

# WALTER INFANT SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2017

*'To be the best I can be'*



Issue 9/17

Tel: 0118 978 0825

[www.walter.wokingham.sch.uk](http://www.walter.wokingham.sch.uk)

Dear Parents,

The Autumn Term at Walter Infant School has begun very successfully; the children have returned to school well rested, happy and ready to learn. We have also welcomed many new children into our Foundation Stage with more joining us this week, as well as a few new members to the classes in Key Stage One. As always, we are able to celebrate how wonderful the children of Walter Infant School are!

We have also welcomed a new teacher to our school, Mr Herlihey in Sycamore Class, and we have welcomed back Mrs Pimm, who will be teaching 2 days a week in Willow Class.

<b>Robin</b> Mrs Herman and Mrs Parfett (Tuesday)	<b>Dove</b> Mrs Coyne
<b>Woodpecker</b> Miss Beeden	<b>Magpie</b> Mrs Lewis and Mrs Parfett (Wednesday and Thursday)
<b>Beech</b> Mrs Ball (Monday and Tuesday) and Mr Bowis (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)	<b>Larch</b> Miss Palmer
<b>Oak</b> Ms Rees (formerly Mrs Halliwell)	<b>Pine</b> Mr Lee
<b>Sycamore</b> Mr Herlihey	<b>Willow</b> Mrs Pimm (Monday and Tuesday) and Mrs McDonagh (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)

## PARENT CONSULTATIONS AND OPEN EVENINGS

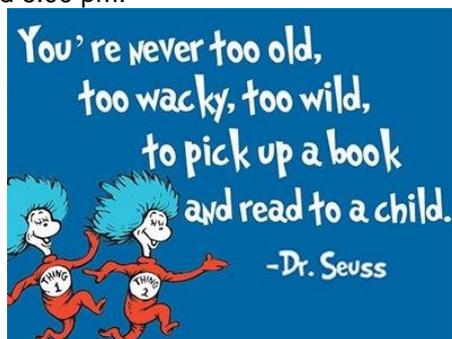
Some of our parents shared that they felt we had held our consultation meetings too early last year so we will now be holding them a little later in the term; on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November from 3:30 pm until 6:00 pm and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. The parents of children in our Robin classes will have open evenings on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 4:00 pm until 5:50 pm and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm. We will provide more information closer to the time. If you have a child who is on our Special Educational Needs register, Mrs Ambler our Inclusion Manager, will be available on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Please remember that we have an 'Open Door' Policy to meet with parents as the need arises; all our class teachers are available at the end of everyday if you wish to speak with them. It is also possible to arrange an appointment if you feel you need to have a private, more formal discussion.

## PHONICS and READING MEETING for YEAR 1 and FS2

We will be holding meetings for Year 1 parents and those parents who have children who have just joined Year 2 to explain how Phonics and Reading are organised at Walter Infant School. The meetings will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 2:50 pm and 6:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you then.

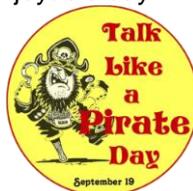
We will be holding Phonics and Reading meetings for Foundation Stage 2 parents on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 2:50 pm and 6:00 pm.



## UP AND COMING EVENTS

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> the School Photographer is coming in to photograph the children individually. There will be an opportunity for parents to come into school from 8:00 am to have photographs taken with older or younger siblings (if they do not come to this school). All sibling group photographs for Walter Infant School pupils will take place during the school day. Further information will follow this week.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September is our annual 'Talk Like a Pirate' day when we invite the children to come to school dressed as a pirate – it is a very enjoyable day when lots of fun is had by all! AARRRRR!



## UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Our school lunches are provided by Caterlink; we have a whole new team working at Walter Infant School as Mrs Potter retired at the end of the school year. All our children in Foundation Stage 2 and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a universal free school meal which they can choose each day from the menu. There is always a vegetarian option available. We will also be offering a jacket potato option each day; at the moment the fillings are:

Monday	Cheese and Beans
Tuesday	Tuna Mayonnaise
Wednesday	Cheese and Beans
Thursday	Tuna Mayonnaise
Friday	Beans

The jacket potatoes are served with fresh salad.

We are able to cater for many dietary requirements such as gluten free choices; please speak to the school office if you have any enquiries.



If you choose to send your child to school with a packed lunch; please can you ensure that it is a healthy lunch which includes a savoury option such as a sandwich or a pasta salad, as well as fruit or desserts. Some children have brought in lunches with only sweet food and fruit. The children will need protein and carbohydrates to keep them going throughout the day.



**According to NHS choices a balanced lunchbox should contain:**

- Starchy foods like bread, rice, potatoes or pasta.
- Protein foods like meat, fish, eggs or beans.
- A dairy item, like cheese or yogurt.
- Vegetables or salad and a portion of fruit.

**PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT**

The Pupil Premium Grant is a valuable resource for our school and hugely benefits the children and their families who are entitled to receive this. The identities of the families who qualify for the grant are protected. The money enables us to provide additional support and/or resources for both the children in receipt of the grant and the other children in our school. If you qualify for any of the benefits below, the school (through the local authority) may be able to claim additional funding to support your child’s education. This funding is very beneficial for your children and the school as a whole. If you wish to register please call at the School Office for a form or download one from the website.

