



# Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you all my best wishes for the New Year and especially the next few weeks, which are going to be very difficult for us all. The new school year has not begun as we would have hoped and I am sure it has been very difficult for your children to have adapted to home learning without having been into school after the Christmas break!

If you are having difficulties getting home learning underway, please get in touch and we will see what we can do help. Please contact your class teacher directly; we have shared all the direct email addresses with you but here they are again just in case!

Robin: <a href="mailto:samantha.potter@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">samantha.potter@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a>
Dove: <a href="mailto:jessica.bennette@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">jessica.bennette@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a>
Magpie: <a href="mailto:rebecca.prickett@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">rebecca.prickett@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a>

Woodpecker: fiona.prickett@walter.wokingham.sch.uk and

lisa.parfett@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

Beech: <u>lauren.rose@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> Larch: <u>lisa.palmer@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> Oak: <u>jasmine.veale@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> Pine: justin.lee@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

Sycamore: andrew.herlihey@walter.wokingham.sch.uk Willow: heather.pimm@walter.wokingham.sch.uk and mandy.macdonough@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

If your child is on our Special Needs register please contact Mrs Walker on louise.walker@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

I am aware that some of our families may not have devices, other than mobile phones, to connect to the internet to watch our recorded lessons and to access the resources. If you do not have internet access or a screen that your child can use, please contact me immediately on <a href="mailto:head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a> as Wokingham Borough Council will have some laptops available after January 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 for the families most in need. If you do not have printing facilities, please contact Mrs Janes or Mrs Hemmings on <a href="mailto:admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a> or telephone on 01189780825.

If you can access 'Youtube' through your television, you will be able to watch all our videos, included our recorded lessons.

## **Key Worker School**

Our Key Worker School (for the children of key and critical workers and vulnerable children) opened again on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and we are already at our full capacity. It is going well and we will be sending a separate flyer with information specific to the families of the children attending school. If your circumstances change over the coming months and you begin working as a key or critical worker, please do get in touch if you need a place in Key Worker School.

# **Remote Learning Provision**

I hope you have all been able to access our Remote Learning Provision on our website; my staff team have been working as quickly and as hard as they can to get resources up on the site and accessible to everyone. We are learning all the time about how to do things and how else we can make home learning as good as we can possibly make it.

You should have received a letter on Tuesday about our Home Learning Provision; if you did not receive the letter, please let us know and we will send it again.

To access the home learning you need to visit our website:



https://www.walter.wokingham.sch.uk/website then click on the home learning link:

# Home Learning

Then 'Home Learning Resources'

Home Learning Resources

Welcome to our Walter Home Learning page. We are constantly updating this area with lots of resources, activities and things to try at home so keep checking this area of the website. Please visit your child's year group page by following the relevant link to the left for more things. Also, remember to visit and sign up to our Walter Tube YouTube channel.

We have produced home learning packs for each year group. You will find lots of activities, resources, lesson videos and links for websites with activities to keep your children busy at home.

Click



Then click on the work for your child's year group, for example:

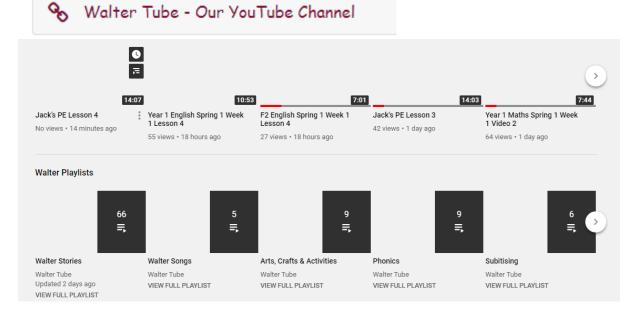
#### Year One



You will find all the recorded lessons for you to watch with your child and to learn alongside them: encourage your child to call out answers and responses to the questions and challenges posed. We will be updating our website daily.



If you cannot access the videos this way, try loggin on via this link:



You will be able to access all our recorded sessions from stories to songs, daily PE lessons to do at home with Jack and all your Mathematics, English and Phonics Learning.

On our website you will also find a document called Remoted Education Provision:

#### REMOTE EDUCATION PROVISION

This tab will take you to a document that outlines how we will be delivering our remote learning for home schooling.

We are expected to offer 3 hours of learning each day for primary school children (therefore children up to the age of 11). Our youngest children in Robin, Dove, Magpie and Woodpecker learn through play and they play a lot; 80% of their learning in school is child initiated and 20% adult directed.

