



# Walter Infant School and Nursery

## Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

The children have been working so hard this week and I must say that almost every single child has shown such amazingly positive behaviour towards their learning and their play. We have seen some excellent pieces of work and the children are making such good progress with phonics and reading.

### **Snow**

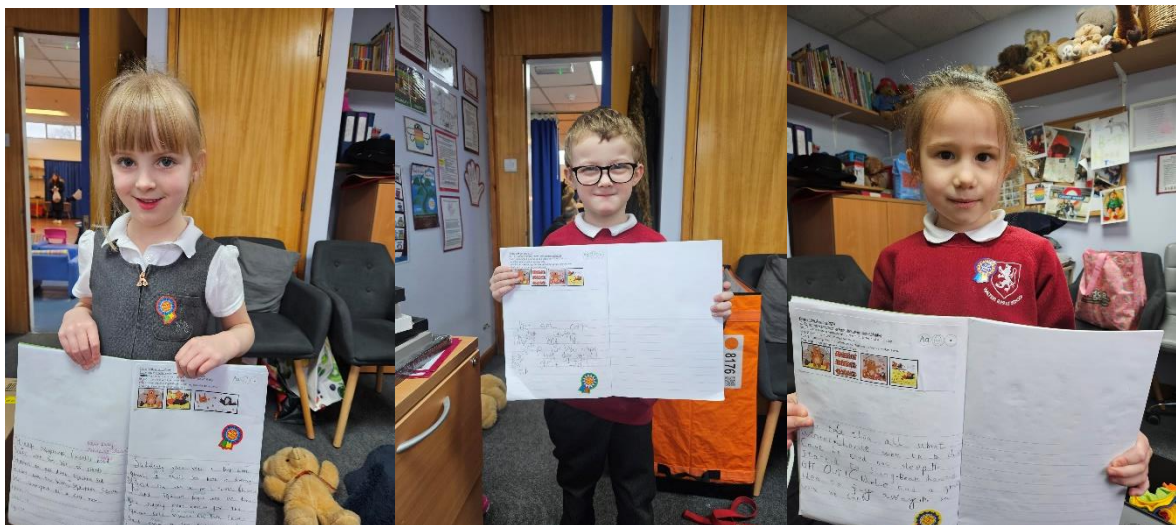
We were very excited to see the first flakes of snow in Wokingham this year; it started so gently at first and as the flakes grew bigger we thought it was time to get outside and enjoy the feeling of the flakes settling on our faces (and in some cases tongues)! Many of our children had never seen snow before. Our Year 1 children are learning about winter as part of their science curriculum so the timing could not have been better.





### Charlie the Crow in the Snow

These three children in Year 1 have done the most amazing writing about Charlie the Crow in the Snow...



### Parking

We have had some concerning correspondence from our neighbours in St Paul's Close stating that some cars of parents at our school and at St. Paul's have been parking on the pavements and across private drive ways. The residents have photographed the cars and sent them to the council. Their next steps are to contact the police. Please can you avoid parking in a selfish way; blocking the pavement puts children and adults at risk and parking across people's private driveways is extremely inconsiderate.



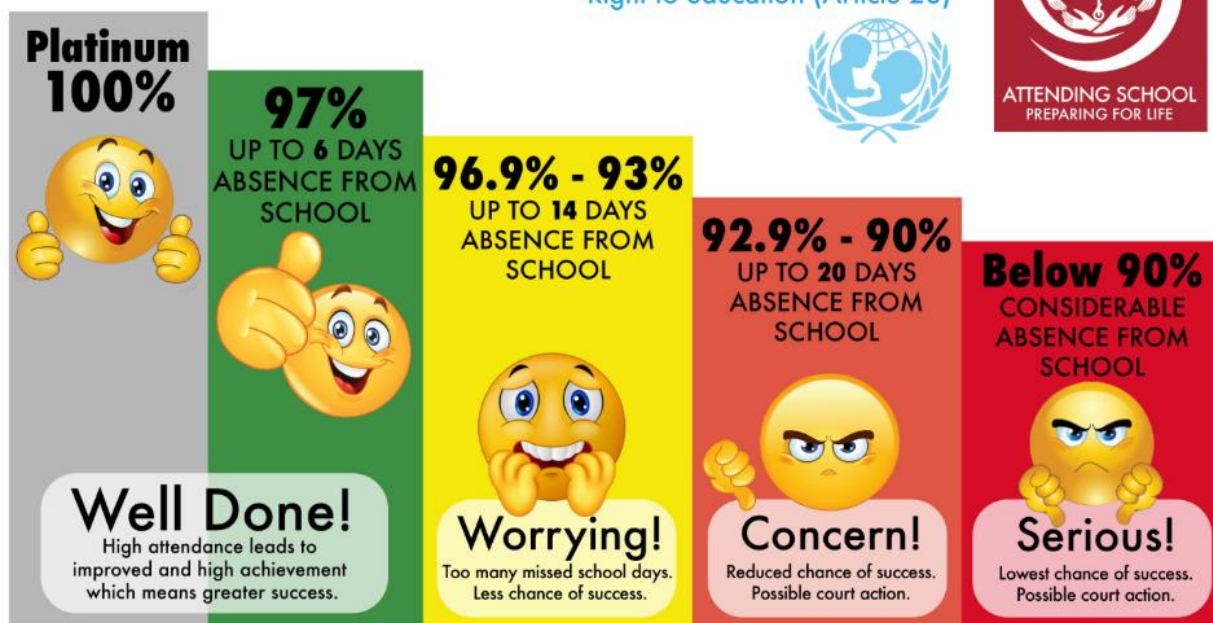


### School Attendance

If your child has only attended school for 90% or less of the time they should attend, they become classified as a Persistent Absentee (PA) and of concern to not only the school but the Local Authority Educational Welfare Officer (EWO). We have a meeting scheduled with the EWO on February 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 to discuss the circumstances of any child who is of statutory school age but has only been attending school for 90% or less. Next week, the parents or carers of any child in school who has been attending school for 85% or less of the expected time, will receive an attendance letter. You may not be aware of how much learning time your children have been missing: this table may help you to understand the impact of persistent absence from school.

## WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?

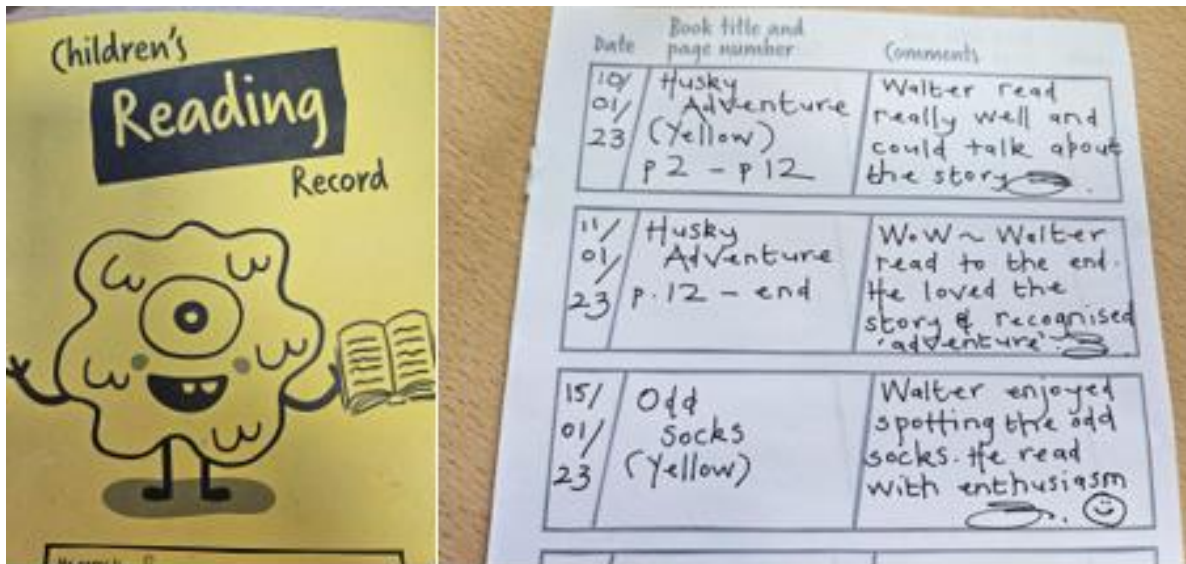
Right to education (Article 28)



There are 175 non school days a year.  
 That's plenty of time to go on visits, holidays, shopping and other appointments.

### Reading at Home

We recognise that in busy households it is not always possible to find a good time to read with your child; however, evidence suggests that the children who read at home as well as at school earn to read more quickly and their fluency develops sooner. It would be great if you could find time to read at least once or twice a week to support your child in their learning and then record a comment in their reading diary.



### Girl's Football Club

Exciting News! Jack has agreed to run a Girl's Football Club after school on Fridays from February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024 as long as there are enough girls from Year 1 and Year 2 who would like to attend. If your child would like to attend the club please let Mrs Janes or Mrs Hemmings know as soon as possible as it will be available on a first come first served basis. The girls will play on the astro-turf pitch, not the field.



### Junior School Admissions

Please make sure that you have completed your Junior Place paper work, the deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

### Walter's Pantry

We know that for some of our families January is a very hard month; it is long, dark and cold and many of us have over spent over the Christmas season. Walter's Pantry is not just for families in receipt of benefits, it is for anyone who might be struggling to make ends meet. We have cereal, pasta, tinned meat, soup and vegetables, nappies, toothpaste, washing liquid and much, much more. We ask that you bring a bag (a bag for life is a good size) and you can choose from the shelves an evening meal, breakfast and any other things that you might need. It is completely confidential and discrete. You can come any time within the school day and more than once a week. Everything is donated and free of charge.



### **Walter School Values**

Today Max P. came to me and said “When I get my next Values Badge, I am going to give it to my friend because he has lost his!” I was so moved by his kindness and compassion that I awarded him a values badge and replaced the lost badge for his friend...Max T.



### **Bulbs**

We would still be extremely grateful for any donations of bulbs or garden shrubs. Thank you.

### **Our New Equipment**

Our new outside gymnasium is a huge hit with all our children; we are already planning what we can add to it as we definitely need more apparatus! Mr Fennell has moved the tyres and they have now become a new area to learn and play. I can feel some fundraising coming on!!!







## Star of the Week

Here are our 10 stars...they have all worked so hard and been so kind to their friends. Well done all of you.





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

And finally...

You may have noticed our wonderful new Learning Pod, which will hopefully be up and running next week.



Have a great weekend! Don't get too cold!

**Judy Hargreaves: Headteacher**