

WALTER INFANT SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2017

'To be the best I can be'



Issue 2/17

Tel: 0118 978 0825

www.walter.wokingham.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

The first half of the Spring Term has flown by; it is hard to believe that it will be the half term break on Friday. It has been a very busy few weeks, but I have to say that the most exciting thing for me as the Head Teacher is seeing how much progress the children are making and how much they are enjoying their time at school.

EXCITING EVENTS



I was very lucky to go with Year One to Bird World; it was a very successful trip and although it was cold, it was dry and the sun shone occasionally. The children were so well behaved as well as interested and very knowledgeable – all the adults felt very proud.



On Thursday 2nd February we had our Year 2 Famous People day; the children had worked so hard on their projects at home and the climax to the end of the topic was a huge celebration of what the children had learned. I was so impressed by the costumes the children wore and by how many facts they had learned about the famous person they had researched. Well done Year Two! We were also very proud of Sam Pester who shared a power point presentation about his visit to Anne Frank's house in Amsterdam; we were so impressed by how much he had learned and we learned a lot too.



Thursday 2nd February was a very busy day at Walter Infant School as we also had a visit from a tiger; unfortunately the tiger did not behave very well, but he did give the children in Year One lots to write about!



UP AND COMING CHARITY EVENTS

On Friday 24th February we would like everyone to come to school wearing blue; this is to raise awareness for a local charity the Ollie Young Foundation (OYF). Ollie Young was a Year One pupil at The Hawthorns Primary School in Woosehill who sadly died as a result of a brain tumour on the day before his 6th birthday. You can find out more by clicking on this link;

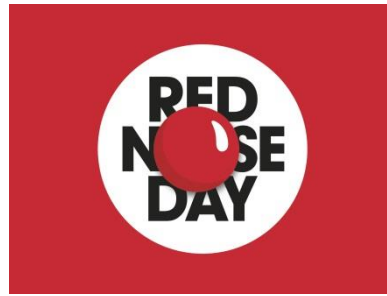
www.ollieyoungfoundation.org



This year marks the 5th anniversary of Ollie's death; to date the charity has funded £225,000 towards paediatric brain tumour research (that's 9 years of expert research!) and £28,000 towards support. As the Ollie Young Foundation is 100% staffed by volunteers, a very high percentage of all money raised goes directly towards these causes. We would like to mark Ollie's anniversary and support the charity by holding a 'Wear Blue for Ollie' day; please can your children come to school wearing blue clothes – there will be buckets provided by OYF if you would like to make a donation.

We feel it is very important for the children in school to remember those less fortunate than themselves and to understand that we can make a difference to the lives of others, as part of our Fundamental British Values in school.

We will also be taking part in Red Nose Day 2017 on the 24th March for the first time; we would very much welcome your support and ideas! If you would like to help us raise money for this national charity please let me know.



VALENTINE'S DISCO

We will be having our annual Valentine's Discos on Thursday 9th February; Year 1 will come from 4:00pm until 5:15pm and Year 2 from 5:30pm until 6:45pm. There will be music, dancing and refreshments all led by 'Fred in the Shed'.



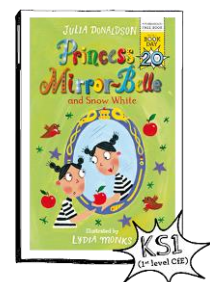
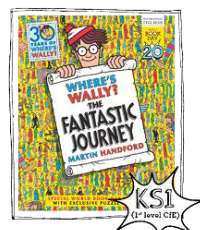
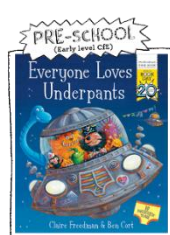
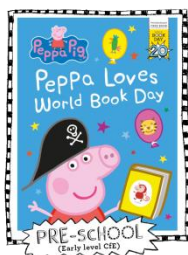
GARDENING CLUB

Councillor Peter Lucey came into school to present a cheque for £50, which we had won for our involvement in the Wokingham Winter Carnival; all the children were very proud of their achievements. We will use the money to buy compost and clematis for our garden.



WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day 2017 is on Thursday 2nd March; we would love the children to come to school as their favourite book character, it would be great if they could bring a copy of the book too to share with their teachers and classmates. We will have a special assembly to celebrate and all the children will have the opportunity to show their costumes to the whole school. Every child will receive a £1:00 World Book Day voucher and a number of £1:00 books have been published for young children including Peppa Pig and Where's Wally.



PINE CLASS ASSEMBLY

Pine Class will be presenting their class assembly for Pine Class parents and families on Thursday 9th February at 9:00am – please come along and see what your children have been learning about in school.

OPEN BOX THEATRE

The Open Box Theatre Company will be visiting school again in the week beginning 27th February 2017; they will be presenting a Fairy Tale Castles experience for the Year 1 children on the Monday of that week and 'The Great Fire of London' for the children in Year 2 on the Wednesday. These performances will be very enjoyable and support the learning that is taking place in the classrooms.



E-SAFETY DAY

Tuesday 7th February is E-Safety Day – we will be reminding the children how to make sure they are safe when using their computers at home and at school.

