

WALTER INFANT SCHOOL JULY 2017

'To be the best I can be'



Issue 7/17

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Dear Parents,

I cannot believe we are approaching the end of this school year; it has flown by! It has been a very eventful and very successful year for Walter Infant School. The children have continued to work hard throughout the year 'to be the best they can be' and we are delighted with their progress and attainment. I feel very proud of each and every one of them!

THE SUMMER FAIR

The Summer Fair was a huge success; the weather was beautiful and lots of people came along to help us raise money for the school. I am delighted to announce that we made **£4,482.40!** I would like to thank all the members of the Walter Infant School Parents association who have worked tirelessly to ensure we had a wonderful event for our community. I would also like to thank everyone who came to help on the day, including mums, dads, aunts, uncles, grandparents and other family members. I would also like to thank the members of the staff team at Walter too. The most popular choice for how to spend the money was to re-surface the playground. We have arranged to have quotes from a number of companies, so I will keep you posted. The first company are coming this week. We will also be spending some of the money on books as that choice was a very close 'runner up'!



SPORTS DAYS

We have had two wonderful sports day events recently; run by Jack Dillon and his super sporty team. Key Stage 1 went to St Paul's where they took part in so many exciting events and activities, culminating in the famous Year 2 relay race! Foundation Stage had their event in our playground and it too was fantastic. I loved watching all the parents and grandparents playing with the children and making the event so successful. We were blessed again with the weather and were delighted by the number of family members who came to watch. The children really enjoyed themselves and took part sensibly and played fairly, showing their positive attitudes towards sports. I will be placing lots of photographs on the website this week!



ONE LOVE @ WALTER

ONE LOVE

We will be holding a 'One Love' event at school on Thursday 13th July at 2:00pm for all the children in school to celebrate our diversity and differences.

The children can come to school in national costume or in the colours that represent their country of heritage; recently or from long ago. They can wear garments that celebrate their diversity or culture. We would love the children to bring in a plate of nut free, vegetarian food to share with friends and staff, for example vegetable samosas or vegetarian tapas, vegetarian street food, scones, sandwiches, traditional cakes or biscuits etc.

There will be singing, dancing and merriment; the children will have opportunities to learn about other cultures by listening to stories, producing art and craft activities, tasting food and listening to music. Miss Joanna will be coming back to dance with us!

The children from the Robin morning class are very welcome to join us but would need to be accompanied by an adult for our health and safety ratios.

I am delighted to say that one lovely family have already volunteered to come and share a special dance with us; if you have any songs or dances or if you can play any instruments and you would like to take part, please do not hesitate to contact us.

SCHOOL GARDEN

The Mayor of Wokingham Peter Lucey and some members of Wokingham Town Council will be visiting the school on Tuesday 4th July to judge the school garden for 'Wokingham in Bloom'; we have won the gold award two years in a row and are hopeful it will be third time lucky. I would like

to thank Mrs Stanborough, Mrs Shah and Mrs Odey and all the members of the Gardening Club for all their hard work and dedication. The garden looks absolutely amazing at the moment and I am sure the judges will be very impressed.



STAFF ARRANGEMENTS

I am delighted to say that we have appointed a number of new teachers to join our school in September; here are the teachers and the classes. There will be a number of job share roles to reflect the desire for some of our teachers to work part-time or for leaders in school to fulfil the requirements of their other responsibilities.

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

Miss Beale and Miss Mills will be leaving us to take up posts in other schools; I would like to wish them every success for the future. We have several vacancies for Lunchtime Controllers, beginning in September; please enquire at the school office if you are interested.

SCHOOL REPORTS AND CHANGE OVER DAY

Foundation Stage children will bring their school reports home on Friday 14th July; if you would like an appointment to discuss the report with the class teacher Mrs Parfett (Magpie) will be available on the 18th July, Mrs Coyne on the 19th July and Mrs Lewis on the 20th July; you will be able to sign up for an appointment during the school day.

Key Stage One children will bring their reports home on Friday 21st July; if you would like to meet with the class teacher, appointments can be made Monday 24th July by speaking directly to the class teacher. Hopefully the reports will have all the information you need.

The children will find out the name of their class teacher on Thursday 13th July and meet their teacher for a change over session on Friday 14th July. We have considered the class groupings very carefully and taken many factors into consideration; including gender, term of birth, Special Educational Needs, ability groups and of course friendships.

We will not be holding the 'meet the teacher' sessions on the 14th July, instead we will be inviting parents to come in and meet the teachers in Year 1 and Year 2 on the first day back to school at 8:45 on Wednesday 6th September 2017, when you will be able to bring your child into school and come into the classrooms, if you have more than one child we will be able to make alternative arrangements.

DISABLED ACCESS TOILET

As we will have a larger number of male staff in September, 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.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION DATES – THE BEE MUSICAL

The end of year production for the children in Year 2 will take place on the following days:

- Tuesday 18th July @ 2:00 pm **PINE**
- Wednesday 19th July @ 2:00 pm **SYCAMORE**
- Thursday 20th July @ 2:00 pm **WILLOW**

Please make sure you have put in your request for tickets; we are able to offer more tickets than in previous years so each family can apply for up to three tickets. I am thoroughly enjoying listening to the rehearsals and I can guarantee that it will be absolutely fantastic.



SCHOOL CLUBS and SCHOOL UNIFORM

We will be changing 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. We will be offering the same clubs next year as we have done this year. I will let you know as soon as the system is up and running; Mrs Foster is finalising the details at the moment.



As you will know from our recent correspondence; we are changing 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 will soon have a direct link on the website. If you have not received information about the changes to school uniform, please speak to Mrs Janes.

There are some items of the older style school uniform available at a reduced price – please ask in the school office.

HEALTH MATTERS

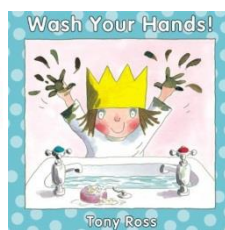
If your child receives a head injury or a bump to the head at home, please could you inform the school so that we can take care to monitor them in school throughout the day.



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.



SCOOTERS AND BIKES IN SCHOOL

Thank you to all of you who have responded to my request to stop children from riding scooters and bikes in the playground; it is very much appreciated. We will have a scooter rack installed in the playground for September, where the children will be able to lock their scooters for the duration of the school day. I hope this will make journeys to school more convenient for some families.

LOST PROPERTY

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 will share the contents of the box before the end of term, however, at the start of the new term in September the box will be empty and we will have disposed of or recycled the contents of any items that do not have a name on them!

AND FINALLY...

We have made a number of changes to the organisation of the school since I joined in September 2015; some of these are working well and some still need to be embedded. I would like to thank all of you for your helpful suggestions on how we can improve things further at Walter Infant School. The safety, security and well-being of all of the children has been and will remain the first priority for the leadership team.

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.

I would like to wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing summer and I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

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
Friday 14 th July	10.20am Class Changeover Day for F2 and Year 1 pupils FS reports sent home
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	Year 2 Leavers' Disco
Tuesday 25 th July	End of Summer Term - finishing 1 hour early