

Friday Flyer!

Dear Walter Families,

This has been a truly magical week; we have made so many wonderful memories in school and I will attempt to share some of them with you all today.

Our week began with our visit from Flash and Jet; there are photographs on the website. Our children were extremely excited and incredibly curious and the reindeer's assistants said that our children were absolutely wonderful and behaved impeccably! I was extremely proud and the work that has been produced in Year 1 is phenomenal! We learned a lot; did you know that reindeer are very good swimmers?



On Wednesday a small choir of 15 Year 2 children took part in a Zoom Concert for the clients of the Dementia Café in Wokingham Hospital. The children sang beautifully and the clients reported that it had made their day.



Today has been our busiest day of all and so much fun; we began with dancing at the start of the school day and we haven't stopped!!



We were all wearing our Christmas Jumpers and have raised a large amount of money for Save the Children; thank you so much for your donations totalling £242.41! We weren't the only people taking part! Pippa, Ms Rees' new baby daughter was also taking part in Christmas Jumper Day and sent this photograph.



We have had our Christmas Lunch today which was a huge success and the children loved wearing their crowns; some mummies had gone to a great deal of trouble to make their children's lunches extra special.



We have also had our 'Movie Afternoon'; don't forget to find out which movie your child saw. They may have seen Arthur Claus, The Nativity, Onward, Frozen 2 or something else. They all had tickets for entry and a delicious bag of popcorn. The whole school now smells like a cinema!



COVID 19 Updates including our end of term finishing date and times You may be aware that schools in Bracknell and Reading have been directed to close on Thursday 17th 2020. We are not closing until Friday 18th December as already planned but will finish an hour earlier than usual.

Year 2 will finish at 2:00pm Foundation Stage 2 will finish at 2:10pm Year 1 will finish at 2:20pm Robin will finish at 2:30 pm (for children who attend for 30 hours or in the afternoon)

This information is being sent to all St Paul's families too:

On Monday, the DfE reported that schools were able to use the final day of term (18th) as an INSET Day. Mrs Taylor and I appreciate how disruptive it

would be to suddenly change the date of the end of term with such little warning and of the potential problems this will cause with childcare arrangements. Therefore, both St Paul's and Walter will remain open until 18th and pupils who are fit and well should continue to attend. Year group bubbles will finish early (see above).

As directed by the DfE, schools retain the duty to contact trace for a period of six days after the end of term. This is an important element in managing the spread of the virus. As a result of this, it is important to understand that up to and including 24th December, we may need to alert you that your child has been in close or prolonged contact with a positive case of COVID 19. This would consequently mean a period of self-isolation. In this event, we will contact you via text or email so please check your communications daily. Any period of self-isolation would be extremely disappointing for families over the festive period. However, you will appreciate how important it will be for us to inform you especially if your child may be meeting with elderly or medically vulnerable family members between the 23rd and 27th of December.

If your child receives a positive test result for Covid-19 over the holidays, please email <u>head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> with COVID-19 in the subject line and include their name, class, the date of the onset of their symptoms, and the date of their test. This will enable us to carry out contact tracing where necessary.

- If anyone who lives in your household or who shares your support or Christmas bubble presents with symptoms of COVID 19 or is awaiting a test result, EVERYONE in the household or bubble must isolate for 14 days or until a negative test result is received. If **a positive test** result is received all other house members must continue to isolate for 14 days after the symptoms first appeared. A negative test result (whilst someone in the household is positive) will not change the isolation time.
- If you are a childminder or informal care giver you must follow exactly the same rules as above as the children you are caring for will have had more than 15 minutes contact and are effectively part of your household. Everyone that has been in contact with your household bubble must isolate for 14 days or until a negative test result is received. You <u>do not</u> wait for a positive test result.
- If you are a child minder (or informal care giver) you must inform our school if you
 develop symptoms or are awaiting a test result so that we can ensure that the
 parents of the children know that they have to isolate until a negative test result
 comes through. If the test result is positive all children in your care must continue
 to isolate for 14 days. Other members of their households to not need to isolate
 as they are contacts of contacts.
- PLEASE OBSERVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY SO WE CAN TRY TO AVOID ANY HARM COMING TO ANYONE IN OUR SCHOOL.

Covid 19 Symptoms are:

- a new, persistent cough
- a high temperature (37.8 or above)
- loss of taste and/or smell

You could have all or just one of these symptoms

Please:

- wash your hands regularly
- use anti-bacterial hand gel

- wear a mask to and from school and on the school site (not children or if you are exempt)
- please socially distance
- please leave our site as soon as you can
- do not meet anyone outside of your household/support bubble (unless 1:1 socially distancing)
- do not have visitors into your home

Stars of the Week

Here is our Robin Star of the Week...



We have 10 amazing stars who have been awarded their certificates for all being "the best that they can be" in so many different ways. I am extremely proud.



What has been happening in school?

There have been lots of elves up to no good in school this week; although I must admit that they are very funny! We have more new additions to our beautiful garden.









Raffle Tickets

We are still selling raffle tickets; the draw will take place on Wednesday 16th December. We will notify the winners by telephone and the prizes will be available for collection from the school car park entrance during the school day. Our first prize is a £100 Marks and Spencer voucher, we have £75 of garden centre vouchers for our second prize and a £50 John Lewis voucher for our third prize. We will announce the prize first and then select a ticket at random. All names and telephone numbers will be recorded and there will be a number of people present to ensure the raffle is conducted equitably. There are many other prizes, including a Sega Mega Drive, a gin hamper, a cut a blow dry from Honey B, a food hamper, beer and wine and so much more.



Nativity Plays and Christmas Concerts

We have filmed all our concerts and Nativity Plays and they are going to be edited over the weekend; ready to be released next week. We will let you know exactly when they will launch on Monday. I have to say you will all be delighted.

Fleeces and Gilets

As you are all aware, we have been directed by Public Health England, the Health and Safety Executive and the Department of Education to ventilate our school, especially the classrooms by keeping the windows open when we are in the rooms. The windows only have to be open far enough to allow continuous air circulation so that any viruses, such as cold, flu or indeed COVID 19 will not be retained within the classroom. I am pleased to see that so many children have already brought in an extra layer, just in case. We will not allow the classrooms to drop below 16 degrees C as we will keep the heat on at all times and close the windows when the rooms are empty. I would like to say a huge thank you for the donations of fleeces for children who may not have them. If you need help to provide a suitable fleece or gilet, please let us know.

Letters to Father Christmas

You can still post letters to Father Christmas, up until the 16th of December. Many children have received replies but there is still plenty of time.

Christmas Cards

Please can I remind you that we are not expecting the children to give out individual cards this year; if they would like to, please send one card in for the class only. Thank you.

Christmas Trail

The PTA have organised a Christmas Trail around our local area; 30 people have already signed up and it sounds very exciting and a lovely thing for families to do together. Please follow this link for more information: <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfRjNSF54o-</u> cwBXXq0CFrPVW7tJzIMJBUGRQNh5Giy1MeknYw/viewform

And finally....

Have a wonderful weekend. Please contact me if you have any questions or queries. <u>head@walter.wokingham.sch.uk</u> Keep well and keep safe.

Judy Wheeler Headteacher