

Walter Infant School and Nursery

Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

We had our final tours for prospective new families this week and were delighted when all of them decided that Walter was the school for them! We are hopeful that our numbers will be high enough for us to remain as the BIG School we are, and that we will continue to be able to offer outstanding education for as many Wokingham families as we can.

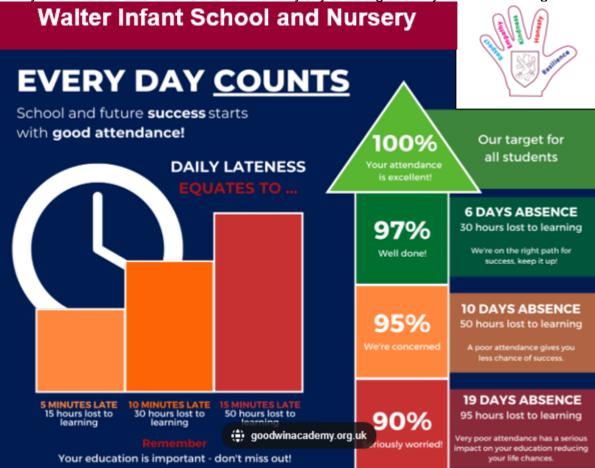
New Equipment

I am extremely excited as we have just taken delivery of lots and lots of new toys for outside play for Foundation Stage and Key Stage One; we have used some of the money made at the Christmas Fair and donated by the PTA. We will be opening the boxes next week and there will be lots of surprises! We now have Boules, Picnic Sets, Binoculars and so much more.



Attendance

Some families will have received letters about attendance this week; we were visited by our Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) and agreed that we would send attendance letters to the families who have children who have attended school for less than 90% of the school terms. We recognise that some children have been ill, which is very unfortunate. If a child has attendance below 90% they are classified as a persistent absentee and flagged up by the system we use to record attendance. There is a recognised correlation between attendance and attainment; please ensure that you children can come to school everyday as long as they are well enough.



Lunar New Year

The children have been learning all about the Lunar (Spring) New Year this week and now know that 2025 will be the year of the snake!





Speak Out, Stay Safe

We are signed up to work with the NSPCC and all the families with children in Key Stage One have been sent an email including vital information. If your child is already 7 years old, there is a survey that they can take part in at school. There is a consent form for parents and carers to sign if you would like your child to take part. If you do not have printing facilities please let the admin team know on admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk



The assembly will take place on Monday 10th February, led by me and Mr Lee. The lesson will take place on Tuesday 11th February and the workshops, for Year 2 only, will take place on Wednesday 12th February.

Maths Week at Walter

We will be having maths week at Walter starting on Monday 3rd February; the children will be linking their maths to their learning across the curriculum; culminating in Number Day on Friday 6th February, when the children and adults are invited to come into school in clothes celebrating numbers! This could be a football shirt, a hat, a decorated t-shirt or sweatshirt; it could be one item or a whole outfit! They do not need to wear school uniform on this day. Remember patterns are mathematical so shapes and stripes are good too.



Here are some ideas from last year!



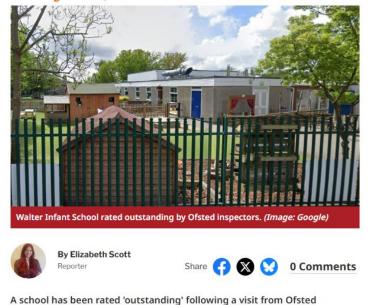
We will not be collecting money, but raising awareness, you can donate on the NSPCC website if you would like to.

Television and Newspaper Articles

We have been speaking with a number of journalists and television producers as a result of our wonderful OFSTED! I will let you know of any articles or news bulletins as soon as I know. This article appeared in the Bracknell News last week!

Walter Infant School rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted

18th January



inspectors.

Walter Infant School and Nursery in Murray Road, Wokingham, was given the rating following the recent inspection. The school provides education for young children, including a nursery, and has a significant number of pupils and staff. Inspectors found that 'pupils find this school inspirational' and that 'pupils find learning irresistible.' They also noted that 'reading is taught excellently' and that 'staff are proud to be part of this school.'

