



Walter Infant School and Nursery

## Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

Wow! This has been the busiest of spring terms ever! Yesterday we had a whole school assembly about the Christian Festival of Easter; the children have been learning about spring and the spring festivals and celebrations, such as Ramadan and Lunar New Year and when I asked them to share the knowledge I was overwhelmed with how much they knew, from the youngest to the oldest. The assembly began with a huge surprise as we were joined by the Easter Bunny (who kindly stayed with us all day)!



As part of the assembly we watched a film made of schools by the BBC as part of their religions of the world series for young children: [The Christian Story of Easter - BBC Teach](#)



We then sang Moving on Up by Primal Scream! It was a really lovely experience for all involved.

### **Easter Egg Hunts in Foundation Stage**

The children in Foundation Stage dressed up as Easter Bunnies and went on a hunt for eggs; they all took home a chocolate egg at the end of the day.



# Chocolate Easter Tombola

Thank you so much for all the contributions towards the School Council's Chocolate Tombola! We were amazed by how much chocolate there was! We are so lucky to be supported by all of generous families.



The Year 2 School Councillors organised everything! And we raised...

# £371:00!

## Further Fund Raising for the Victims of the Earthquakes

We also raised more money for the victims of the Turkish and Syrian Earthquakes by selling the inflatable headbands. We will be able to let you know the final total amount of money raised after the holidays. Artun's mum, Mrs Caglar has kindly suggested where can send the money (which is now over £700) to make the most difference.



The screenshot shows the ahbap.org website. The header includes navigation links: HOME, AHBAP ASSOCIATION, AHBAP PLATFORM, NEWS, Membership, and a red button labeled DISASTER DONATE. The main content area is split into two columns. The left column features a map of Turkey titled 'Deprem Güvenli Noktalar Haritası' (Earthquake Safe Points Map). The map shows various cities and is overlaid with green heart icons. Below the map is a green button labeled 'Haritayı Gör'. The right column is a donation interface titled 'Sci Support'. It includes a sub-header 'sevginin ve gerçeğin peşindeyiz' and a note 'You can donate any amount you want.' Below this are four green buttons for donation amounts: 20₺, 50₺, 100₺, and 200₺. There is also a text input field for 'Donation Amount' and a green 'Donate' button.

The screenshot shows the Disasters Emergency Committee website. The header includes navigation links: TURKEY-SYRIA, PAKISTAN, UKRAINE, ABOUT US, a search icon, and a red button labeled DONATE. The main content area features a large image of a person hugging another person in a rubble-strewn area. Overlaid on the image is a red-bordered box with the text 'TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL'. Below the image is a text box with the following text: 'Devastating earthquakes have hit Turkey and Syria, killing tens of thousands of people and reducing buildings to rubble. People need urgent aid to survive. Donate now to help save lives.'

### **New Willow Class Teacher**

I am delighted to announce that we have successfully recruited a new, full-time teacher for Willow Class; this is a huge relief, especially during the present climate. Welcome to Walter Mrs Harris.

### **Autism Acceptance Week**

This week is Autism Acceptance Week; we have a number of children who have a diagnosis of autism, are waiting to be diagnosed or are on the autism pathway. It can take a long time for a diagnosis to be made, mainly because there is a more than 2 year waiting list. It is commonly recognised that young girls can mask their symptoms, that means they might behave differently at school from how they behave at home or in other places. Therefore, it can take even longer to get a diagnosis if you are female. Visit this website to learn more about Autism and Girls.

[Girls and autism](#) | [Ambitious about Autism](#)

Bethan used to come to our school; her mummy has shared this inspirational information with me today:

Tonight, during the ad break of Googlebox, Channel 4 will air the winner of its Disability in Advertising prize. It's a short film by Vanish and Ambitious about Autism which spotlights the importance of clothing as an emotional lifeline for young autistic people and the gender gap for diagnoses.

You can see a preview here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Xtog\\_zRRJg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Xtog_zRRJg)

The reason for flagging is that Bethan has been instrumental in getting this piece of work into the world. Her experience of clothing anxiety and hypersensitivity was used

in the advertising agency's original pitch to Channel 4, and then her famous mermaid nightie (which she wore to school when all other clothing felt "wrong") is featured at a free exhibition at gallery@oxo on London's Southbank. Her nightie is accompanied by her story, in her own words, so visitors can understand the importance of this garment and how it helps her feel safe and calm when she's struggling to navigate the world.

Here's a link to the exhibition which runs until the 2<sup>nd</sup> April, and some pictures of Bethan.

<https://coinstreet.org/whats-on/me-my-autism-i>



I have watched the film already; it is very moving and tells it as it is. The film features a wonderfully talented 15yr old autistic girl, who has no acting experience! I am so very, very proud of Bethan!

### **More good News!**

Freya's daddy Mr Ditchburn, has a company called Premier Services International which is a partner of Findel Education, he has very generously offered to donate

hundreds of pounds of fabulous resources to our school; we will be buying equipment for our most vulnerable children, our youngest children and our children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). Thank you so much Mr and Mrs Ditchburn and Freya; we are extremely grateful.



Just a few of the lovely things on Mrs Bell's list!

### Star of the Week

Here are the most amazing stars; Arthur and Jayden are representing the whole of Dove Class!



Free Holiday Camp for Children entitled to Free School Meals (as well as Pupil Premium Funding)



# Easter Adventures

## Leighton Park School

Ages 4 -14

Available to children eligible for Free School Meals

**Dates and times**  
half days  
9am-1pm / 9am-5pm  
5th, 6th, 13th 14th April

HAF is the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme provided by the government for children in receipt of free school meals. As a HAF provider, we offer free activities like sports, arts and crafts and more to children this summer holiday

Offering the perfect mix of sports, crafts and arts, children will have a chance to enjoy activity favourites or discover new interests. A nutritious meal is provided each day, along with a lunch and learn session and a chance to bond with peers.

Find out more and book at  
[www.campbeaumont.co.uk/haf-programme](http://www.campbeaumont.co.uk/haf-programme)





## **QUIZ NIGHT 7:30 PM 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY at WALTER INFANT SCHOOL AND NURSERY**

On Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> May we will be hosting our first ever Quiz Night: with the Coronation of King Charles in mind. Lots more information will follow but please get a babysitter and be ready for a Bring Your own Bottle night of fun! Teams will be 6 members, with a fee of £5 per player. There will be an opportunity to purchase sweet or savoury adult treat boxes to share on the table; more information will follow soon. I am sure some of the staff will be keen to take part too! This event is not for children of any age.

### **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. Don't forget about Walter's Pantry.

### **Apply for the Household Support Fund if your child gets free school meals**

If your child gets means-tested free school meals you are entitled to financial support this winter.

Wokingham Borough Council and First Days Children's Charity are working together to provide payments to help during school holidays. **We know this could be even more important as people struggle after the festive period.**

[Apply through First Days Children's Charity.](#)

**Note you do not need to apply again if you have already had a successful application since October this year.**

You can get £15 per week, per eligible child, during school holidays. This applies for half terms, Christmas and Easter holidays. It will be back paid to October half-term if you've not already applied.

The amount you get in total depends on the number of children in your family who receive free school meals:

- One child - £120
- Two children - £210
- Three children - £315
- Four children - £420
- Five children - £525
- Six children - £630

You can follow this link for support from Woking Borough Council [Cost of living help - Wokingham Borough Council](#)

### **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 sessions, 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,**

We are coming back to school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April; have a wonderful break away from school.

**Judy Wheeler: Headteacher**