



# Monday Mail 2022

Dear Walter Families,

Welcome back to school and to the start of World Book Week. Mrs Prickett held our first (for a very long time) Key Stage One assembly this morning to talk about our favourite books and book characters. This was followed by our first School Council meeting for this year!

## Cancelled Bake Sale

It was such a shame that Storm Eunice caused the schools in Wokingham to close (it's a good job we did as there was so much debris from our many trees and a huge tree fell at St Pauls along with many others in Wokingham). Sadly, it meant that there was not a Bake Sale; some parents had already been very busy baking, including Mrs Jacobs. Oscar was so keen to make sure the cakes were donated to a worthy cause, that he asked his mum to take him and the cakes to the Police Station where they were very happily received. Thank you for being such a wonderful representative of our school Oscar. Well done for being so kind.



## School Council Elections

The week before we broke up our focus was all about the value of Democracy (at an age-appropriate level) culminating in our big reveal in assembly of our new school council representatives!

In Key Stage 1, every child had one vote, so they had to think very carefully about how to use it. In Foundation Stage 2, every member of staff had one vote, they too had to think very carefully about the most suitable representative for their class.

This is how we help our children to learn about democracy:

- DEMOCRACY

We will help our children to:

- Understand that they can be part of some of the decisions made in school
- Know they have a voice and the right to be heard
- Elect members of the school council through a democratic process
- Debate and agree a code of conduct for their class

These 15 children are the successful candidates; Well done all of you.



The meeting we held was very successful, Mrs Prickett and I were so impressed by the children's contributions and opinions. This is what the children have come up with.

They do not like rough play, fighting or arguments at playtimes. I have already addressed these concerns with all staff members. The children need to feel safe at all times in school and rough play can quickly become dangerous. Please help us by discouraging rough play at home.

The children had some really good ideas:

- Yorkshire Puddings on Wednesday
- a visit from the Fire Brigade

- flowers to cheer people up
- a Book Club
- starting up the library again
- re-introducing Litter Pickers
- a Basketball Club
- a Rainbow Day (allowing us to think about a bright future)

They would like to help the school raise money for our new reading garden and more toys!

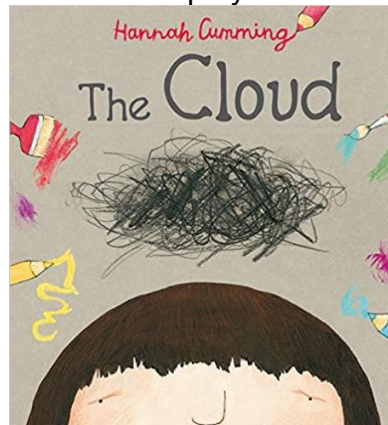
- Raising money for new toys for the classrooms
- Chocolate Tombola
- Rumble in the Jumble

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Hopefully you will all have received my very long email about returning to school after the changes made by the government last week. We had a wonderfully smooth return and we have very few cases of Covid 19 to report to Wokingham Borough Council. Thank you for continuing to follow our expectations and may I say how lovely it was to see all your faces this morning!

### The Cloud

As you know, we had our wonderful Children's Mental Health and Well-being week when the children were able to talk about emotions, learn strategies to manage different emotions and how to talk about their feelings. I am delighted to share with you some of the work that the children completed and the wonderful displays we have in school.

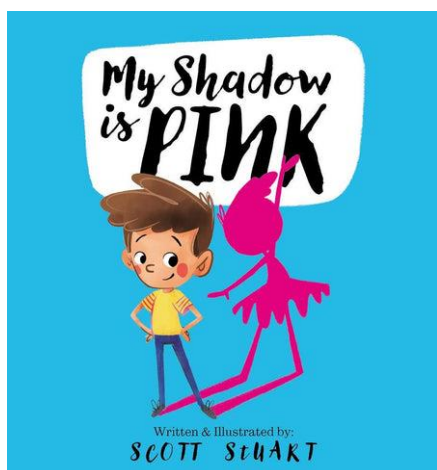


“Everyone has bad days, and children are no exception. When a black cloud descends on a little girl at school, support from a classmate with a great deal of imagination helps to brighten up everyone's lives. The atmospheric illustrations really tell the story in this delightful picture book.” Google Books



### World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March; our focus book for the week is “My Shadow is Pink” by Scott Stuart. The children can come to school as a fictional character from books or comics that they enjoy reading. Please do not feel any pressure to buy a costume from the supermarket or online unless you really want to. Homemade costumes or character pyjamas are great too. Every child will receive a voucher for £1 to spend at a local book shop. **You do not need to make a donation.**



My Shadow is Pink is a beautifully written rhyming story that touches on the subjects of gender identity, self-acceptance, equality and diversity. Inspired by the author's own little boy, 'Shadow's' main character likes princesses...

The whole school will be learning from this wonderful book all week. There have been so many wonderful activities planned for the children by their teachers, such as choosing the colour of their own shadows and drawing their shadows on the playground! I will of course share the children’s work in the Friday Flyer.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March** is Red Nose Day for Comic Relief, we are hoping to sell red noses from school; more information will follow soon BUT we are hoping to have a virtual talent show!

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022** will be our Spring Parent Consultations evening from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022** Chocolate Tombola run by the School Council at the end of the school day (finishing one hour early) ~ we will open for Walter Children first.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022** our school will be closed for lessons and open for Parent Consultations; 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. We will have a creche facility for children to attend when their parents are meeting with teachers.

### **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 provide 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 sessions, Canine Assisted learning etc.

If you are in receipt of one of 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/>

### **And Finally,**

Thank you so much for donating your unwanted items for Bags to School; we raised £49.60.

**Judy Wheeler: Headteacher**

# Walter Infant School



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2022-2023

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	World Book Day
<b>18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief
<b>4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Foundation Easter Hunt
<b>5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 1 Easter Hunt
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Year 2 Easter Hunt
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Spring Parent Consultations
<b>7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Funny Bunny Competition Chocolate Tombola
<b>7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	End of Term (finishing 1 hour early)
<b>8<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Spring Parent Consultations

Please note that these dates are subject to change.

There will be other exciting events that are not yet in the diary. We will let you know dates as soon as we can.