Miss Potter has so far uploaded a 9 Day Plan, for the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Many of the activities need to be revisited to develop memory muscles as well as skills.

We recommend that the children in Foundation Stage 2 still play for most of the day but also watch a Literacy Development Lesson and follow the learning, a Mathematics Development lesson, some phonics, some reading and some PE. They could then play inside and outside exploring their own toys, access Education City or Purple Mash or watch some good quality television programmes. Jigsaws and board games are wonderful opportunities for learning, so are construction toys and of course role play.

In Year 1 and Year 2 we recommend following this time table:

Time	Task/Activity
9:00 - 10:00	English: writing activities
10:00 - 10:30	Reading
10:30 - 11:00	Break and snack time
11:00 - 12:00	Maths
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch time
1:00 - 1:20	Practising our phonics or spellings – you can access Phonics Play, see below for access details.
1:20 - 3:00	During the afternoon the children will be experiencing a lot of different learning; PE lessons, outside play and exploring the environment. Art and craft, music, learning about the world around them including science, geography and history. We will be placing activities, resources and activities on the website

We will be launching an additional home reading library very soon, which is aligned with our guided reading scheme in school:



Please remember to send examples of your children' work to their teachers, who will feedback. We would love to see photographs too. We will be able to see who is able to engage as we are expected to demonstrate how we are feeding back to our families during Lockdown. We have already received some wonderful examples of the children's work.



If you have any questions at all, please contact your child's teacher or me directly.

Home Learning does not all need to be screen and paper based; young children learn so much from being outside, please try to go for a walk every day, or a cycle ride or a scoot. Perhaps you are lucky enough to have a garden, if so, make as much use of it as possible:

- Plant bulbs or sow seeds and wait for them to grow
- Feed the birds; keep a record of how many different ones you see
- Build a bug hotel or a hedgehog house
- Make a weather station
- Set yourself physical challenges; bounce a ball 100 times without missing
- Bounce a tennis ball on your racket 100 times
- Play catch with a partner; how many times can you throw and catch a ball without dropping it?
- Learn to skip!
- Use the patio as a chalkboard!

The Woodland Trust has a wonderful website, full of ideas for outside adventures: <a href="https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2021/01/lockdown-activities-kids-winter/">https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2021/01/lockdown-activities-kids-winter/</a>

You will all receive your invitations for our Zoom Catch-up Sessions next week; if you have a mobile phone, you will be able to access Zoom so watch this space. We had some technical problems earlier today but our systems seem to be up and running now. Sycamore will be our first Zoomers of 2021 on Monday!

We have lots and lots of additional ideas and websites on our website; please have a jolly good look around.

I am extremely proud of our online learning so far but I would very much appreciate your comments on our Remote Education Provision; please let me know your thoughts and what you think we could do to make things better. I would like to thank those of you who have already been in touch; your encouragement and appreciation has lifted our spirits.

#### Help is available!



If you have a problem, big or small, we may be able to help: we can help with food vouchers for the Food Bank. We can help with warm clothes and bedding. As mentioned above we may be able to help with sourcing a lap top from the local council. We can 'sign post' you to get help for fuel bills, we can provide paper, pens, colouring pencils.

We will be delivering Morrison's food hampers to our Free School Meal children and from Monday every FSM family will receive a weekly voucher for £15 for each eligible child. If your circumstances have changed during the pandemic and you are now working fewer hours or in receipt of specific benefits, your child may now be entitled to free school meals (different from the Universal Free School Meal that all infant children in school are entitled to): check this list to see if you can apply for Pupil Premium Funding.

## **Pupil Premium Funding**

If you experiencing financial hard ship please get in touch with us; we may be able to help. If you have had a change to your circumstances, your child may be entitled to Pupil Premium Funding? If you contact Mrs Janes or Mrs Hemmings in the office they will be able to send you a form to complete. If your family are eligible, we will be able to register you for the Free School Meals Voucher Scheme which is £15 per child.

You may be able to claim if you are in receipt of:

- Universal credit (provided you have a net income of £7400 or less)
- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less

#### **Lap Tops or Tablets**

I wondered if any local IT companies might be able to support us with an offer of lap tops or tablets as it is unlikely that we will be supplied with the number we need after 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. These do not need to be new but they do need to be clear of any history. If you can help, please contact me on head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk

I hope you are able to make the most of your family 'down time' this weekend.

Please remember that you can email me at any time with any question or query.

Best wishes; keep safe and well.

Judy Wheeler Headteacher

