



Walter Infant School and Nursery

Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

This week we have been celebrating Festivals of Light: the children have been learning about the history of Bonfire Night and why we remember it and Remi and Ruby produced the most beautiful firework pictures, earning themselves a headteacher's award!



Well done both of you, you are such talented artists!

We have also been learning so much about Diwali; Adaya and Charan shared so much knowledge and understanding about their own experiences of Diwali with their classes, and they were both rewarded with a star of the week certificate, for not only

being so kind by sharing their experiences, but also for always being respectful in school.



We have also been able to learn in different ways about the festivals taking place in our community; here are some examples of how we can bring the world to life for our children





Vacancies

We have three upcoming or already advertised vacancies within our school; we are currently advertising and receiving applications for a lunchtime controller, if you are interested, please speak to Mrs Hemmings or Mrs Janes in the office, as we have extended our application process a little bit.

Clerk to the Governors

It is with regret that I have to announce that our amazing Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Joanna Robertson (who joined the school team on the same day as me, 1st September 2015), is moving on to pastures new in 2025. Being a clerk is very much an administrative role, and involves working in the evenings, not too often, when most children have gone to bed. There is a requirement to be able to organise meeting agendas, record minutes and to share information via emails, but if you are experienced in administration and computer literate, it is an opportunity to work without requiring child care, to support our school and to make a difference to our children's lives. We will be advertising this role in the next couple of weeks, so please look out for the advert.

Breakfast Club Lead

Mrs Prickett (our retired Deputy Head), has been running our Rise and Shine Club since retiring in 2022. We will miss her so much, but she has many exciting plans for the future, including, as many of you know, becoming a grandmother for the first time. We wish her every happiness in the future, as I am sure you all do too. This means that we will be recruiting for a Breakfast Club Lead, the role does not need to be filled by an educator, but by someone who likes an early start to the day and likes

the company of children. Our Breakfast Club, Rise and Shine, is extremely successful and we are planning to extend our provision as it is so popular. It is calm, fun filled and a wonderful place to start the day. We are looking for someone who will be able to work from 7:15 am until 8:45 am in the morning, providing fun activities for the children to enjoy in a relaxed and calm environment. There is no food preparation as the children bring their own snacks, but eating is supervised by our amazing, existing team. Mrs Ullah, Mrs Hemmings and Mr Fennell are part of our team, so the successful applicant would be joining an established and happy group of people. All of our children behave exceptionally well, and lots of fun is had by all. Our club is well-resourced and we are always open to new ideas.

If you have children of your own, they will be able to attend the club, free of charge. If they attend St. Paul's, Mrs Wynne will be able to take them to school on time each day. Please look out for the advert, or feel free to express your interest to the school office. The job will begin in the new year and there will be many opportunities to visit and see our club in action.

Our Fantastic Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair will take place on Friday 29th November from 3:30 pm. We think it will be better than ever **BECAUSE** Father Christmas is actually able to attend! This has never happened before BUT, he knows that the children at Walter Infant School and Nursery are amazing and he can't wait to come and visit us. We will have a pre-booking system and we know it will book up very quickly and there will only be a limited number of spaces. Siblings will be able to see him together, we will be sending out information for how to book next week. The children will be able to meet Father Christmas, will receive a gift and we will take photographs, which will be printed and given to the children in the following week. You will of course be able to take photographs of your own children during the meeting too. We will also be operating our **ELF mail** letters to Father Christmas, so that all our children will have the opportunity to write directly to Father Christmas, and we know he will reply to each child individually. WATCH THIS SPACE!

We will also be operating a booking system for **face painting**; this will reduce the need to queue as we will be extending the painting slots to eight minutes. The children will be able to choose a Christmas motif from a selection of festive favourites and you will be able to meet with our face painters at your time slot, rather than having to stand in line. You will be able to book online and the information will be sent early next week.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Next week we will be sending home raffle tickets; you have already received information about the amazing prizes we have to be won. Please sell as many tickets to your families and friends as you can, because every penny will be spent on our/your children to enhance their experiences in school every day. If you are able to donate a prize to the raffle we would be very grateful to receive it.

