



Walter Infant School and Nursery

Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

We have had a wonderful first full week in school and it has been delightful to meet all our new starters in Foundation. As expected, we had a few tears, from some of the children and some of the parents, but the children rallied very quickly, due to the authentic care and concern from our dedicated team of professionals.

I want to emphasise how much the happiness and safety of your children means to us; we want them all to love coming to school and to have a very positive and fulfilling time when they are with us. If you have any concerns or questions, we will always be ready to talk, either in person, by phone or by email. Please remember that we value our partnerships with our families and we will take every thing brought to us as a priority.

Today I am sharing our first recipients of a Star of the Week certificate, chosen by the staff who work with the children. This is a very proud moment each week for the children and staff in school and we know how much they mean to our families too.

Stars of the Week

A star of the week certificate is always a surprise to the children, we are a Therapeutic Thinking School and so we do not use incentives (bribes) but we love to proffer rewards for many different reasons: for showing our values, for trying our best, for helping others, for producing amazing work or creations, for playing kindly, the reasons can go on and on. One certificate per class is awarded each week, so it may take some time before your child receives one, but do not worry, their time will come.

Well done to the children who have shown that they can '*be the best that they can be*' this week.



If you are struggling to provide all you need to at the moment; we can provide Food Vouchers for the Foodbank and fuel vouchers.

We can help!

If you are struggling to provide anything essential for your child's well-being, such as pyjamas, coats, shoes, socks, underwear, school uniform, bedding etc please ask us as we are here to help. We do not want any of our children to miss out on the basic fundamentals that they are all entitled to. As before, please just ask.

Pupil Premium Funding

Some of our families are entitled to Pupil Premium Funding for their children; this is a wonderful addition to our school's budget and helps us to provided curriculum enrichment and support for our Pupil Premium children and all other children too!

Your child may be entitled to this funding which can be used to pay for clubs, uniform, additional support, one to one nurture, Canine Assisted learning etc.

If you are in receipt of one the following benefits you may be eligible for free school meals or the pupil premium:

- 1) Income Support.
- 2) Income based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- 3) Income related Employment and Support Allowance.
- 4) Child Tax Credit - Where the family's annual income is not more than £16,190 and Working Tax Credit is not in payment.
- 5) Guarantee Pension Credit.

- 6) Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- 7) Universal Credit.

Please contact Mrs Janes in the office to find out more or follow this link
<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-information-and-services/free-school-meals-and-the-pupil-premium/>

Children who receive Pupil Premium Funding in school can attend an after school or morning club (excluding Junior Adventure Group), free of charge. Please speak with Mrs Hemmings in the office to see what is available. Unfortunately, we do not have any more spaces for I-Rock at the moment.

Walter's Pantry

We have a fully stocked pantry in school; including the ingredients to make a stove top evening meal, breakfast and snacks, as well as nappies, toothpaste, baby wipes etc, for any of our families who are struggling to make ends meet at any point during the week. Please do not hesitate in speaking to Mrs Janes or Mrs Hemmings in person or via telephone or email if you need a little help. You will be able to choose the things you need, discretely, whenever you need to.



Walter can help!



Next week in school!

Next week is very busy (although every week can be very busy)! Our children will be taking part in a number of exciting events and activities, please be aware of anything that you as parents will need to be included in too!

- **Monday 16th September:** 2:45 pm, we will hold a meeting for the parents and carers of children who have just begun Year 1, so if your child is in Beech, Larch or Oak, we would love to see you at our Phonics and Reading Meeting, where we will share how we will be teaching your children to read in school. Please come along if you are able to. We will share the information on our website, if you are unable to attend. Younger siblings are welcome to come, but we will not have creche facilities available.
- **Tuesday 17th September:** Louis Taylor will be visiting school to teach all our children about Road Safety, this is very informative and great fun. It will be happening during the school day. Please remember to ask your children to share with you what they have learned.



- **Wednesday 18th September:** We are excited to welcome a team of dance experts to school who will be teaching all our children (apart from Robins) an Olympic Dance from a country represented at the Olympics in Paris this year. I will share photographs in the next Friday Flyer.

PARIS 2024



DANCE ACROSS THE GLOBE

- **Friday 20th September: Jeans for Genes Day.** We would like the children to come to school in denim, they can wear jeans, jackets, shorts, shirts, pinafores, dungarees, dresses, skirts, hats in any colour of denim for the day. The adults will also be wearing denim. It can be any colour of denim and they do NOT need to wear any items of school uniform, but we do ask that they wear sensible shoes or trainers. If your child does not have any denim clothing, they can wear their own clothes, but not fancy dress or football kits please. We will be collecting voluntary donations and I have set up a Just

Giving Page. There is no obligation at all to donate, so please send your children in Jeans for Genes day clothes if you can donate or not. The children will learn in school about the charity and the work they do to help children who have been born differently from others. We support local and national charities throughout the school year as part of our Character Education Curriculum. Any questions, please ask.