The report highlighted the support provided by the staff, stating that 'pupils are supported by expert staff.'

The inspectors also mentioned that 'pupils delight in remembering experiences.'

The school had not been inspected since 2013, and this was the first inspection for the current headteacher and deputy headteacher.

The school expressed their delight at the outcome of the inspection and invited people to visit the school to see the staff and pupils in action.

They also extended an invitation to meet Walter, the school dog, who received a personal mention in the Ofsted report. The school said: "We found our experience of Ofsted to be very positive since the adaptations made to the process and of course we are delighted with the outcomes, as we had not been inspected since 2013 and Stephanie and I had not been inspected as head or deputy before."

The full report can be found on the school's website. The school is now looking forward to continuing their work and maintaining their high standards.

UK's Best School Dog Competition

We have entered Walter into the UK's Best School Dog Competition; I am hopeful that he will win as he does an amazing job each day. Whilst chatting with an exparent on the gate, I mentioned the competition and she said that Walter makes everyone that walks pass the school smile! And he does!



WOKINGHAM EARLY YEAR'S STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT – PARENT SURVEY

As a local area, Wokingham is developing an early years strategy. This will be created in partnership with our health services, childcare settings, early years professionals and with our parents and carers. This will ensure that we are focusing on the right areas that will improve outcomes for early years children and families in Wokingham. <u>We need your help</u> to promote the survey to parents in Wokingham. Whether their children are currently 0-5 or older, we want to hear their experiences

of navigating early years in Wokingham!Equally, if YOU are a parent and you live in Wokingham, please complete the survey. The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.The survey can be accessed via this

link: <u>https://forms.office.com/e/1gN2Y2jBE5</u> Or the QR code. Survey deadline is: **11pm Friday 21st February 2025**.



Bike Maintenance Course

Want to learn to look after your bike? You can now book a place on one of our basic Bike Maintenance Courses (Adults only) at the following venues:

- 8 February Emmanuel Church Hall, Woodley
- 1 March St Paul's Parish Hall, Wokingham
- 8 March Pinewood Scout Hut, Wokingham Without
- 22 March Winnersh Community Centre, Winnersh

The course costs £11 and will cover the following topics:

• How to check your bike

- How to change an inner tube if you get a puncture
- How to adjust your brakes
- How to clean and oil your bike

You can also get general maintenance advice from our instructor. Please bring your own bike and an inner tube.



Scooter training in School

Thank you to the parents that have booked the Year 1 Scooter Training. There are still places available, if you would like your child to attend, please book by Friday 24th January using the link below.

http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/walter-infant-school

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 <u>https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-information-and-services/free-school-meals-and-the-pupil-premium/</u>

Children who receive Pupil Premium Funding in school can attend an after school or morning club (excluding Junior Adventures), 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.

Stamps to School for RNIB

Mrs Clements is collecting used stamps for the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB).

We want your stamps!



On behalf of the RNIB, we would love to collect your stamps and raise money to support blind and partially sighted people. For every kilogramme of stamps received, the RNIB will raise £20.