Reindeer in School

One of our best days ever, each year is when the reindeer come to school! This amazing visit is fully funded by the school and our incredible PTA. Our Year One children have a topic about Reindeer, and always write the most incredible fact files about everything they have learnt, and all our children will have the opportunity to meet the reindeer in school. The reindeer will be in school on Monday 25th November.

A Drone came to View the New Roof

Mrs Janes was able to request photographs from the recent drone visit to school; I think our school looks wonderful, and so big! We are also delighted to announce the completion of our new roof; our school is now fifty years old and we have been working hard with Wokingham Borough Council to ensure that it is in good condition. This roof project began in 2016, not long after I joined the school, and I am delighted that we now have a leak free building! Thank you so much WBC!





Food Waste Assembly

We had a truly wonderful assembly in school on Thursday, presented by one of our parents, Ms Crick; not only did the children learn so much, but so did all of the adults in school! The children were completely engaged and the questions they asked at the end were incredible. Braydon asked how was the food waste turned into electricity!!!! That was the question I wanted to ask! I am certainly going to think so much more about the food I waste!!!!

An infographic on a yellow background. At the top left, the text '28x' is written in large blue letters. Next to it is a cartoon illustration of the Earth with a sad face and a measuring tape wrapped around it. Below this, the text '20 MILLION SLICES OF BREAD A DAY' is written in bold blue letters. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text.

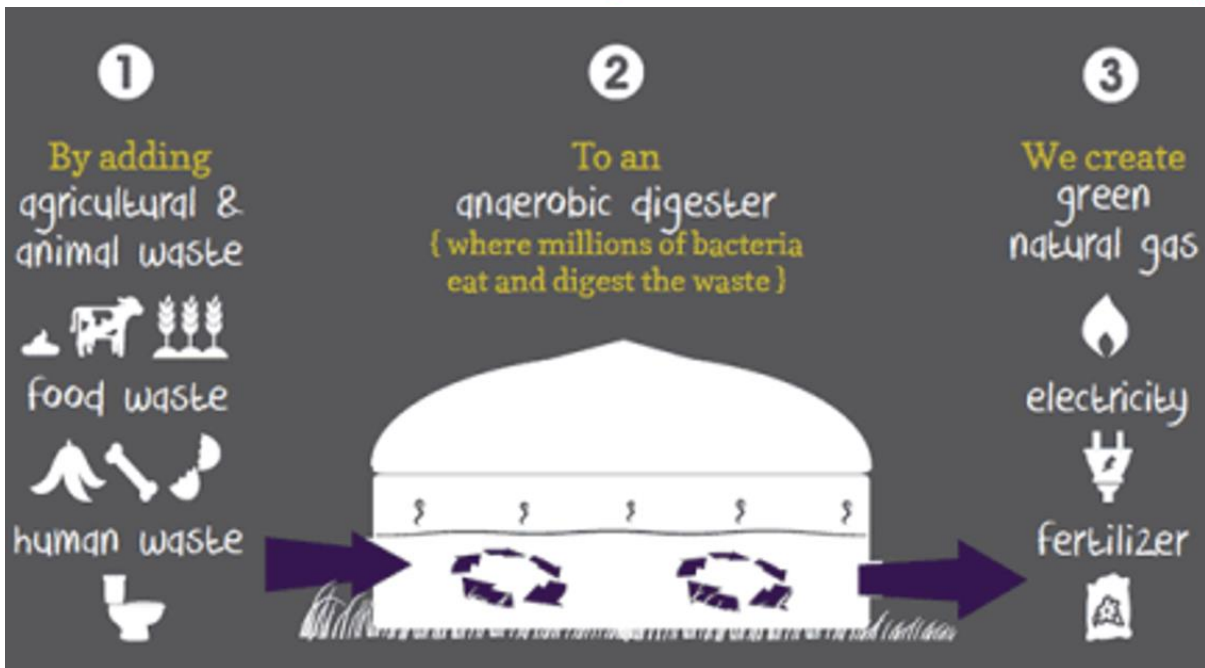
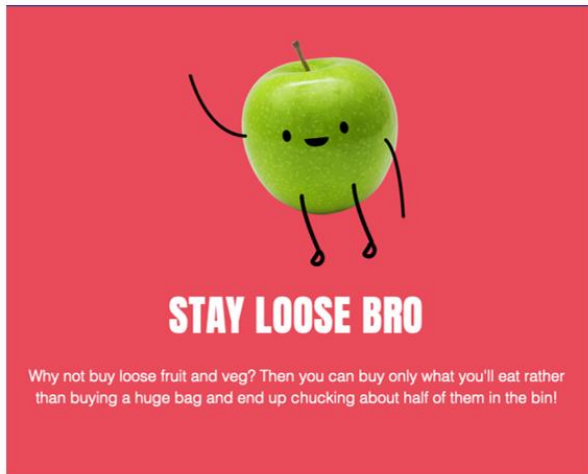
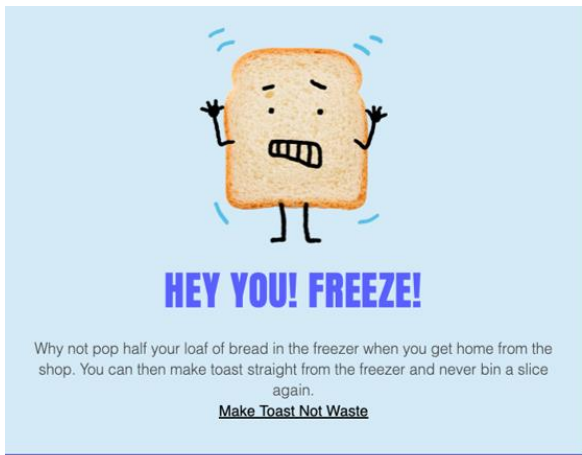
Everyday the equivalent of 20 million slices of bread are thrown away in UK homes. This could have fed breakfast to 10 million people. And, a year's worth of wasted bread slices, laid end-to-end, could circle the Earth from pole-to-pole 28 times!³

