



# Friday Flyer!

## **Dear Walter Families,**

Today has been a truly wonderful day; seeing all our children arriving in school in all the colours of the rainbow with huge smiles on their lovely faces! So far we have collected £470.20 for new toys for our classrooms. This is the most we have raised for a one day collection! Some children donated ALL the contents of their piggy banks! And then..... 'Low and behold' a full rainbow filled the sky! We couldn't believe it and the children loved it!



I have seen so much magic in and around our classrooms today; here are a few of the pictures but I will add a slide show to the website.

























# **Cultural Capital at Walter Infant School**

In September 2019 the Department of Education and OFSTED launched a new Inspection Framework and a new element of the framework was to measure the intent of our curriculum provision and our Cultural Capital, a new term to many of us who do not work in industry.

leaders take on or construct a curriculum that is ambitious and designed to give all learners, particularly the most disadvantaged and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) or high needs, the knowledge and <u>cultural</u> <u>capital</u> they need to succeed in life

We are very confident that we have a curriculum that is all of these things, however, the wording and expectations encouraged us to think very carefully about our dreams and aspirations for our children.

In 1987 (my final year at university) I wrote a thesis based on my beliefs and the title was: "I believe the children are our future" using the words from the song of the same title which at the time was a big hit for George Benson.

"I believe the children are our future, teach them well and let them lead the way; show them all the beauty they possess inside. Give them a sense of pride to make it easier; let the children's laughter remind us how we used to be!"

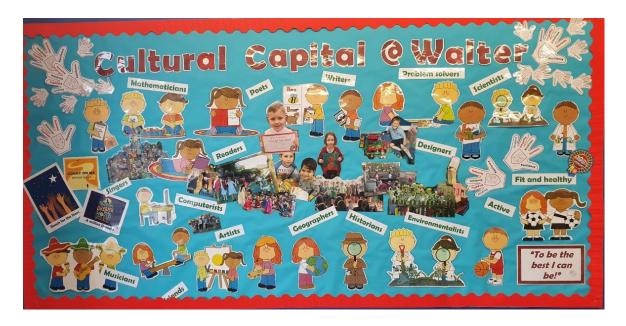
This was then, and still is now, my mantra; our school is full of laughter, children and adults alike and when we have tears, everyone cares, we all work together to try to make things better. It is a wonderful place to work and learn together and I am so proud to be the Headteacher of such an amazing school.

We encourage our children to be the best they can be and to always "Reach for the Stars"; but we hope for even more. We want our children to believe that they can be whatever they want to be so we need to provide them with the skills, knowledge and understanding, as well as the fundamental values they need to be successful in all aspects of life by the time they leave us for pastures new in Junior School.

As staff we have worked hard to establish what that means in reality, so that our children will be our future teachers, doctors, pilots, footballers, dancers, archaeologists, builders, hairdressers, gardeners, scientists, firefighters, police officers....

We have shared an assembly today about our Cultural Capital and perhaps it will explain why we came in rainbow colours today: Please find it on our website under parents – I have been told that all the children loved sharing their hopes and dreams with their teachers and their friends.





# **School Improvement Officer**

I had a virtual meeting with our School Improvement Officer, Anne Stopforth and she has completed a very positive report on the school, we are in the highest 20% of all schools in the country for all areas of assessment and higher than the national and local authority statistics and our current assessments show that all our children are making excellent progress. Mrs Stopforth commented:

The Head shared that the outcomes reflect the strength of the curriculum, that is led by clear understanding by staff of the development of the skills and knowledge that children should have. The curriculum is focused on core skills as well as encompassing and enhancing the experiences children are offered. They are very clear about what Cultural Capital means for their pupils.

#### In addition to this she also recorded:

The Head is passionate about the children in her care. Her enthusiasm to ensure that the learning environment motivates and inspires the children to be enthusiastic, excited and engaged in learning is infectious. Her careful and sensitive management of Covid risk assessment has resulted in parents being confident to send their children to school and in staff feeling safe to be in school.

## Stars of the Week

Here is our Robin Star of the Week...





What's been happening in school this week?





# **Black History Month**

As you know, we have been learning about the impact some famous black role models have had on our lives now and in the past. Here are some wonderful examples of Year 2 work:



## Unsuitable computer games

We have been informed about some other dangerously unsuitable games for young children including Minecraft, Ro-Blox, Moshi Monsters and 'Piggy' – please be aware of the content of these games.

#### Zottedeli

Please see the information below; it is wonderful to see such kindness in our community.





Good Morning Everyone,

We are saddened to hear about the governments decision on the free school meal scheme.

As the community has supported us through these crazy times, we are offering free take away pack lunches from Mon 23rd Oct to Sat 31st Oct (sandwich, piece of fruit, snack and a drink) for kids who access free meals at school.

Please private message us and don't be afraid to reach out. As part of a community we are always here to help.

For any extra information, please get in contact.

# **Fire Drill Evacuation**

We had a fire drill evacuation today, along with St Paul's and Meadow Nursery and we evacuated the school and accounted for every person in 2 mins and 57 seconds! Our best ever time. The children behaved impeccably.



# **Oxfam Story Time**

Mrs Gibbs has sent a flyer for a story time during the half term holiday:



#### **School Packed Lunches**

Please can I remind you that we are a healthy school and also a nut free zone: please do not send children with any type of chocolate spread in their lunch boxes! Please do not send in chocolate bars or sweets. Please can we also remind you to cut grapes in half? Thank you

#### It's not too late for a food bank voucher!

If you need a food bank voucher, please contact Mrs Janes on <a href="mailto:admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a>

#### **Parent Consultations**

We will be holding our parent consultations via telephone in the month of November (soon after half term). You will be able to book a slot via our website to talk to the class teacher about progress, behaviours for learning and next steps.

## And finally....

Please email Mrs Janes or Mrs Hemmings if someone else, unknown to us, is collecting your child and share a password on <a href="mailto:admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">admin@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a>; you do not need to do this for regular arrangements. Please remember that anyone collecting your child must 18 years or older. Thank you

Have a wonderful half term break. Please contact me if you have any questions or queries. <a href="mailto:head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk">head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</a>
Keep well and keep safe.

Judy Wheeler Headteacher