

WALTER INFANT SCHOOL

JUNE 2017

'To be the best I can be'



Issue 6/17

Tel: 0118 978 0825

www.walter.wokingham.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe we are in the final term of this academic year; time seems to have flown by and it has been an eventful and successful year. We are now preparing for the Phonics Screening and the final end of year assessments for our Year 2 children. We have also been collating evidence and making observations to complete the Foundation Stage Profiles for our F2 children. The teachers are also working extremely hard to produce the annual written school reports for each child, which will come home on Friday 21st July 2017.

SCHOOL SECRETARY AND COMMUNICATION

I am delighted to announce that we now have a new school secretary; Mrs Debbie Janes. She began working with us on Monday 4th June and she has already said how much she is enjoying working here. We are always keen to improve communication with parents; but sometimes there can be problems. We have introduced a whole school texting system which is generally working well, although some parents have stated that they have not received all of the texts we have sent. We will also make sure in future that it is clear who the text is from; please could you help us with this by storing the school number in your phone. Please could you ensure that we have up to date mobile phone numbers for all contacts; the text will be sent to the primary contact only. We would prefer to contact everyone by email; please could you ensure that we have an up to date email address that you regularly check for information. If you do not have an email facility; please let Mrs Janes know so that she can provide paper copies for you. We will no longer be operating the Monday Mail system and will send letters out when we need to. Mrs Prickett regularly updates the Walter Infant School Facebook page and we try to keep the website up to date. We also post information on our notice boards in the playground. If you can think of any other ways that we can keep in touch to make sure you feel fully informed, please let me know your ideas for our consideration.

THE SUMMER FAIR

As you know it will be our Summer Fair on Saturday 17th June at 11:00; you will have received lots of information about the raffle and the online auction. Thank you very much for the very generous donations you have made already, we are so grateful, however; we still need lots of help: I am attaching a link for volunteers; we desperately need as many people as possible to help the event be successfully (I have even roped my husband in!!!) – so please sign up as a volunteer and come and help us.

www.volunteersignup.org/KF9J9

There will be lots of exciting things to see and do, including Morris Dancing, a barbecue, a tombola, a craft stall and the children singing!

We would also very much appreciate it if you were able to lend us a gazebo for the fair – we had very wet weather last year so we want to be well-prepared for all weathers. Please let us know if you are able to help. We have been told that the 10 day weather forecast is good; so fingers crossed. Please come along to support us; this is our largest fund raising event for the year – you will have an opportunity to say how you would like the money raised to be spent.

WORLD MUSIC DAY

Wednesday 21st June is World Music Day; we will be celebrating by listening to different music and making music of our own. On Tuesday 21st every child will have the opportunity to have a dance lesson with Miss Joanna Wright from The Wright School of Dancing; we would very much appreciate it if you could make a voluntary donation of £1 per child which we will collect on the day. Thank you very much; it should be a very exciting day. On Wednesday 21st the children will have opportunities to listen to a variety of music and to make music of their own.



BEES IN SCHOOL!

On Friday 26th May the bees came to school; 12 thousand bees swarmed into the playground at lunchtime; they looked like a thick, black, swirling cloud. We successfully evacuated the outside playing areas in less than 90 seconds and not one child was stung.

We had no choice but to close the school as we could not use the main entrance and there was nowhere for us to muster to in the event of a fire!

We used our new texting system; which generally worked well, although we are aware that as we were sending nearly 300 texts, some parents got the message later than others. We will work on ways to improve that; however, it meant that we had a steady flow of parents and carers arriving so we were able to remain calm and keep all the children safe.

The bees are now residing in Crowthorne with a very nice beekeeper called Walter (which we thought was a wonderful coincidence!).



WOOLLEY FIRS

The Year 2 children had a wonder two days at Woolley Firs; they thoroughly enjoyed learning about the wildlife in our local environment. They were able to do some pond dipping when many of them discovered tiny newts. There were opportunities to get 'up close and personal' with bugs, grubs and larvae!



As usual the children's behaviour was exemplary and all the staff very proud.

SPORTS DAY and FATHER'S DAY

We will have our annual sports day celebrations on Friday 16th June from 9:15; this will enable Father's (including uncles and grandfathers) to attend the Father's Day Celebration and Sports Day! Please can you ensure that Key Stage 1 children have sun-cream and sun hats as well as sports kit and the correct coloured t-shirt: Scotland – blue, England – white, Wales – red and Ireland – green; I am sure it will be a wonderful event and hopefully the weather will be good. If we have to postpone due to poor weather we will post information on the website and on the school Facebook page by 8:00 am

HEALTH MATTERS

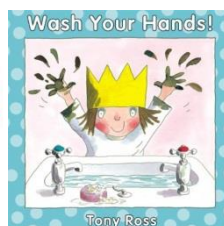
If your child receives a head injury or a bump to the head at home, please could you inform the school so that we can take care to monitor them in school throughout the day.



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.

We have seen some rays of sunshine just lately; please ensure that you take precautions to protect your children from the sun as the weather becomes warmer. We would advise that you apply sun cream on very hot days and send your child to school with a sun hat.

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.



LOST PROPERTY AND SPARE CLOTHING

The lost property box, located behind the art room and close to the school garden, is very full. Please could you check in there to see if there is anything that belongs to your child.

We would also be very grateful if you could donate any spare school clothing that your child has grown out of as every so often we might need to change a child's clothing and we are running out of things. Thank you very much.

VOUCHER COLLECTION

We are still collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers although they have stopped issuing them in stores, if you or anyone you know still has some we have a collecting box in reception. We would like to submit our vouchers to Sainsbury's by the end of June 2017.



AND FINALLY...

I am happy to be contacted directly on 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

Monday 6 th March	Last day of Book Fair - 3.20pm - 4.00pm in School Hall
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
Tuesday 28 th March	Orthoptist visit to conduct eye tests for F2
Wednesday 29 th March	Parent Consultations for F2, Yr 1 and 2 - 3.30pm to 7.00pm F1 Open Evening - 4.00pm to 5.30pm
Thursday 30 th March	Last Day of Term finishing 1 hour early
Friday 31 st March	Parent Consultations - F2, Yr 1 and 2 - 8.30am to 1.30pm F1 Open Morning - current parents 8.30am to 1.30pm
Tuesday 18 th April	First Day of Summer Term
Tuesday 18 th April	Year 3 and F2 places for September 2017 announced
Monday 1 st May	May Bank Holiday - School Closed
Wednesday 24 th May	Phonics Screening meetings for parents at 2:50 pm and 6:00 pm for all Year 1 parents.
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)
9 th June	Non-uniform Day
12 th June to 23 rd June	Phonics Screening
Friday 16 th June	Year 1 and 2 Sports Morning 9am-11am on St Paul's Field
Friday 16 th June	Father's Day Celebration in Foundation Stage
Saturday 17 th June	Summer Fair
Tuesday 20 th June	New Parents to F2 meeting 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday 21 st June	New Parents to Robin meeting 6:00 - 7:30 pm
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