An infographic on a blue background. At the top left, there is a cartoon illustration of a milk carton with a sad face and a pink sign that says 'OMG'. To the right is a cartoon illustration of a cow's head with a sad face. Below this, the text '3 MILLION GLASSES OF MILK A DAY' is written in bold yellow letters. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text.

Around 3 million glasses of milk are chucked away in the UK each day. This means that, every year, 36,500 cows are producing milk that is going down the drain.⁴

An infographic on a red background. At the top, there are cartoon illustrations of a carrot, a lemon, a green apple, and a slice of pizza. Below these is a cartoon illustration of a trash bin with a sad face and a slice of bread inside. Below this, the text '£720 A YEAR SAVED' is written in bold white letters. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text.

An average British family can save £720 a year if they stopped throwing their food in the bin. This could go towards a super fun holiday or 32 family trips to the cinema.⁵



We are so grateful to Ms Crick for coming in to share all of this new information with us and we will continue to support in every way we can to reduce food waste. If your children came home and talked to you about this assembly, we would love to hear from you as we can share those comments with Ms Crick.

Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day

All next week we will be focusing on Anti-Bullying: On Tuesday we would love it if the children could come to school in odd socks! Our children will be learning about bullying behaviour all week and how to recognise bullying behaviour and how to respond, if they feel that they are experiencing bullying behaviour or if they think that someone else is experiencing bullying behaviour in our school. All teaching staff have completed training, as we do each year through the Anti-Bullying Alliance, and we will not tolerate any bullying behaviour in our school. Our focus will be as always, that we are all different, hence the odd socks, and all equally important. A reminder will be sent out on Monday.

Remembrance Day

On Monday, the 11th Day of the 11th Month, at 11 o'clock, we will be acknowledging a minute of silence in every class in respect of the soldiers that have died or been injured during war to protect the future for everyone. You will still be able to buy poppies from school on Monday morning.

Children in Need

We would like to invite all our children to come to school on Friday 15th November in spots! I will surprisingly be wearing leopard print, as I am sure will most of my team! Please do not buy something new unless you would like to support the charity directly, but anything spotty will be great! More information will follow on Monday!

