



Friday Flyer!

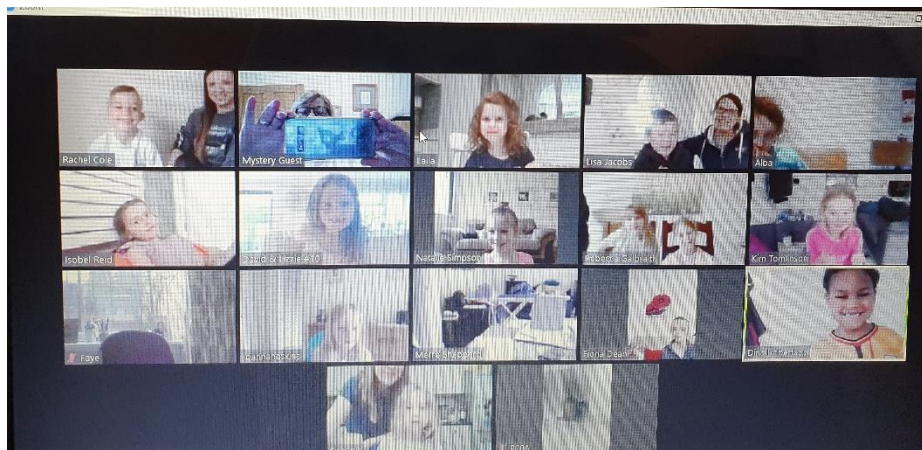
Dear Walter Families,

Hello everyone; I have been working from home this week and Mrs Prickett has been leading our wonderful team in school; however, I had to come to school as a very special delivery had arrived which was a wonderful surprise and very much appreciated – thank you so much 😊 The plants have really ‘cheered up’ reception area and the staffroom and I have taken the beautiful hydrangeas home to look after until we are all back in school together; they are stunning. So, of course, I could not resist catching up with some of your special friends in school!



BINGO!

My day started brilliantly as I was invited to join a Zoom Bingo game with Larch Class; they all knew their numbers up to 90 which was amazing, and I loved seeing all their faces. Well done Molly and Frasier!



I would be happy to do the same with other classes, so please do get in touch.

What has been happening at school?

Mrs Bennette and Mrs Prickett sent me some photographs of some of the work the children have been doing; you can see that have all been making hats like Keith's! If you have made a hat, I would love to see it!



Key Worker School

This week has been filled with mathematics activities; shape hunts, capacity experiments and problem solving with ice cream flavours!



You will see that most of these activities are very practical, rather messy, but good fun.

If you are a key or critical worker, please remember that we do have the capacity to care for more children of key or critical workers so please contact our administration team on: admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

Home Schooling

We have placed lots more resources for each year group on the website for Mathematics and English; these have been planned by your children's teachers with home schooling in mind, they should be really good fun and easy to teach. There are also many more stories and activities to keep everyone busy and interested but.....

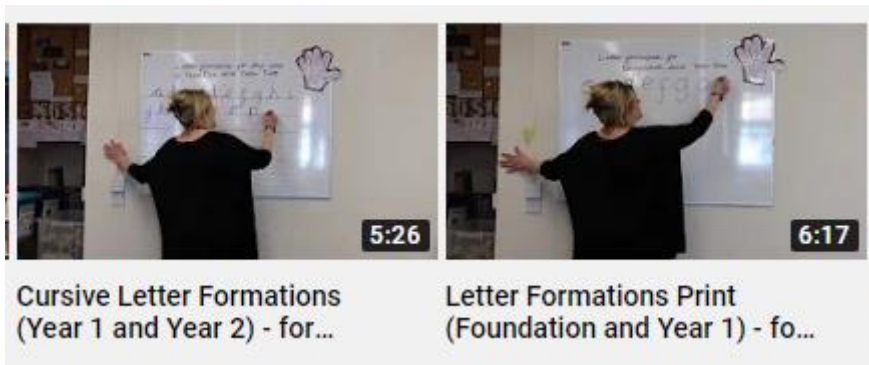
I am very aware that home schooling is anything but easy; it has been reported that 20% of families are not engaging in home schooling, and do you know what, that is okay. It can cause huge amounts of stress, parent and teacher roles have been blurred and as many adults know, working at home is very different from being in the workplace, and likewise classroom.

School is not just about reading, writing and arithmetic; I have just completed a report for our school governors on the attainment of your children since the school year began and I am delighted to report that each and everyone of your children has made good or better progress since September. All our staff are well-prepared to ensure that your children will receive all the experiences they need to close any gaps that may appear and to re-teach key concepts and strategies when the time comes.

