



Walter Infant School and Nursery

Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

Sadly, before I am able to celebrate what an amazing time we have had in school this week, I have to inform you of a most unfortunate event that occurred today which some of your children may mention! I noticed from my office window, during a meeting, some children climbing the fence and talking to an unknown adult in a parked car. I immediately left my meeting as I saw the stranger was also taking photographs. Mrs Bell quickly followed!

I asked the stranger who she was and she said she was an 'aunt' of one of the children. I asked her to immediately delete the photographs and to move on. She said she had deleted the photographs but refused to move on, so we had to evacuate the whole playground for at least 10 minutes, until with the support of my staff and a parent she decided to leave the vicinity. We have of course, reported the incident to the police.

My most important job in school is to keep your precious children safe, above and beyond anything else I do. It is not acceptable for anyone to take photographs of the children, whoever they may be, or however they know one or more children. Photographs of children can be used in many ways on the internet and some of our children need additional protection, and their parents or carers may have declined parental acceptance for photographs. This was indeed, one of the most shocking events of my 40 years of working in education, as I was unable to understand the stranger's reluctance to leave, and to watch as we coned off the pitch and removed 180 children to a safe space away from her camera. The police took the incident very seriously and will proceed with due diligence. We were able to take note of the number plate.

May I please take this opportunity to remind you all that you must never use your mobile phones on or around the school site. I have to remind adults almost every day not to use their phones when coming into the school playground. Please keep your phones in your pockets and bags for the whole time you are on the school

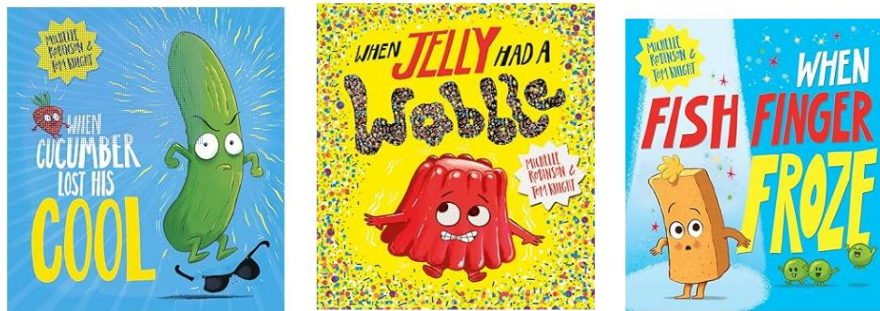
premises, unless watching a performance in the school hall or playground. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

World Book Day 2025 (and World Book Week at Walter)

WORLD BOOK WEEK @ WALTER 2025

We have had the most incredible World Book Week this week; we chose the author Michelle Robinson as our featured author and these are the books we chose. When the Cucumber Lost his Cool in Foundation Stage, When Jelly had a Wobble in Year 1 and When Fishfinger Froze in Year 2.



Mrs Bennette wrote to Ms Robinson and this is the reply we received!

Dear Jessica,

How wonderful that, out of all the authors you could have chosen, you picked me. I feel truly honoured, thank you! I hope everyone is enjoying the Food With Feelings series. I have attached a picture of my desk and my author's helpers, Willow (the tabby) and Chicken.

World Book Day is a great time to celebrate reading. We all like different books, so on World Book Day I like to share some of my personal favourites with everyone. Perhaps you can let me know some of yours in return? It's a great way to discover new authors and books — it can even be a great way to make new friends!

I love ...

'We The Wibbly' by Sarah Tagholm. This is a very funny picture book about the life cycle of frogs. It's super fun to read aloud!

'You're a Bad Man, Mr. Gum' by Andy Stanton. This is a super funny book about the silly goings on in a town called Lamonic Bibber. The illustrations by David Tazzyman are just as funny as the story!

