

## Friday Flyer!

#### Dear Walter Families,

When I woke up this morning and it was pitch black and rather cold, I turned over to press the snooze button but...then I remembered that Year 2 (and our Rise and Shiners) were back today and I leapt from my slumber into the shower, so delighted that the children were coming to school and that my fabulous colleagues were returning from isolation. It is wonderful to have the children back and we now can't wait until 26<sup>th</sup> November when Foundation Stage 2 come back and we can be a whole school again. So...

### Please do not send your child to school if they seem to be poorly BUT especially if they have a cough or a high temperature!

We have sent three children home with coughs today.

Please share this PDF about Coronavirus with you children if you can; if you need a printed copy please let us know:

file:///P:/%232020/Corona%20Virus/Corona%20Virus%20%20Book.pdf



- If anyone who lives in your household or who shares your support bubble presents with symptoms of COVID 19 or is awaiting a test result, EVERYONE in the household or bubble must isolate for 14 days or until a negative test result is received. If **a positive test** result is received all other house members must continue to isolate for 14 days after the symptoms first appeared. A negative test result (whilst someone in the household is positive) will not change the isolation time.
- If you are a childminder or informal care giver you must follow exactly the same rules as above as the children you are caring for will have had more than 15 minutes contact and are effectively part of your household. Everyone that has been in contact with your household bubble must isolate for 14 days or until a negative test result is received. You <u>do not</u> wait for a positive test result.
- If you are a child minder (or informal care giver) you must inform our school if you
  develop symptoms or are awaiting a test result so that we can ensure that the
  parents of the children know that they have to isolate until a negative test result
  comes through. If the test result is positive all children in your care must continue
  to isolate for 14 days. Other members of their households to not need to isolate
  as they are contacts of contacts.

• PLEASE OBSERVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY SO WE CAN TRY TO AVOID ANY HARM COMING TO ANYONE IN OUR SCHOOL.

Covid 19 Symptoms are:

- a new, persistent cough
- a high temperature (37.8 or above)
- loss of taste and/or smell

You could have all or just one of these symptoms

Please:

- wash your hands regularly
- use anti-bacterial hand gel
- wear a mask to and from school and on the school site (not children or if you are exempt)
- please socially distance
- please leave our site as soon as you can
- do not meet anyone outside of your household/support bubble (unless 1:1 socially distancing)
- do not have visitors into your home

December 2<sup>nd</sup> will soon be here; if you need any financial help for food or school supplies please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are in crisis, do not hesitate to contact us. admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk or head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

I came across this book today, whilst looking for child friendly images and resources; I have shared it with our teachers but I thought some parents might find it useful too. It is written by doctors for young children.

https://globalhealth.emory.edu/\_includes/documents/sections/ebookcompetition/goingtobeok.pdf



# We need to work together to keep our community safe!

#### Changes in School

We have changed our bubbles from Year Group Bubbles to Class Bubbles to see if we can reduce the number of children and adults needing to self-isolate if we were to have another positive case of Coronavirus in school. I have updated the risk-assessment on the website and we have made modifications to time tables and our logistical arrangements with our primary focus to keep our children safe. We will review this system at the end of the term.

The After School Clubs: Multi-skills and Football as well as Energy Kidz will continue as year group bubbles as it is not possible to reorganise the provision differently. I-Rock will also continue as Year Group bubbles. If a child in a club receives a positive test result; their class bubble and the club group will isolate. Any other children would be contacts of contacts and therefore would not need to isolate. If you wish to withdraw your child from one of these clubs, please contact the club provider. I can confirm that all our club providers are extremely vigilant and dedicated to keeping the children as safe as possible.

#### **University Students**

We are a partnership school with Reading University and committed to supporting young teachers at the beginning of their careers. I wrote to our Year 2 parents yesterday to say we were expecting students and I received a number of emails from concerned parents, who were worried about the impact of having additional adults (particularly university students) in the classrooms. After taking these valid concerns into consideration, Mr Lee spoke with the university sharing the worries of our parents and we have postponed the students joining us until the New Year. However, it is likely that Miss Hewitt will accept a place at a different school and we all wish her good luck and send our best wishes.

