

Dear Walter Families,

We have had an amazing week this week; culminating in our Governor Day. Almost all our Governors were able to visit the school and they were so happy with everything they saw and heard. The children were so welcoming and polite and able to answer the Governors questions so eloquently. I felt incredibly proud of our school and all the people, big and little who were here to represent us. Well done to all of the children and the staff.

Remembrance Day

At 11 o'clock, we all fell silent for a minute to show respect for the soldiers in wars, past and present who have lost their limbs or lives to keep others safe. The children have been learning about Remembrance this week. The children in Year 2 had a Poppies and Poetry Workshop on Wednesday. Here are some of the activities available for exploration today in Foundation Stage.



Indian Dance Days

Our two Indian Dance days were fantastic; the children learned more about the story of Rama and Sita, and why divas are lit at night at Diwali. They learned very special Indian Dance moves and finally performed a dance illuminated by flashing lights. It was wonderful!



Autumn Festivals of Light

Here are further examples of the children's opportunities to learn about the world around them; all our children had an experience of a firework festival, whether attending a display, having them at home or seeing them from their window.



Odd Socks Day

Anti-Bullying Week begins on Monday 14th November 2022 ~ we would love the children to come to school in odd socks on Monday and all week if they would like to!



Anti-Bullying Presentation for Parents

There will be a presentation for parents on bullying behaviour and Anti-Bullying on Thursday 17th November at 2:30pm. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity for parents to ask questions about behaviour in our school and how we manage unwanted behaviour in school, such as name calling, rough play, excluding children from games etc.

The Christmas Fair is Coming!

It will be our Christmas Fair in three weeks; this is one of our biggest fund-raising events and we are hoping to use the money raised to buy more equipment for outside play. Unfortunately, there has been a booking error and now St Paul's have booked to have their fair at the same time, which could be great or could be difficult! (we originally booked ours to happen before theirs!) Hopefully all will be great!

From Monday we will be sending home raffle tickets; the tickets are £1 each and each child will bring home 9. There is no obligation to buy all 9 (or any) but there are also plenty more if you need more than 9. The prizes are absolutely amazing this year! We have a £50 voucher for the Casa Italian Restaurant! Hair Salon Vouchers, a Florist Voucher, Christmas Hampers, Bird World Tickets, Golf Lessons and so much more! Please buy as many tickets as you can afford.

The children will also bring home letters for Father Christmas; they can complete the letter to ask Father Christmas for something special for Christmas. The letters can be posted in the post box and Father Christmas will write back and send a chocolate treat too! It costs £3 postage to the North Pole (and the return post) and makes so much money for the children of Walter Infant School and Nursery. Please take part if you can.



We will have so many exciting stalls, 3 Tombola stalls, the raffle, cakes (run by the PTA), a lucky dip, a Christmas book stall, some Christmas games to play, guess the name of the toy, how many sweets in the jar, too many to mention!

Please could you donate: Good Quality Christmas Jumpers (age 3 to 8 years old) and soft toys and teddies in excellent condition, who need a new home!



On Friday 25th November the children can come in their own clothes in return for a donation to the Christmas Fair; we would like: Foundation Children to donate Christmas Chocolate



(Not just Cadbury though)

Year 1 to donate Candles and Reed Diffusers



Year 2 to donate a bottle (of anything nice)



Christmas Boxes for Children at Walter

From Lea-Ann Reid

As with previous years we'd like to run an initiative to provide some families at the school with a Christmas gift for their child and some Christmas festive goodies. If you would like to participate to help make this happen, please can you email;

Walterxmas22@outlook.com

Once we have a list of people who'd like to help, we'll liaise with the school regarding the gift in terms of age range and gender. This will then be communicated out to those on the list.

Drop off date for the Xmas boxes is likely to be early December.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give, it's very much appreciated in these difficult times.

Lost Property Box

By the entrance to Beech Classroom we have a lost property box; it is FULL! There are new winter coats, trainers, shoes, gloves, hats, bags, toys. Please check it if you child has lost anything that is not named. Thank you

Face Painter

Is anyone a Face Painter! We would like to book a face painter to paint Christmas Symbols on the children's faces (not whole faces) at our Christmas Fair. Sadly, we have missed out on the painter we were hoping to book! Perhaps you have used a face painter who was brilliant at another event. We are hoping to have a booking system to avoid queues!



Please let me know if you can help!

Head Lice are back in School!



Head lice spread very quickly between young children as they play so closely together. Some of you will never have come across headlice before as your children have started school for the first time. The eggs (nits) of the lice stick themselves to the hair shaft close to the head:



They are not as easy to see in fair hair. They hatch very quickly:



They are parasites, piercing the skin and feeding off your child's blood. They are very itchy and unpleasant and can quickly become infected if your child scratches the bites.

There are many different ways to treat headlice: visit <u>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/</u>

Please do not send your child to school with headlice or nits with treatment. If we see headlice on your child we will contact you, request that you collect your child, treat them and then bring them back to school. We do recognise that this is not always possible; especially for working parents a distance away. Wet combing with conditioner is one of the cheapest and most effective ways. Once a head louse has been broken it immediately dies.

Upcoming Events

We have so much planned in for the next few weeks; the term is going to be so exciting and so much learning will be taking place.

- **Monday 14th November** is the first day of Anti-Bullying week; we would like to encourage the children to wear odd socks every day for a week!
- On Friday 18th November it is Children in Need: the theme for this year is **Spotacular!** We are hoping that all the children will wear something spotty; but please do not buy anything special as we will be getting lots of dots and sticky spots so the children can come in colourful clothes if they have a spot free wardrobe of clothes!



1. Wear something spotty

You could go all out by donning a SPOTacular three-piece suit, or you could go for a more subtle approach by wearing some SPOTacular socks.

However you're fundraising, look the part by wearing something spotty. We love spots.

Look SPOTacular to raise funds - BBC Children in Need



- Monday 21st November ~ Yay! The reindeer are visiting for the day (one of my favourite days of the year!) All the children will see the reindeer and parents can meet them too at the end of the day with younger siblings before pick up.
- 24th November 2022 We will have a Drama4all Workshop ~ more information to follow.
- 25th November 2022 Non-Uniform Day for Tombola Donations
- Our Christmas Fair is on Friday 2nd December from 3:20 ~ 5:30 pm. Lots more in formation will follow soon.
- Nativity Plays for Year 1: Larch Class @ 2:20 pm 6th December 2022 Oak Class @ 2:20 pm 7th December 2022 Beech Class @ 2:20 pm 8th December 2022
- Friday 9th December ~ Christmas Jumper Day (the children can come to school in festive clothing and make a £1 donation to Save the Children)
- Wednesday 14th December ~ Christmas School Lunch (information will follow)
- Thursday 15th December ~ Christmas Parties for ALL classes
- Friday 16th December ~ I Rock Concert in the afternoon ~ information will go directly to the parents of the children taking part
- Tuesday 20th December ~ Last Day of Term! (Finishing 1 hour early).

Star of the Week

10 wonderful shiny stars! All these stars have worked so hard this week and we are all extremely proud of their resilient attitudes.





The Cost of Living Crisis

As we all begin to navigate the Cost of Living Crisis I thought I would share with you some research I have done about the support that could be available for all households from the Government:



If you follow the link at the top you may be able to find additional support for your families.

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 sessions, 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/

Please contact me if you need to on <u>head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes Judy Wheeler: Headteacher