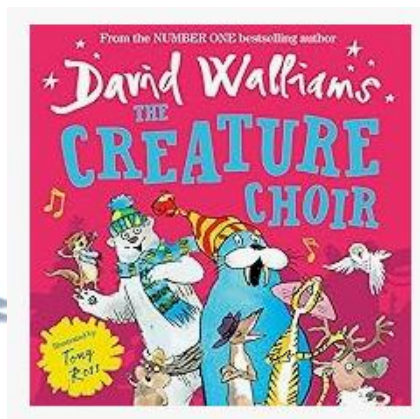
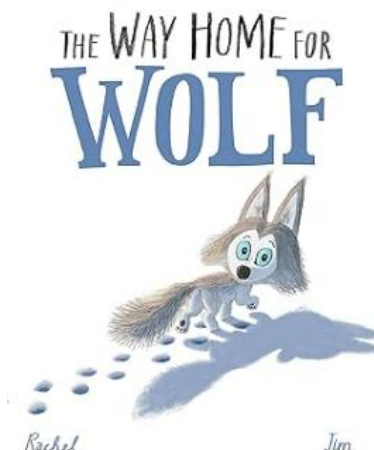
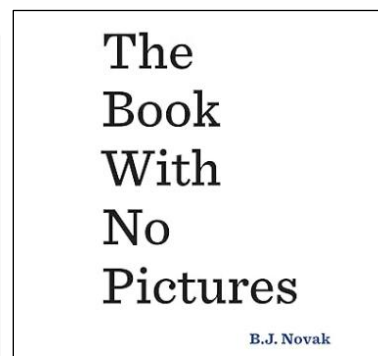
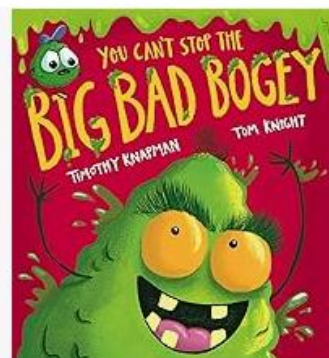
The Phoenix Comic — this is a weekly children's comic that you can ask your school to subscribe to for your classroom. It arrives every Friday and it's full of excellent story series by amazing creators.

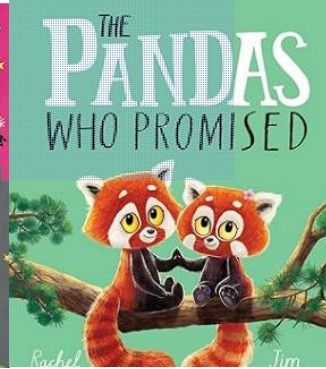
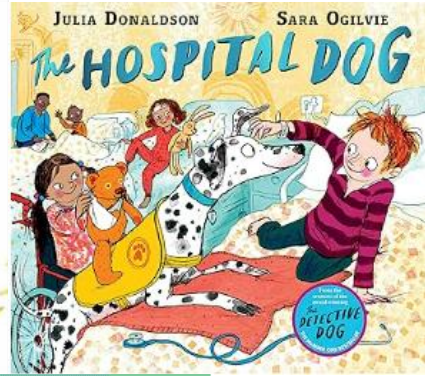
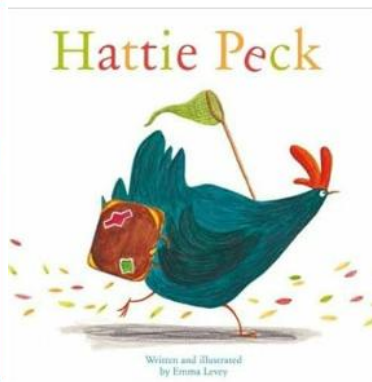
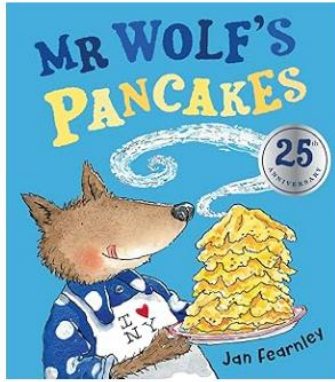
Have a brilliant time reading and sharing books. I hear lots of you are budding authors and illustrators! Maybe you will be inspired to start work on some fresh new stories of your own?

*Thanks again for sharing my books!
Michelle*

We had a truly magical day on Thursday; the children and staff all wore their night clothes and the children brought in their favourite books and toys. We listened to the teachers favourite bedtime stories throughout the day! The children were able to choose which classroom they went to, initially based on the teacher's recommendations and then on the recommendations of their friends and other children. Learning to express an opinion of a book is a skill that we teach from the beginning of the children's learning journeys with us and being able to talk about what they have read is a vital part of the reading curriculum. We all enjoyed the day so much, although filling my car up with petrol in my pyjamas was a first for me! Some stories were more popular than others, and some children even listened to the same story twice! We gathered in the hall throughout the day, chose the story we wanted to listen to and then visited different spaces! Mrs Bell even had a glowing fire for the children to snuggle around! Please ask your children which stories they listened to and whether they enjoyed them and what they can remember about them!

We had an ice-cream and jelly party in Year 1, the children made jelly, as part of science and DT and cut all the different types of fruit, which they chose for themselves, as well as having lashings of ice-cream! And of course, all the children in Year 2 could have fishfingers for lunch if they wanted to!





We have had the Book Fair all week and I don't think we have ever sold so many books! Every book sold enables us to buy books for our school. The School Councillors and the teachers have chosen so many books, as we have already sold more than £800 of books! And there is still Monday to go if you haven't visited yet! I will share our final figures with you next week! THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!



School Councillors choosing books for everyone!





A jelly and Ice-cream Party! I have to say, I did not get any fruit or ice-cream and thankfully no jelly, as I don't like jelly!