When your children are at school they learn many new skills in a variety of different ways: they learn to

- Draw, cut, colour, paint, join different materials together by making collages or junk modelling
- Construct using Lego, Duplo, K'nex, Stickle Bricks, building blocks and bricks; building tall towers, ramps, farms, zoos, play parks etc
- Climb, run, hop, skip, catch and throw, balance, roll, play games such as football, tennis, cricket
- Measure capacity with buckets and jugs, sand and water
- Weigh things and balance objects
- Listen to stories, make up stories and plays or puppet shows
- Make their own music using body percussion, clapping, tapping, clicking, stamping, we make instruments with containers, rice, boxes and elastic bands
- Solve problems: how many small bricks will fill this box, will this one hold more or less?
- Use a computer programme (visit Education City or Purple Mash)
- Identify animals and their babies
- Plan healthy meals and sort food into different categories
- Bake cakes, design sandwiches, make milk shakes or smoothies
- Sew making glove puppets or clothing for toys
- Look at different plants and try to identify them, comparing the shapes of different leaves
- Make repeating patterns using beads or blocks or felt tip pens
- Play board games and jigsaw puzzles
- And sometimes we watch tv clips and videos to help us learn new things

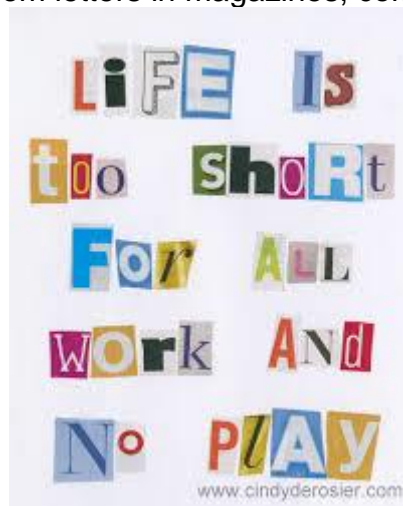
On our website there is a guide to handwriting, helping to learn how to form the letters correctly, this will be fun for adults and children alike; writing words they have learned from their phonics on Phonics Play.



You could practise writing in bubble writing, or rainbow writing



Or you could make words from letters in magazines, comics or the newspaper!



If your child does not feel like reading to you, perhaps they would like to read to this motley crew! These are the toys that live in my house; I will post this picture under the home learning tab for you to place on your tablet or lap top screen.



Or maybe they could read over face time to a friend or relative.

A message for all our children about Colonel Toby Walter

This is Colonel Toby Walter; he is a good friend of Colonel Tom although he is not quite as old. Many of Colonel Walter's friends have been terribly busy helping lots of people during this very strange time and Colonel Walter wondered if he could help you?



If you would like Colonel Walter to see what you have been up to, perhaps you could show him some of your home school work, or a picture or model, or perhaps you would like to ask him a question or tell him something that is bothering you; you can email him on this address: head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk He is in the process of getting his own email address but I have said he is more than welcome to share mine. He says he will always reply and that he cannot wait to hear from you. If you send a photograph of what you have been doing; we will be able to post it on our website in the home learning gallery to share with your friends. You could even send a message to your friends and Colonel Walter will make sure they get to see it. He is really looking forward to hearing from you.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

We have had a few hiccups this week in registering for the government vouchers for PPG children and Free School Meal children; Mrs Janes was eventually able to sort out the problem and we hope everything is in order for next week. If you are experiencing any kind of hardship preventing you from buying food or hygiene products, including nappies, please do not hesitate in contacting us. You do not have to be pupil premium families to receive support from the Foodbank or school.

Well-being

Good mental health and well-being is as important as good physical health; if you are struggling to maintain good mental health; please visit our Well-being page on the Home Learning tab on the website. We have Mental Health First Aiders at school; if you need help in finding support, please do not hesitate to contact us on head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

You could also visit the NHS website on https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/?WT.tsrc=Search&WT.mc_id=MentalHealthGeneric&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIjoDhtpWT6QIVQe7tCh0mfwW_EAAYA

Tesco Blue Tokens

I am delighted to say that Tesco Customers can use blue tokens to vote for our School Garden Project; we are hoping to develop our garden even so that it is a haven for wild life and a fantastic stimulus for writing, science, maths and art. You can start voting from 1st April; please tell all your friends and family. The winning project will receive £2000.



And finally....

I am looking forward to being back in school on Monday; please email or telephone if you have any questions, worries or concerns. Your children and their well-being, as well as the well-being of all our families, is our paramount concern: Please contact me on head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk anytime, day or night and I will reply as soon as I can.

Judy Wheeler
Headteacher