



October 2017 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your children for contributing to such a super start to the new academic year. The children have settled well and teaching staff are looking forward to meeting with you at our Parents' Evenings on Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th October.

Teachers will meet you for your appointment in the class rooms and the children's books will be available for you to look at before and after your appointment. Please make sure you have made your appointment via our Parentmail booking system. If you have any concerns with our online booking system, please contact our Office team who will be happy to help.

Since my last newsletter, I am delighted to inform you that our draft school development plan is complete and once ratified by Governors, it will be available on our website. The focus of our plan is to secure outstanding outcomes for our children and I will use my newsletters to provide you with updates on our progress.

As you know, the value for the month of September was belonging and we spent time focusing on the Worplesdon community which we belong to, including the importance of our school uniform which we should wear with pride. In addition to the appropriate uniform detailed in my last newsletter, please can I remind you that:

- Sensible black shoes must be worn (not trainers or boots)
- Make up and nail varnish may not be worn;
- Jewellery must not be worn (except a watch and plain stud earrings which the children must be able to remove for P.E.);
- Girls should wear plain hair / alic bands and clips, not over-sized hair bands, bows or 'jojo' bows;
- Body adornments such as mimic tattoos are not acceptable in school.

Linked to our work on 'belonging', I am extremely grateful to the community for continuing to help make the area surrounding our site safe for all the children. The community has clearly pulled together to:

- ✓ Make a promise to walk, scoot, cycle or park and stride at least once a week;
- ✓ Park considerately often driving further away from the school entrance;
- ✓ Never parking or dropping off on the zig zag lines at the front of the school;
- ✓ Never parking across residents' driveways.

I have received positive feedback from the school community on our drive to improve the safety around the school site, as well as requests for: a lollipop person to help children and parents cross safely; a drop off zone; and a pick up zone at the end of the day. I am currently exploring these suggestions and will provide you an update in my next newsletter.

This month, we will be focusing on the value of 'friendship' and we will be exploring how to be a good friend, how to make new friends and how to challenge unkind behaviour. In school, we will be finding opportunities to positively recognise children for living by our school values. If you have any examples of your child(ren) demonstrating the school values at home, I would love to hear about it (via my email: head@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk) so I can give them a 'special headteacher note of thanks'.

Finally, it is really important that we continue to work in partnership so if you or your child(ren) have any questions or concerns as the term proceeds, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or myself.

Best wishes,

Karen O'Brien

Karen O'Brien

Value of the month - Friendship



Updates



Attendance

It is our task at Worpleston Primary School to promote and support our children's learning and enable each one of them to achieve their full potential. The school staff, alongside the Local Authority, firmly believes that all pupils benefit from regular school attendance. We know that every day lost to education can have a serious impact on children's attainment and overall progress in school. We expect our children to achieve 100% attendance unless the absence is authorised by Mrs O'Brien. Our attendance for the month of September is currently **94.8%** which unfortunately falls short of our school target for the academic year of 96%. We hope that our attendance increases over the following month.

Fire Drill & Lock Down

This term we will be carrying out both fire drills and lock downs so that the children and staff are confident in following the procedures we have in place.

Fire Drill: The children have been taught to calmly leave the school building when they hear a continuous bell. We have successfully carried out a planned drill where children and staff knew that the bell was going to ring. The next step is to carry out an unplanned fire drill later this term.

Lock Down: Over the next two weeks, class teachers will be teaching the children to remain within the school building when they hear three short bells. We will be explaining to the children that at times we may need to remain in the school building for our safety (e.g. bad weather, air pollution, an animal etc.) Once staff and children are feeling confident, we will carry out a planned lock down then an unplanned lock down later in the term.

Promoting Healthy Eating

Here at Worpleston our meals are provided by Commercial Services Catering (CSC), their promise is: "Every day, your child will receive a fresh and healthy meal cooked from scratch using local and regional red tractor and organic accredited produce". As a school, we monitor the lunches and proactively seek feedback from your children to ensure CSC are delivering their promise.



We would like to remind you that if your child has a packed lunch, that this should also be healthy and well balanced. It should not include: sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks. Furthermore, we are a nut free school due to the serious allergies we have within the school community. We thank you for your support.

School Council Update

At Worpleston, our school council acts as the voice for all of the pupils in the school. It is a very important role. The representatives are carefully chosen by the children in their class to represent their views and we meet up every two weeks to plan and discuss exciting projects for the year ahead. We work closely with the senior leadership team to create an action plan of things to work on. We are going to be busy this year!

This term we will be gathering the children's views and attitudes towards:

- School uniform – how can we all look smart in our community?
- Lunch boxes – how healthy are we as a school?
- School dinners – what do the children really think?
- Walk 2 school – what can we do to improve its success?
- Road crossing – how can we support a local crossing?
- School clubs - what clubs do the children want?

We hope to be able to share our findings with you very soon and are always happy to listen to pupils' ideas and opinions.



Vacancy

We are currently looking to recruit a Senior Lunchtime Supervisor and additional Lunchtime Supervisors, to join our expanding team. If you are interested and would like further information please contact our Business Manager on jireland@worpleston.surrey.sch.uk.



Reminders & dates



School Emails

Communication between school and home is vital, in order for enquiries, questions and concerns to be dealt with as efficiently and quickly as possible, we would like to confirm where emails should be sent to:

- General office enquiries: admin@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk
- Enquiries for Mrs O'Brien: head@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk

Uniform Reminder

We would welcome your continued support in providing your child with the appropriate uniform as detailed below:

Boys	Girls
Grey trousers (long or short) Light blue shirt/polo shirt Scarlet V-neck sweater/sweatshirt	Medium or mid grey pinafore dress/shorts/ trousers/skirt (blue gingham dress for summer) Light blue blouse/polo shirt Scarlet V-neck sweater/sweatshirt/cardigan

Sensible black shoes – not trainers. (Boots are not suitable for school)

P.E. Kit: Red shorts, white Worplesdon T-shirt, plimsolls & trainers are useful for outdoor games lessons.

Important Dates

Date	Content
9.10.17	Flu immunisation (years R – 4)
13.10.17	Finches class assembly at 2.45pm
17.10.17	Late parents evening (for Nightingales only)
18.10.17	Year 6 weight and measure
18.10.17	Early parents evening
19.10.17	Late parents evening
20.10.17	INSET
23.10.17 – 27.10.17	Half Term
31.10.17	Year 6 secondary school deadline
3.11.17	Wrens class assembly at 2.45pm
6.11.17	Year 5 (Robins) to RGS
7.11.17	Reception curriculum evening at 7.00pm
10.11.17	Larks class assembly at 2.45pm
10.11.17	PTA speed quiz at 7.30pm
13.11.17	Year 5 (Owls) to RGS
17.11.17	Reception 'Welly Waddle' for Children in Need
17.11.17	Woodpeckers class assembly at 2.45pm
24.11.17	Magpies class assembly at 2.45pm
1.12.17	Robins class assembly at 2.45pm
3.12.17	PTA Christmas fair
8.12.17	Kingfishers class assembly at 2.45pm
11.12.17	Reception nativity at 10.00am
11.12.17	Year 2 Christmas show at 2.00pm
12.12.17	Reception nativity at 10.00am
12.12.17	Year 1 Christmas show at 2.00pm
13.12.17	Year 1 Christmas show at 9.15am
14.12.17	Year 2 Christmas show at 2.00pm
22.12.17 – 3.1.18	Christmas Holidays