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/children-in-need/what-we-do/>



Fund-Raisin

Thank you so much for filling up your raisin boxes with money; this has been a great way to raise some more money for our school. As you know, we rely on your amazing generosity to enable us to really enhance our children's experiences at school. It is also very important for our children to feel valued each and every day and one of the ways we can do this is to ensure that the resources we have in school show how much we care. Our children love to play, and playing is fundamental to all our children's well-being. We will be using all the money we raise this year to enhance our play provision, so that everyday at Walter can be a good day!

Hot School Dinners for our Robins!

I am so delighted to share with you some photographs of our Robin Children having hot dinners in school; the hot dinners began on Monday with cottage pie, which Mr Fennell and Mr Herlihey said was delicious. Some of our children in Robin and in other year groups, had never had cottage pie before, but our Robins polished it off and we had lots of clean plates. I also know that apple crumble went down very well with the children and the adults. Our catering team have had three important visitors into school this week, including a catering audit and everything was assessed very positively indeed. REMEMBER: during your children's time at Walter, from

Foundation 2 until the end of Year 2, school lunches are provided free of charge. That will not be the case when they move to Year 3, so take advantage of the opportunity for your child to have a hot lunch, which is healthy and delicious, that they are entitled to. If you would like more information about the hot lunches, please do not hesitate to ask. We are able to meet all dietary requirements for your children.



Walter's Pantry

Thank you so much for donating so many items for our Harvest Festival; the Food Bank came to collect all of the provisions you generously gave and were extremely grateful. We have also been able to restock our own Pantry at school. Our Pantry is open every day, parents can come in at any time, we provide a bag for life, which can be filled with breakfast products and all the ingredients needed to provide a home cooked, stove top meal. We also have nappies, baby wipes, tooth paste and

tooth brushes, as well as snacks and sometimes sweet treats. Our pantry is usually stocked by donations from our staff, but we will always very happily receive donations from parents, carers and neighbours. It is sad, but also true, that many of our families rely on the pantry to ensure their children are fed and clean. We will continue to do all we can to support our families at their time of need.

PE Sessions in School in School with Jack Dillon and his Amazing Team

As you all know, Jack Dillon, and his talented team of sports coaches, provide a wonderful PE lesson for all our children in every year group each week; I am lucky enough to hear what goes on when the lessons take place in the hall, or to see what goes on outside through my office window. I know that the children love their PE lessons. This week, I had to leave a meeting because the children in Foundation were having so much fun, I had to see what they were doing. This Photo doesn't do the session justice. BUT, they were so active and Jack is actually SO Funny! He is an inspiration and makes the children's sessions with him so memorable and exciting.



Stars of the Week

Here are our amazing stars of the week, they were awarded their certificates this week because they have demonstrated the value of respect. Sadly, two of the stars were unwell and not in school today, we clapped very loudly for them, just in case they could hear us. Well done too, to Issy and Leo.



Wow! Look at these amazing Hockey Players

William B, Archie, Ava C, William C and Oliver played for South Berkshire Hockey Club in the Thames Valley Hockey tournament last weekend. They showed fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship and won all their matches.