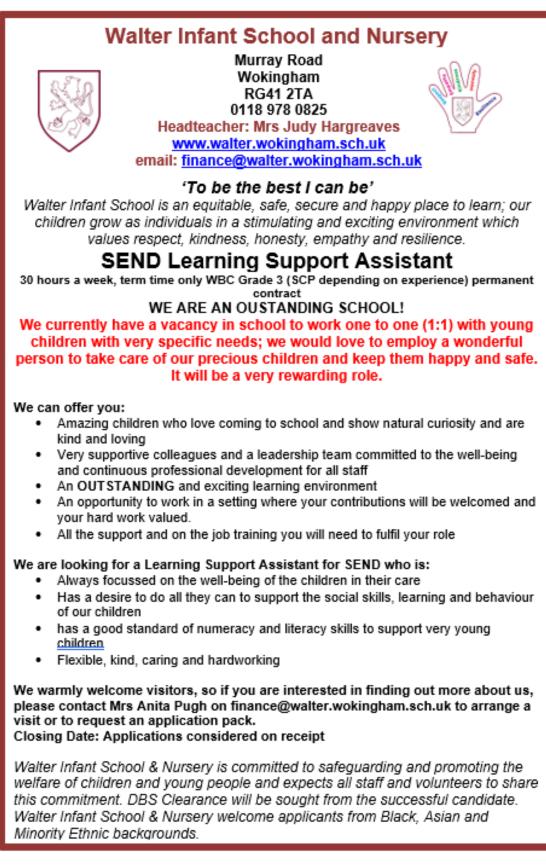
We would love you to save the stamps from envelopes you receive in the post and drop them off at the box in the school office. When saving your stamps, trim carefully around them, leaving approximately **one centimetre** of paper around the edge.

RNIB will accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. Please don't save large gold Post Office labels or pre-printed postage marks as these have no value to RNIB.

Follow the link for further details about RNIB and their stamp collection:

https://www.rnib.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/do-your-ownfundraising/save-your-stamps-forrnib//?utm_source=google&utm_medium=paid_search&utm_campaign=stam ps_appeal_2024&gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIxbuS9NqxigMVnphQBh3 _HhJOEAAYASAAEgINFPD_BwE

Vacancies in School SEND Learning Support Assistant



Rise Shine Assistant



Songs for this term

We will be learning some new songs this term; as we begin practising I will share the links so you can sing along with your children at home and help them to learn the words and the tune. This week we have begun learning "I am the One and Only" by Chesney Hawkes: <u>I am the one and only lyrics</u> the children have picked it up so quickly and they are amazing on their air guitars!!!

And finally,

Wrap up warm, the forecast is cold and please remember to send your children in to school with coats, hats, scarves and gloves. If you would like to share any news, please contact me on...

admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

Have a nice weekend.

Judy Hargreaves Headteacher

Dates for your Diary



Calendar Dates for Parents Spring 2025

Date	Event	Time
Friday 31 st January 2025	NSPCC Virtual Assembly	
Friday 31 st January 2025	Oak Class – Local Area Walk	9.15 – 10.30am
W/C 3 rd February 2025	Maths Week in School in the mornings Mental Health Week in the afternoons	
3 rd /4 th & 5 th February 2025	HSBC Maths Workshops	
Thursday 6 th February 2025	Sycamore Class Assembly	2.45pm
Friday 7 th February 2025	NSPCC Number Day	
Friday 7 th February 2025	Beech Class – Local Area Walk	9.15 – 10.30am
Thursday 13 th February 2025	Pine Class Assembly	2.45pm
Friday 14 th February 2025	Last day of Half Term	
W/C 17th February 2025	School Closed - February Half Term	
Monday 24 th February 2025	Start of Spring Term 2	

Tuesday 25 th February	Drama4All Workshop Day	
2025		
W/C Monday 3 rd March	Book Fair (Books available to buy at the end	
2025	of the school day)	
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day (Pyjama Day/Children	
2025	invited to bring in their favourite bedtime	
	book)	
Thursday 6 th March	Willow Class Assembly	2.45pm
2025		
Friday 7 th March 2025	Governor Morning	
W/C 10 th March 2025	Science Week	
Tuesday 11 th March	Y1 Scooter Training	
2025		
Tuesday 18 th March	Class Photographs	
2025		
Friday 21 st March 2025	Red Nose Day: Homelessness	
Wednesday 26 th March	Parent Consultations	3.30pm –
2025		6.30pm
Thursday 27 th March	School Council – Chocolate Tombola	3.25pm
2025		
Friday 28 th March 2025	INSET – School Closed to children	
Friday 28 th March	Parent Consultations	9.00am –
		1pm
Friday 4 th April	Last Day of Term (Finish 1 hour early)	-
Friday 4 th April	PTA Easter Bunny & Easter Cake Sale	2.15pm

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