We will be sharing a number of very important messages, such as:

- Do not give out personal information over the internet, including your name
- Do not meet anyone you have met over the internet
- Tell an adult you trust if something worries you
-

We will be having a whole school assembly to ensure that we all hear the same message in school.

MENU CHANGES

The menu for Monday 20th February (first day after half term) will be Beef Meatballs and Rice or Vegetable Chilli and Rice.

There is a menu change for the rest of term – On Wednesday of Week 1 the vegetarian option will now be Veggie Mince Casserole with Roast Potatoes.

HEALTH MATTERS

We have had a number of cases of 'Slapped Cheek' this winter; this presents as a red rash on the cheeks. It is contagious before the rash appears; however, some children may feel rather unwell before the rash shows and can feel poorly for a few days. Please do not send your child to school if they are feeling unwell, but if they are in recovery and the rash is still present they can come to school if you think they are fit enough.

Please may I remind you that if your child experiences sickness and/or diarrhoea (for whatever reason) they must not come to school until at least 48 hours after their last bout of illness?

We have had several reported instances of headlice in school recently and would ask you all to make bug busting part of your weekly routine to try and stop the spread! If you want to review the procedure there is a useful leaflet on the website under Parents/Forms



AND FINALLY....

I would like to thank all the parents who have so kindly donated dressing up clothes to our Foundation Stage children; we are so delighted to receive them and really welcome the continued support of all of our families.

Please remember that we operate an 'Open Door' policy – and all teachers are available at the end of the school day. We have our post box and our suggestion boxes and I am always happy to take phone calls or emails. If you wish to email me about something sensitive or private, please do not hesitate to contact me directly on head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk. Have a lovely half term break.

Kind regards,

Judy Wheeler
Headteacher

LETTERS SENT HOME

The following letters were sent out since the last newsletter. If you have not seen any of these you can obtain another copy from the School Office or download from the Newsletter section on the website (most letters will be stored there)

Sent out	Title	To
23.1.17	Cold Weather Message for Parents and Children	Whole School
31.1.17	Letter regarding Mrs Bartlett's Retirement (not on website)	Whole School

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 7 th February	E-Safety Day
Thursday 9 th February	9.00am Pine Class Assembly - parents invited
Thursday 9 th February	Valentine's Disco: Year 1 4pm-5.15pm; Year 2 5.30pm-6.45pm
Monday 13 th to Friday 17 th February	Half Term - School Closed
Friday 24 th February	Wear Some Blue for the Ollie Young Foundation
Monday 27 th February	Open Box Theatre Group visit - Year 1 Fairytale Castles
Wednesday 1 st March	Open Box Theatre Group visit - Year 2 Great Fire of London
Wednesday 1 st to Monday 6 th March	3.20pm - 4pm Book Fair in School Hall
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day - come to school dressed as a Story Book character
Wednesday 8 th March	4pm to 5pm F1 Open Evening for prospective new parents in September
Wednesday 15 th March	9.00am Beech Class Assembly - parents invited
Monday 20 th to Friday 24 th March	Foundation Stage Stay and Play sessions
Wednesday 22 nd March	Governor Day in School
Friday 24 th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 24 th March	8.45am - 9.15am F2 Mother's Day Celebration 11.00am F1 morning Mother's Day Celebration 2.50pm F1 afternoon Mother's Day Celebration
Friday 24 th March	3pm - 4pm Easter Bake Sale and Used Uniform Sale
Wednesday 29 th March	Parent Consultations all classes (not F1) 3.30pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 30 th March	Last Day of Term finishing 1 hour early
Friday 31 st March	Parent Consultations - all classes 8.30am to 1.30pm F1 Open Morning - current parents
Tuesday 18 th April	First Day of Summer Term
Monday 1 st May	May Bank Holiday - School Closed
Monday 29 th May to Friday 2 nd June	Half Term - School Closed
Monday 5 th June	Inset Day -School Closed
Wednesday 7 th and Thursday 8 th June	Year 2 Trip to Woolley Firs Environmental Centre (half year going each day)
Friday 16 th June	Year 1 and 2 Sports Morning 9am-11am on St Paul's Field
Saturday 17 th June	Summer Fair
Wednesday 12 th July	F2 Parents' Evening 4pm to 7pm F1 Morning parents Open Evening 4pm to 5.30pm
Thursday 13 th July	F2 Parents' Evening 4pm to 7pm F1 Afternoon parents Open Evening 4pm to 5.30pm
Friday 14 th July	10.20am Class Changeover Day for F2 and Year 1 pupils
Friday 14 th July	3.00pm F2 and Year 1 parents invited to meet the their new teacher for September
Tuesday 18 th July	2pm Pine Class Leavers' Concert - parents invited
Wednesday 19 th July	2pm Sycamore Class Leavers' Concert - parents invited
Thursday 20 th July	2pm Willow Class Leavers' Concert - parents invited
Friday 21 st July	Year 1 and 2 Reports sent home
Monday 24 th July	Talent Show
Monday 24 th July	Year 2 Leavers' Disco
Tuesday 25 th July	End of Summer Term - finishing 1 hour early