To be eligible at least one parent must be in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal credit
- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker’s Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190.
- The Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit

**DISABLED ACCESS TOILET**

As we now have a larger number of male staff; I would like to politely request that parents, carers and relatives cease from using the disabled access toilet (unless disabled access is required). We will now be reserving the toilet in reception for the use of our male members of staff and any visitors to school requiring disabled access toilets. Any children needing to use the toilet at the beginning or end of the school day (in an emergency) will be able to use the children’s toilets in school. The adult toilets in school are for staff members and visitors to the school.



**VACANCIES IN SCHOOL**

We have a number of vacancies in school for Learning Support Assistants and Lunchtime Controllers; please look out for the advertisements on the Wokingham Council website or enquire in our school office for details on how to apply.

**SCHOOL CLUBS and SCHOOL UNIFORM**

We have changed our system for booking extra-curricular clubs; from now on the clubs will be bookable on line on a ‘first come first served’ basis. The place in each club will be secured by the online payment, through our online cash office Tucasi, using Scopay.



As you will know from our recent correspondence; we have changed our school uniform provider; after very careful consideration our uniform will now be provided by Gooddies; it will be available to purchase online to have a home delivery or to be delivered to the school for collection. You can order from this address: <http://walter.gooddies.co.uk> (some parents have experienced a difficulty logging on; we recommend using Chrome or Firefox). We still have some very small jumpers and polo shirts available at a reduced price and some very large ones! Please ask in the school office if you are interested. Please be aware that we will only be holding a stock of book bags from now on. We hope that you are all pleased with the quality of the new uniform; I particularly like the new book bags.

## HEALTH MATTERS

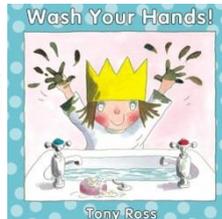
If your child receives a head injury or a bump to the head at home, please could you inform the school so that we can take care to monitor them in school throughout the day.



Please check the use by dates on any inhalers or auto-immune injectors that we have in school for your children and that you replace them if required.

Please can I remind all parents that we are a **'NUT FREE SCHOOL'**; please ensure you do not include any food that contains nuts in your child's packed lunch, for example, **Nutella, peanut butter** or **pesto**. Thank you.

May I remind you that if your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea that they remain absent from school for 48 hours after their last episode of illness.



## SCOOTERS AND BIKES IN SCHOOL

I am very sorry to say that we have been able to get the racks in place for September; we are hoping to remedy this very quickly. I am sorry for any inconvenience caused.

## WET WEATHER CLOTHING

The weather has been very changeable over the last week and we have already had some very wet lunch times and playtimes; we feel it is important for the children to play outside and so they may get caught in the odd shower! Please ensure that your child has a suitable coat in school every day as it is getting colder and damper! Please also ensure that the coat has your child's name in. They will not need umbrellas in school but we are happy to look after wellington boots.



## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION and FUND RAISING

All our parents are invited to join the Parents' Association; if you would like more information, please contact [walterinfantspa@gmail.com](mailto:walterinfantspa@gmail.com) .

There are lots of exciting events and fund raising opportunities coming up with Christmas just around the corner and you can support our school whilst doing your Christmas shopping!

If you do any online shopping you can go to the shopping site via the 'Easy Fundraising' site <https://www.easyfundraising.rog.uk/causes/walterinfantpa> - the school will receive a cash back amount on every purchase. There are lots and lots of companies that will donate a percentage of your spend to school and it is very easy to set up.

If you buy anything from a company called Yellow Moon [www.yellowmoon.org.uk](http://www.yellowmoon.org.uk) who specialise in craft activities you can enter the code **SWA1274** at the checkout to get 10% cash back for the school.

If you are thinking of buying a micro-scooter you can raise money for the school by purchasing it on their website <http://www.micro-scooters.co.uk/> - the school can earn 10% 'cash back' for every purchase if you enter our URN number **109869** in the 'Apply School Code' box.

## AND FINALLY...

We have added some dates for your diary below; there will be further events added to the school calendar as the year progresses.

I am happy to be contacted directly on [head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk) if there are any matters that you would like to discuss. I am also available at the beginning and end of nearly every school day.

Judy Wheeler  
Headteacher

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	Phonics and Reading Meeting for Key Stage 1
20 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	School Photographer
23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2017	Talk like a Pirate Day
11 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	Book Fair
20 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	Harvest Festival
6 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Parent Consultations and Robin Open Evening
8 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Parent Consultations and Robin Open Evening
4 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Year One Christmas Production Dress Rehearsal
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Year One Christmas Production for Beech Parents
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Year One Christmas Production for Larch Parents
7 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Year One Christmas Production for Oak Parents
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Christmas Lunch for pupils
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Christmas Parties
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017 8:45 am	Foundation Stage Christmas Celebration for parents
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017 2:45 pm	Year 2 Christmas Celebration for parents
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Last day of term (finishing at 2:20 pm)
3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2018	INSET DAY
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	First day of Spring Term