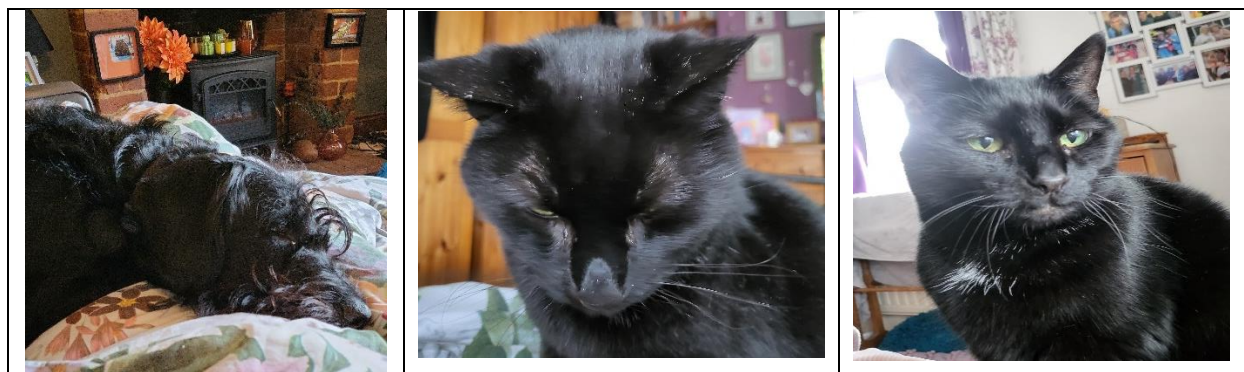




Friday Flyer 2022

Dear Walter Families,

As many of you already know, I have not been in school since Monday as I have been infected by the Coronavirus (Covid 19). I have been very well taken care of by these three wonderful and loving nurses, Walter, Fenway, and Blossom.



However, I have been extremely unwell, and I am still testing positive (with a very thick line)! I have been surprised by how poorly I have been; I have not had any of the recognised symptoms. It is very important to me to ensure that we continue to restrict the opportunity for the virus to spread to other people in our school, as it is still very dangerous to vulnerable people (luckily, I am not classed as a vulnerable person). Also, we have really struggled to keep going with the large number of staff absences. So, I would like to politely request that all parents coming into our school building, for consultations with the teachers, wear masks if you are able to. Thank you.

Covid 19 Update

The expectations for anyone with Covid 19 have now changed. There are no longer free LFD and PCR tests for most people so there is no expectation for anyone to test. However, Covid 19 has not gone away, and we still want to do all we can to keep our children healthy and free from all childhood diseases and illnesses. If your child is unwell, please keep them at home until they are better. If they have one of the original symptoms of Covid 19: a headache, loss of taste or smell, or a new persistent cough, please keep them at home for at least 3 days and do not send them to school if they still have a temperature. We will need to send children home if they present with any of these symptoms in school. I have been informed by Wokingham Borough Council that there is a rise in Chicken Pox cases, Hand, Foot, and Mouth and even a case of Measles.

For more information about the Corona Virus, please follow this link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

This is the information posted by the NHS today: (it does refer to testing, which is now a choice not a directive).

If you have COVID-19, you can pass on the virus to other people for up to 10 days from when your infection starts. Many people will no longer be infectious to others after 5 days.

You should:

- try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days
- avoiding meeting [people at higher risk from COVID-19](#) for 10 days, especially if their immune system means they're at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19, even if they've had a COVID-19 vaccine

This starts from the day after you did the test.

If a child or young person aged 18 or under tests positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. This starts from the day after they did the test.

Children and young people tend to be infectious to others for less time than adults. If they're well and do not have a temperature after 3 days, there's a much lower risk that they'll pass on COVID-19 to others.

Long Covid in Children

Although most children are not seriously ill with Covid 19, some are: I saw this little girl, Emily, who is 9 years old on morning television today (as I am at home). She contracted Covid 19 from an asymptomatic carrier in September 2021. She began presenting with the usual symptoms, but then very quickly the virus took away her mobility and she is still unable to walk unaided! She has already raised £7500 by walking with her aids around her garden. She is not going to stop until she can walk around her whole garden without any support. Good Luck Emily: you are an inspiration to other young children.



Fuel Vouchers for Families with pre-pay metres

We are all very aware that today the cap on fuel costs have been removed; this will have a very negative financial impact on all of us. If you pre-pay for your gas and electricity, we may be able to help with fuel vouchers. Sadly, the vouchers are only for pre-pay metres and are not valid for direct debit or final bill payers. If you need to a voucher, please contact Mrs Janes in the school office in complete confidence.

In Walter's Pantry we have food in school for breakfasts and cooked dinners; if you need anything please let us know. If you need help with Foodbank Vouchers, we are able to organise them for you through the school office. The foodbank also provide nappies, shampoo, washing powder and sanitary products. They will deliver to your door, so you do not need to be able to drive. Food vouchers are available for all families who need them, including working families. You do not need to be in receipt of benefits.

If you need school uniform, we will be able to provide good quality pre-used uniform free of charge (with support from our wonderful PTA).