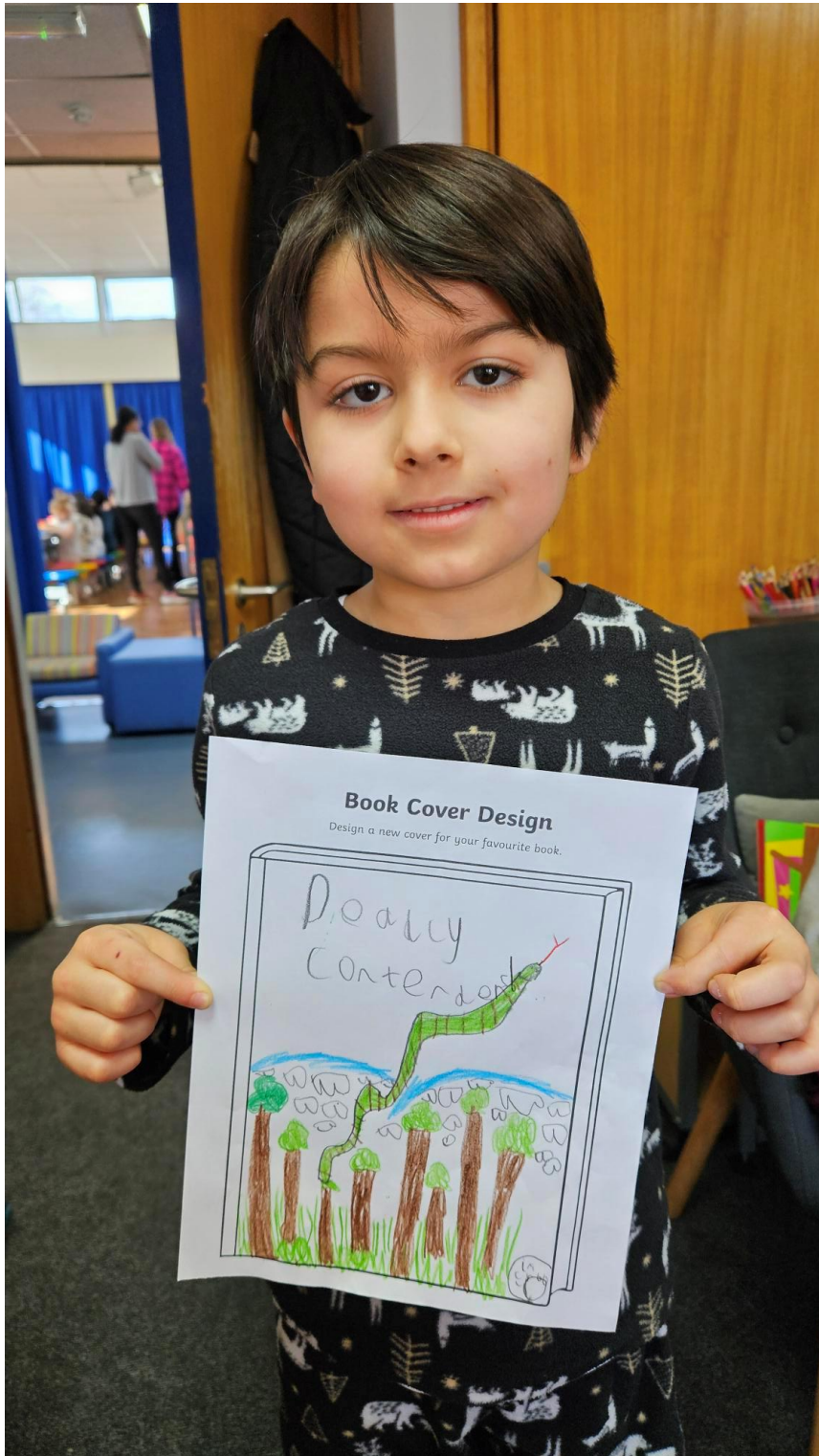






Amazing Work in School

On Thursday Mrs Whiterose brought Tuna to me to show me the most amazing idea for a new book: Deadly Contenders, with an illustration of a Vampire Snake. We looked up Vampire Snakes and they certainly appear to be deadly contenders! I have bought some books so we can find out more about them! This was not part of a lesson, but an additional challenge, so Tuna definitely deserved a Headteacher's Award.



Beau

Beau told me that he has recently started ice skating; Mr Herlihey is an ice hockey player, and I think he may have inspired Beau to find out more about it. I too, am an ice-skater so I was so excited to hear from Beau that he has begun to learn such a very tricky sport. I asked him to share a photo and here he is on skates.



Well done Beau!