<https://www.jeansforgenes.org/>

Dog poo incident at school as well as other waste issues with animals on and around school

Last Friday we had a very unfortunate incident with dog poo at school, which was completely my fault and should not have happened. I have apologised to the children, the parents who have contacted me and to my staff. I am hugely embarrassed and will do all I can to avoid anything like this ever happening again.



The playground is usually checked 4 times a day; before we open the gates, before playtime, before lunchtime and before the end of the school day. Since Walter joined our school, in June 2021, we have had 3 incidents reported, where there has been a problem with dog poo (unfortunately one child was involved in 2 of the incidents). I accept that this is not good enough, but since June 2021, Walter has been to school for more than 600 days.

Walter will now only be coming to school 3 days a week. Walter has an amazing dog walker, who comes to take him out for a long walk every day, away from the school site, and this is usually when he goes to the toilet. He used to use a space in the car park if he needed the toilet in the mornings, on our arrival but this has not been possible during the roof repairs. Walter has been known to toilet on the astro-turf, if he does so, usually we know about it and the poo is bagged up, carefully disposed of and the area cleaned fully with Clinical Disinfectant Wipes. As it is astro-turf, no traces are left as it can be fully cleaned up. If necessary, we use disinfectant and hot water, but this is very unusual.



Walter has two designated times during the school day when the children are in class, when he can play in the playground, once before play, and once before the end of the day. The playground is always checked for dog poo after these sessions.

Walter is a very hard-working school dog; he supports many of our children in a variety of ways, including listening to them read, rolling a dice for games, choosing conversation starter cards, walking with the children, helping children to overcome their fear of dogs, welcoming children to school each day, and bidding them farewell. Mrs Bell is soon to begin a new club in school, for children to attend if they have worries or concerns, and Walter will be a vital part of the club, lending a listening ear and waggy tail!

I feel I must also make it clear that the school playground and astro-turf areas are regular toileting areas for foxes, cats, squirrels, hedgehogs and pigeons. Mr Fennel does the best possible job he can to keep the tarmac and astro-turf clean, but some messes can be missed, especially cat and pigeon poo.

We also have dogs urinating on the fences whilst they are being walked or when they have been tied to the fence. Again, Mr Fennell does all he can to ensure that the school site is clean and safe.

To support us in ensuring that we keep all the areas in school as clean as possible, I would like to remind you that we do not want children to eat snacks in the playground at the end of the school day; when this happens, we notice an increase in rubbish on the grounds and food waste that will attract vermin, including rats and pigeons. In addition, some children are upset, as they do not have snacks. So please refrain from allowing your children to eat their snacks in the playground, and to wait until they have left the school site.

Amazing work in school

Elsie has moved into Year 1 this term and was able to show her teachers, Mrs Seal and Mrs Whiterose how much she has remembered when working with numbers, all by herself! Well done Elsie, we are so proud of you.



I am very happy to share your children's success outside of school, send me the photos and the context and I will post them in the flyer.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Judy Hargreaves: Headteacher



Calendar Dates for Parents Autumn 2024



Date	Event	Time
20 th September 2024	Jeans for Genes Day – Non-Uniform	
22 nd September 2024 (Sunday)	Foundation Stage Picnic – All Foundation Stage parents invited to bring a picnic and a blanket!	12 noon until 1:30 pm
16 th September 2024	Year 1 Parents Reading and Phonics meeting	2:45 pm
17 th September 2024	Louis Taylor Roadshow	PM
18 th September 2024	Olympic Dance Workshop	All Day
23 rd September – 9 th December	Weekly Tours for New Parents begin	9:15am
24 th September – 10 th December	Weekly Tours for New Parents begin	9:15am
25 th & 26 th September 2024	Millers Ark Visit	All Day
1 st October 2024	Individual Photographs	All day
14 th October 2024	FS2 Parents Reading and Phonics meeting	2:45 pm
15 th and 17 th October 202	Year 2 trips to Lego Land	All day
21 st and 23 rd October 2024	Parent Consultations – Face to Face	3:30 till 6:30 pm
22 nd October 2024	Flu Immunisations	
28 th October 2024	Half Term	
11 th – 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week	
11 th November	Remembrance Day	
29 th November 2024	Christmas Fair	3.30 – 5.30pm
10 th December 2024	Beech Class Nativity – For Parents	2pm
11 th December 2024	Larch Nativity – For Parents	2pm
12 th December 2024	Oak Nativity – For Parents	2pm
18 th December 2024	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the children)	
18 th December 2024	Christmas Lunch	11.30 – 1pm
18 th December 2024	Y2 Singing Extravaganza – For Parents	2pm
20 th December 2024	Last Day of Term (Children finish 1 hour early)	

Further dates to be added. All Dates may be subject to change. Please continue to check the website calendar and the Friday Flyer.