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding, you should have been registered for supermarket vouchers for the Easter Holiday period. If you have not heard, please speak to Mrs Janes.

Celebrating Success and Achievement (outside school)

These three pupils have shown us how they have been able to 'be the best they can be'. Samuel has received our first ever Certificate for Bravery after helping his daddy after he had a cycling accident away from home. Samuel showed extreme bravery and we are all incredibly proud of him.



Jenson has been volunteering for a local charity: his mum shared this wonderful photo and information with me. We are so proud of you Jenson.

"Jenson's nan and brother both volunteer for a charity that help with abandoned and neglected horses/ponies. The horse Jenson is riding is a horse called Ember who was abandoned at 3 months old."

Jenson loves to help care for them and ride them to help these horses get used to having weight on them to help them find new homes. “



Aston has been working really hard to develop his martial art skills, which he never uses in school. His mum shared:

Aston wanted to share that he passed his grading for martial arts and self-defence on Sunday. He's been doing it for 3 years and is now a red stripe belt. He did an amazing job.”



Ramadan

Some of our families will begin Ramadan this weekend. Ramadan this year is expected to begin on Saturday 2nd April, and to end on the 1st May 2022.



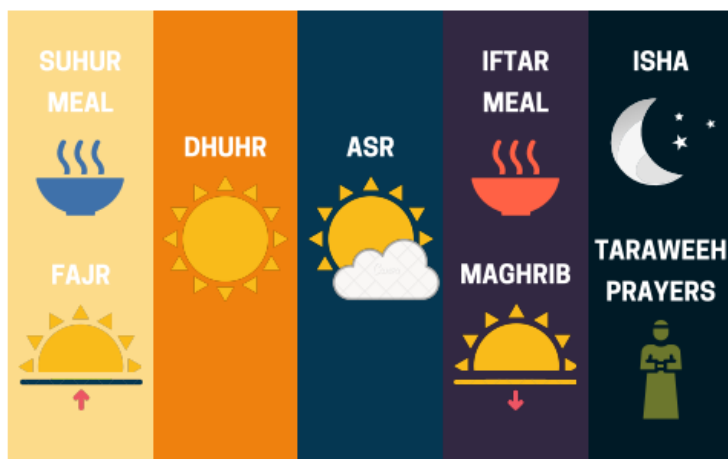
Ramadan



Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar that is based on the moon.

<p>Fasting is one of the duties or Five Pillars of Islam.</p> <p>It is a very important time for Muslims and Ramadan is celebrated all over the world.</p>	<p>During the month of Ramadan Muslims fast. They are only allowed to eat and drink before the sun rises and after the sun sets</p>	<p>Fasting begins very early in the morning. This meal is very filling. It is called Suhoor.</p>
<p>At the end of the day after sunset the families all eat together. This meal is called Iftar.</p>	<p>If you cannot fast you must donate money to feed the poor. This is known as Zakah. During Ramadan Muslims spend more time reading the Qur'an.</p>	<p>The end of Ramadan is celebrated when the new moon is seen. This is called Eid-al-Fitr. People wear new clothes and go to mosque to pray then families and friends get together to eat and celebrate.</p>

A typical day for a fasting Muslim would be: a pre-dawn "SuhUr" meal; dawn "Fajr" prayers; midday "Dhuhr" prayers; mid-afternoon "Asr" prayers; breaking the fast at sunset with an "Iftar" meal; sunset "Maghrib" prayers; night-time "Isha" prayers; extra night-time "Taraweeh" prayers. The impact of this routine on a student will be further discussed below.



For more information for our Muslim families and all of us please follow this link:

<https://wsh.wokingham.gov.uk/resources/assets/inline/full/0/619130.pdf>

If any parents would like us to enable their children to pray during the day, please do not hesitate to contact us so we can make arrangements.

Families from Hong Kong in Wokingham

This information has been shared today with schools through Wokingham Borough Council's Education News:

WBC Adult Education Courses open to parents from Hong Kong

Residents from Hong Kong with a BN(O) visa are able to participate in Wokingham Adult Education courses until July 2022. Courses that are on offer include:

- Understanding Primary education in England
- Helping your child with maths for primary school parents
- Helping your child with English for primary school parents

- Healthy Lunchboxes
- Managing your child's anxiety
- Introduction to being a Teaching Assistant and working in schools
- IT skills for work
- Building your confidence to get back into work or volunteering
- Excel for Work
- Family Matters course for those with a child with ASD

Those interested in attending the courses can

email adulteducation@wokingham.gov.uk (mentioning which courses are of interest) to be added to our mailing list, or sign up for our newsletter

via <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKWOKBC/subscriber/new>

SATs tests in Year 2

Yesterday, we gave a presentation on the Year 2 SATs and assessments processes. We have put together a page on our website with the recording, the slides from the presentation and more information.

Please find this at: https://walter.eschools.co.uk/web/assessments_and_sats

Please do not hesitate to contact or speak to me, your child's class teacher, Mrs Prickett or Mrs Wheeler about the SATs and Year 2 assessments if you have any further questions.