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day this year is happening on Friday 21st of March; we would like to invite the children to come to school wearing something red! Anything from a hair band to a complete outfit! Please do not buy anything new, anything that has red on is great! They do not need to wear any items of school uniform, they can come in whatever they like, that is suitable for the weather! The Year 2 School Councillors will be selling red noses, from Monday 17th March at the end of the school day. We have three boxes, not enough for all the children, so it will be first come first served. Sorry, but we can't risk having more noses than we can sell as we have to buy them in advance!!!! We will not be collecting money in school, we will share our JustGiving page with you closer to the event. There is, as always, no need to donate, but please do send your children to school with something red, or they will feel left out!



Chocolate Tombola

We will be hosting our annual Easter Chocolate Tombola with the support of our School Council on Thursday 27th March! This is one of the best events of the school year as the children and staff can raise money for additional toys for the classrooms and playgrounds! AND we love having more things to play with as playing is one of the most important things that children can and should do, and you all know how much we focus on play at Walter! It promotes social interaction, communication, mediation, parity and fairness, and most of all FUN! The children will be able to choose how the money we raise is spent, and one of the things we have noticed is the empathy the children show for others when choosing the toys we buy! SO! From Monday the 24th of March, please start bringing in your donations; we would love chocolate of any sort (apart from home-baked goods) Easter Eggs, chocolate bars, chocolate biscuits! We will have a **donation station** on Wednesdays Parent Consultation evening and as a reward we are inviting the children to come in their own clothes, a non-uniform day on Thursday 27th March! Please give as much as you can from one bar of chocolate to a special Easter Egg! We already have some commitments from local supermarkets, but if you know any companies that might like to donate, please contact them!

We would also appreciate VEGAN chocolate donations.



Please be mindful that Mini Eggs can be a choking hazard for very young children.

Household Support Fund can help you

There's more than **£500,000** available to help Wokingham Borough residents through the Household Support Fund this winter. You can apply if you're struggling to pay for:

- Food
- Bills
- Energy costs
- Other everyday essentials

The Household Support Fund has been allocated by the Department for Work and Pensions to councils in England to pass on money to residents who need it.

What you're entitled to depends on your situation:

- Free school meal families - £15 per week, per child during the school holidays for each child receiving means-tested free school meals
- Pensioners, carers and disabled people – one off grant of £120
- All other households – one off grant of £60

The current round covers October 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. Do not re-apply if you've already got a payment recently.

If you successfully applied for a Household Support Grant between 1 April and 30 September 2024, you will automatically get another payment this winter. It will be paid six months after your last payment. You do not need to re-apply. Apply now:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/cost-living/household-support-fund>

Would you like to be a School Governor?

We had our Governor Day in School on Tuesday 4th March when our amazing governors came into school to see us in action. If this is a role that interests you, please contact our admin team for more information on

admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

This link will tell you more about the role or we can arrange for you to meet with one of our governors in person for an insight into the role and the commitment you would need to be able to make to our OUTSTANDING School!

<https://governorsforschools.org.uk/become-a-school-governor/the-role-of-a-school-governor/>

Governors



Willow Class Assembly

Willow Class presented the most amazing assembly, as they took our audience on a tour of the world! Oscar and Saskia were incredible presenters and the children showed off their learning with impressive confidence and bravery! Mr Dale will post the PowerPoint on the website to share with your families.





And I have to share with you the amazing displays of the Year 2 work in school:



Stars of the Week

Here are our fantastic stars of the week!





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 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/>

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.

Songs for this term

This term we are learning 'Morning has Broken' and 'He's Got the Whole World in his Hands' (along with Makaton Signing) to celebrate Spring and the beautiful world around us! We are also listening to Vivaldi's Spring Concerto from The Four Seasons. We have also been learning an Easter Version of Boom Chika Boom which the children loved!

And finally,

Please don't forget to book your appointment for a Parent Consultation with your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Judy Hargreaves
 Headteacher

Here is the link to watch our school on television as some parents have asked for it to be forwarded again: <https://www.itv.com/watch/news/what-has-black-hair-four-legs-a-tail-and-is-proving-to-be-a-hit-at-a-berkshire-school/qg1nbqm>

Dates for your Diary



Date	Event	Time
Tuesday 11 th March 2025	Y1 Scooter Training	
Tuesday 18 th March 2025	Class Photographs	
Friday 21 st March 2025	Red Nose Day:	
Friday 21 st March 2025	iRock Concert	2.30pm
Wednesday 26 th March 2025	Parent Consultations	3.30pm – 6.30pm

Thursday 27 th March 2025	School Council – Chocolate Tombola	3.25pm
Friday 28 th March 2025	INSET – School Closed to children	
Friday 28 th March	Parent Consultations	9.00am – 1pm
Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 1 Disco	4-5pm
Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 2 Disco	5.15 – 6.15pm
Thursday 3 rd April	FS1 & FS2 School Disco	4 -5pm
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.