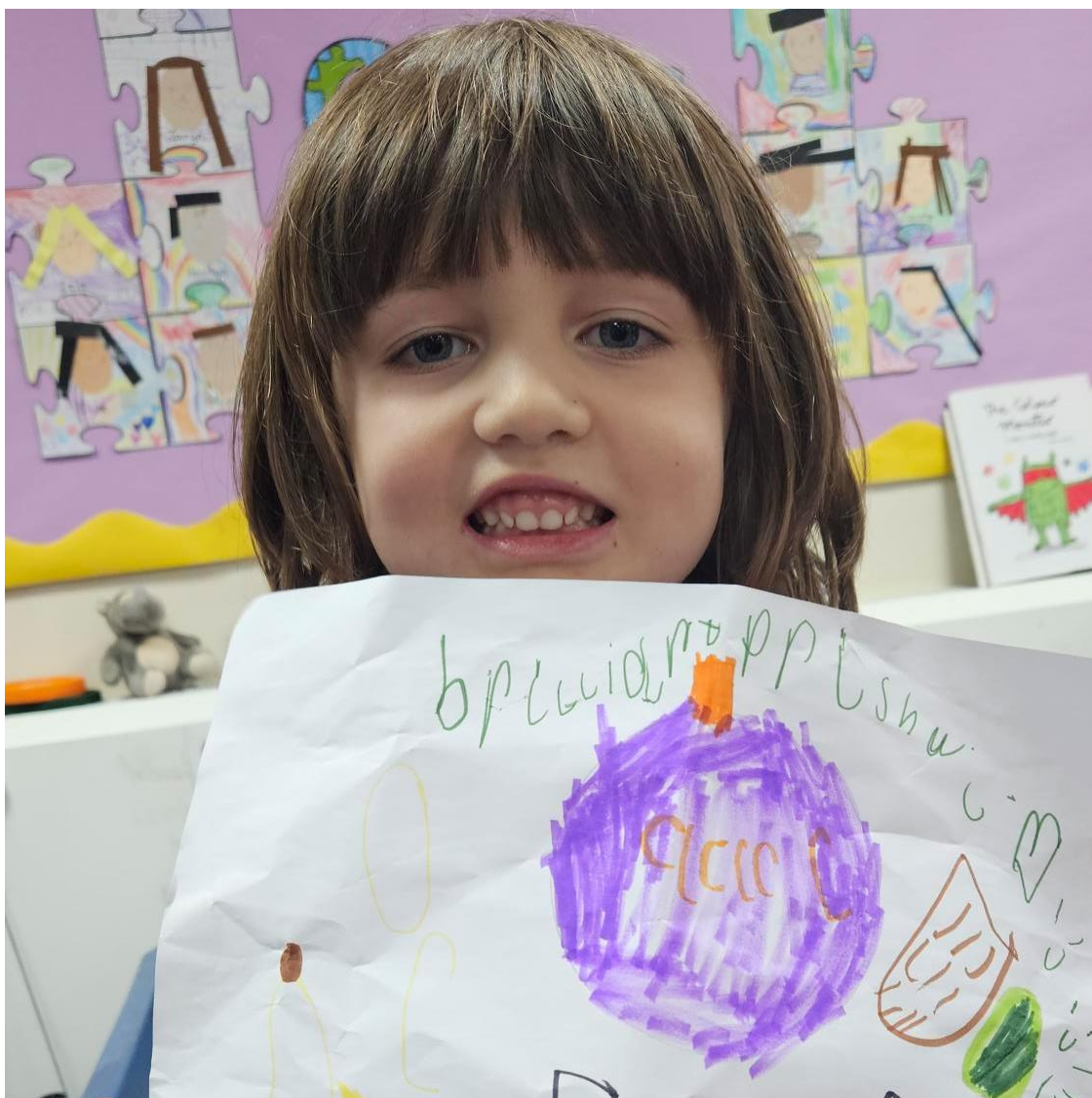


What an amazing achievement! Well done.

Please remember that we love to share achievements of our children outside of school too.

Last week in school, we had a huge focus on fruit and vegetables, as we had spent a lot of time learning our harvest songs, which you were able to view via our Facebook page, which I am delighted to say has more members than ever. Please join.

We had learned in Cauliflowers Fluffy, which I am sure many of you sang at school, that onions are white! But, not all onions are white, and Walter wanted to share his amazing drawing of a red onion, that he had worked so hard to reproduce at home. I think you will agree that he has shown exceptional resilience.



Well done Walter, and thanking for sharing your learning from home.

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 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 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/>

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
11 th – 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week	
12 th November 2024	ODD SOCKS DAY!	
11 th November	Remembrance Day	
22 nd November	Non-uniform day in return for Christmas Fair donations	
25 th November	Reindeer visit	All Day
29 th November 2024	Christmas Fair	3.30 – 5.30pm
6 th December 2024	iRock Concert	2.30pm
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
13 th December 2024	Foundation Stage Christmas Singing	9am
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.