The School Council and the Chocolate Tombola

I have received photographs from school of the chocolate donations; the staff team are completely overwhelmed by the incredible generosity of our Walter Families, even when there is so much change and hardship within our community. Apparently, this is just a fraction of the chocolate we have received! Thank you so much. The School Council members from Year 2 delivered the chocolate from their classes and they were in shock!



The tickets will be 20p each and there will be a prize for every ticket ending in 0 or 5. There will be at least one chocolate Walter! The children who attend Energy Kidz will be able to buy tickets early with support from the School Council and the adults in their class. Hopefully the tombola will be outside. The School Council are very keen to buy lots of books for our outside reading garden!

Parent Teacher Association PTA Easter Egg Hunt

The PTA are raising funds for the new Reading Garden by organising an Easter Hunt which will take place on 4th, 5th and 6th of April during the school day. The children will be invited to go into the playground with their teacher and search for a hidden Easter Bunny to then decorate. The children will also be given a sweet treat to enjoy. Please visit www.pta-events.co.uk/walterinfantspta to pay £2 for each child. You can also pay by cash – please

put £2 in an envelope, add your child's name and class on the front and post it in the red letterbox by the school office.

Funny Bunny Competition 2022



To end the Spring term on a hopping high, we are holding our first ever Funny Bunny Competition. One lucky member of staff will get to dress up as the Easter Bunny on the last day of term, Thursday 7th April. To decide which member of staff it is - we invite you and the children to pay £1 to vote for the staff member you'd most like to see dressed as the Easter Bunny. You can vote as many times as you like!

There are three ways to vote:

- 1. Scan the QR code, on the posters dotted around school, and follow the link to pay £1 by card. All of the posters are displayed on the outdoor display board in the playground.**
- 2. Click on the staff members link (see table below) to pay £1 by card.**
- 3. Pop your cash in an envelope, with the member of staff's name on the front and post it in the red post box by the office.**

Happy voting! Thank you so much for your support.
Walter Infant School Parent Teacher Association

Stars of the Week

I am so proud of these wonderful stars; I am so sorry not to have been at school to award these certificates but seeing their wonderful smiles as made me burst with pride. Well done all of you!





Teaching Vacancy

Please visit our website to view our advert for a part time fully qualified teacher or newly qualified teacher for a job share in Year 1 from the 1st of September 2022. The vacancy is for a teacher to work two and a half days a week, planning and delivering the teaching and learning opportunities for 30 Year One children in partnership with another teacher and a full-time Learning Support Assistant. We will be advertising from next week so please look out for the advert on our website. If you know anyone who is teaching elsewhere and would like to teach at the best school ever! Please let them know that we are looking for a kind, caring and nurturing teacher (who really likes children) and someone who enjoys having fun in a school where no two days are the same.

Summer Uniform

Our summer uniform is already being worn by some of our children; it consists of a navy blue, pale blue or white polo shirt with grey, navy or black shorts or a pale blue and white checked summer dress or culottes/shorts (there are so many options). Some children choose to wear cycling shorts under their dresses. The PTA have lots of good quality second hand uniforms too. As it gets sunnier, children should wear sun hats and sun glasses. Please make sure everything is named.



Parent Consultations

Please remember to book your appointment for a consultation with your child's teacher. They consultations will be taking place in the next week (see below). As already mentioned, we would really appreciate adults wearing masks in school when talking directly with the teachers. Thank you

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 6th April 2022 will be our Spring Parent Consultations evening from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Friday 8th April 2022 our school will be closed for lessons and open for Parent Consultations; 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. We will have a creche facility for children to attend when their parents are meeting with teachers.

Pupil Premium Funding

If you have experienced changes in your working hours or income and benefits, your child may now be entitled Pupil Premium Funding. Pupil Premium Funding 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! Please visit this link to see if your child may be entitled to the grant.

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-based Employment and Support Allowance.
- 4) Child Tax Credit
- 5) Pension Credit.
Working tax credit
- 6) Support as a result of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- 7) Universal Credit (if a household is earning less than £7,400 per year)

As stated previously, any child that is currently receiving free school meals is eligible for pupil premium funding. It's incredibly important that parents make the school aware that their child is eligible for this as it will automatically allow the school to receive extra funding that will go towards the betterment of their child's education.

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,

Tomorrow Mr Lee will celebrate his 40th birthday! I know, what a surprise, I am sure like me, you thought he was much older! Anyway, we have all wished him a very happy birthday and the children and staff sung Happy Birthday to him in assembly. Our first whole school singing. Mr Lee is a wonderful teacher, an amazing colleague and a great friend and I hope he has a fabulous time celebrating this weekend!



Judy Wheeler: Headteacher

Walter Infant School



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2022-2023

4th April	Foundation Easter Hunt
5th April	Year 1 Easter Hunt
6th April	Year 2 Easter Hunt
6th April	Spring Parent Consultations
7th April	Funny Bunny Competition Chocolate Tombola
7th April	End of Term (finishing 1 hour early)
8th April	Spring Parent Consultations
28th April	Class School Photos

Please note that these dates are subject to change.

There will be other exciting events that are not yet in the diary. We will let you know dates as soon as we can.