#### **Email Correspondence from Parents**

We have an open door policy at Walter Infant School and Nursery and welcome direct contact from all our families. My inbox is open to everyone, anytime, day or night and I endeavour to reply as quickly as I can. Likewise, Mrs Janes welcomes your correspondence at any time and we work closely together to ensure we can find solutions to the problems presented or answers to the questions posed. We do not want to change our approach; however, yesterday we received a couple of very unpleasant, aggressive and accusatory emails in response to the letters about the students. I would like to stress that those emails came in after we had made our decision so did not have any influence on the process. However, they were very upsetting to read; we have always put the children first in everything we do, so to be accused of not doing so was not only distressing but also untrue.

Please may I politely request that if you do need to contact myself or Mrs Janes that you follow our Walter Values of honesty, respect, kindness and empathy? We are all in this together and like you, my team and I have stresses, strains and anxieties to overcome too. We come into school every day, with smiles on our faces and love in our hearts for our wonderful children, and it can sometimes be very hard for some people. Please treat my staff team (and myself) in the way we would always choose to treat you.



#### A poem from a Parent

This poem has been written by Vikki Harris; one of our parents. She wrote it for her own children Lola and Harriet and they found it easy to understand. Vikki kindly shared it with me and I asked her if I could share it with all of you; perhaps your children will benefit from listening to the carefully chose words. Thank you Vikki ©



#### Stars of the Week

Here is our Robin Star of the Week...





4 stars of the week this week! We are celebrating excellent behaviour, brilliant wiring, superb scientific knowledge and a very positive attitude. Well done stars.

#### What has been happening in school?

This week, as you can imagine, has been much quieter than usual, but very productive. Year 1 have continued to learn all about space...why don't you ask them to share their knowledge and understanding when they get home!







#### **Anti-bullying Week**

There are lots of odd socks in school today; the children have been learning about bullying behaviour and what to do about it! We will not tolerate bullying of any kind in our school. If you would like to know more please visit the Parents pages on our website to view a presentation titled Anti-Bullying Power Point for parents and carers. The children have had a whole school assembly on Anti-bullying which can be found on our home learning link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI0ZAfsLnjY57\_SCxer41tg</u>

Here are some posters made by the year one children:





#### **Catching Up**

The Year 2 Catch-Up Teams Meetings were very successful, especially the scavenger hunts and the school was full of jokes and laughter.



#### **Raffle Tickets**

We have sold lots of tickets already; if you need more please contact the school office on <u>admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> We have more amazing prizes, a Sega Mega Drive Classic Games Console, a sweet hamper with a whole jar of Percy Pigs! And a beautiful jug donated by MiMi's in Hartley Wintney! Please support our fundraising by selling as many tickets as you can. Thank you



Don't forget that the first prize is £100 of Marks and Spencer vouchers! Second Prize is £75 of garden centre vouchers and third prize is this beautiful Regency Christmas Hamper!



#### Reindeer

All being well, the reindeer are coming to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Each child will get to meet the reindeer and learn so much about them. Sadly we will not be able to invite parents and siblings to meet the reindeer due to COVID restrictions. We will be asking for a donation of £2 per child or £3 per family to see the reindeer which will be payable through the school gateway; payments will go live on  $23^{rd}$  November.

The PTA will be selling reindeer craft packs so that your children can carry on their fun and learning at home; watch out for information on how to order a pack for your child soon.

#### **Our School Garden**

As you know I am very proud of our school garden; I would like to share a few photographs of the new wooden animals that have arrived recently. I would also like to say a big Thank you to Mrs Adams-Price who looks after our garden so beautifully for us!



#### **School Lunches**

Our school lunches are now being served in specially designed lunch trays which can be washed in the dishwasher up to 1000 times; we are delighted that these have replaced the brown paper bags as we pride ourselves on being a sustainable school.

You will also have received a link to a school lunch survey from Wokingham Borough Council.

#### And finally....

Have a wonderful weekend. Please contact me if you have any questions or queries. <u>head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> Keep well and keep safe.

Judy Wheeler Headteacher