuring that all staff members are secure in the Curriculum, especially with the recent reorganisation of staff across classes and the addition of new teachers.
- **Financial Stability:** To ensure both current and future financial stability through regular reviews of our budgetary needs.
- **Outstanding Learning and Care:** To ensure the school continues to provide outstanding learning environment and quality of care.
- **Wellbeing and Duty of Care:** To continue the commitment to duty of care and the wellbeing for all staff and pupils.

We look forward to a productive and successful year ahead, working together to achieve these goals.



This Wednesday, our **School Council** held its inaugural meeting with lead teachers, Ms Hill and Miss Bennett. The session was filled with enthusiasm and a shared commitment to making our school a better place for everyone. One of the primary topics discussed was the improvement of parking around the school. The children were particularly keen on suggesting creative solutions and were eager to see their ideas put into action. They would like to design a poster or banner to remind parents of safe parking, especially around the bend in Brook Lane. The council also brainstormed other fundraising ideas to help enhance the overall school environment. The children are excited to announce that the **Lych Gate Parish Magazine** will be on sale on the second Friday of each month. It's inspiring to see our young leaders take such an active role in shaping the future of our school. We look forward to seeing their ideas come to life and making our school an even better place for everyone. Stay tuned for more updates from the School Council!



What have we been learning in school?

On Wednesday this week, children in **EYFS and KS1** enjoyed an exciting, space-themed drama session led by Lucy from Performance. They blasted off like rockets, soaring through the galaxy on an imaginative adventure! After completing energetic astronaut training, the children boarded an imaginary spaceship to visit Pluto, Venus, and Mars, learning about the unique environments of each planet with a little help from the cheese-loving Man in the Moon.

Through interactive games and improvisational play, the children developed key skills such as teamwork, communication, and self-expression. The session sparked their creativity, built their confidence, and filled the school hall with fun and laughter. It was truly an out-of-this-world experience! Here are some children's comments and photos for you to enjoy.



We went to space in a rocket and stopped the bad alien. Theo and Eduardo found some aliens and a bad alien and it was fun. Keenan and Noah



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

Children in **Red Kites Class** have been exploring space during their **PE** lessons. They worked in partners creating point balances where only a certain number of body parts can touch the floor. They then linked these together with travelling movements such as leaps, turns, rolls skips and gallops. Finally, they arrived on an alien planet and experimented with part weight balances to create their own alien creatures.



Next week we will be looking at the value of **Understanding Self**. The children in their classes will discuss and reflect on whether they can understand their reactions or change their response when feeling unfair. You may also want to explore the meaning of this quote 'You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go...' - Oh, *The Places You'll Go!* by Dr. Seuss, American Writer and Cartoonist (1904 -1991)



Happy's Circus is coming to WSL Primary School **tomorrow Saturday 28th September 2024!**

There are still some tickets available on PTA-EVENTS or they can be purchased in the playground today after school. Please share the link with friends and family: [Waltham St Lawrence PTA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://Waltham St Lawrence PTA (pta-events.co.uk))

Gates open 11:30am, Big Top opens at 1.00pm and the Show runs 1:30-3:30pm.

There are many PTA run family friendly stalls and games to enjoy before the show starts, including circus skills, welly throwing, football speed reader, Frog in the Bog, face painting, glitter tattoos and MORE!

If you have already purchased tickets, please **collect wristbands for speedy entry in the playground this Friday. Please support if you can:**

- **Helpers wanted:** Set-up on Friday 27th September, 3.00-5.00pm or Saturday 28th September, 8.00-11.00am, or to help during the event, please contact Phillippa (07484 766059).

This is a huge fundraising opportunity for the school and we are hoping that with this event we will hit our fundraising goals to enable us to build the outdoor learning space, which will be an incredible new resource for the children.

Year 5 and 6 Residential Trip

Next week, our Year 5 and 6 children will be embarking on their much-anticipated residential trip to Osmington Bay. The weather forecast looks promising, with dry conditions and sunny periods expected throughout the week. We hope the children have a fantastic time, enjoy the activities on offer and learn valuable skills during their adventure. To ensure they are well-prepared, please can parents make sure that your child/ren have packed the following essentials:

- ✚ A cap or hat
- ✚ Sun cream
- ✚ Lip Salve or Vaseline

We wish all our Year 5 and 6 children a fun-filled and educational trip!

Have an enjoyable weekend. See you on Saturday at Happy's Circus.

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	Everleigh T	George O	
Nightingales	Poppy L-W	Mia M	
Robins	Eduardo H	Reya T	
Skylarks	Wilfred P	Emily C	Ava M
Red Kites	Felix L	Imogen H	
Kestrels	Indie H	Chloe N	

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	358	822
Galileo (Green)	216	536
Redgrave (Red)	254	675
Yeats (Yellow)	313	745

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: 22-09-24 to 27-09-24

Owls **99.4%** Skylarks 97.1%

Nightingales 98.3% Red Kites 99.0%

Robins 97.1% Kestrels 95.7%

Whole School 97.7%



Habit of the Month

In **September**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do – Presentation of work!** 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

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/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=wl_share

Thank you for your continued assistance and generosity.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations for All Year Groups

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

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.

School Census Day Thursday 3rd October 2024

It is School Census Day on Thursday 3rd October next week. 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 3rd 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 Fish Fingers with Chips or BBQ Quorn with Chips and Friday will be Greek Chicken with Pitta or Cheese Whirl with Rice. Thank you for your support.

The Lych Gate Magazine

As we have many families who live outside the village, to keep you up to date and possibly involved in any village events, The Lych Gate magazine provides an ideal source of information, **in addition, our children's work is regularly published in the magazine.**

Copies are available at **£1.00** each from the school. They are located on the window sill opposite the School Office with an 'Honesty Box' for the £1.00 charge per magazine or 10p for any old issues. Our School Council Members will sell these magazines on second Friday of each month.

Next sale will be on Friday 11th October at 3.10pm. All money will be used to cover the cost of printing.

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.

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 4th 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 4th October 2024.**

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	Sat 28 th	Happy's Circus at School Playing Field – Gates: 11.30 / Show Starts	1.00pm
	Mon 30 th	Year 5/6 PGL Residential Trip – Departure	9.45am
October	Thurs 3 rd	Autumn Schol Census Day	
	Fri 4 th	Bag2School Collection	9.00am
		Year 5/6 Return	4.30pm
	Thurs 10 th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Fri 11 th	Harvest Service in WSL Church – detail to follow	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
	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:

Universal Voices Children's Choir at UoR Leaflet to KS2

PTA Information for Happy's Circus to all

School Photograph information to all