



Worplesdon Primary School – Weekly Update

Thursday 21st October

Dear Parents / Carers,

Year 5 have had an excellent first half term. I can't believe we are half way through the first term already!

In English this week, we have continued focussing on relative clauses within our writing and considering how they can be used to add more detail to our non-chronological reports. We have pulled together the research we have done and written our own reports about the different places with some excellent writing being produced. In maths, we have been looking at statistics and data. It has continued to be a challenge to interpret different charts and graphs, so if your child would like some extra practise, the work covered is still available on Google Classroom.

Over the Half Term holiday, we strongly recommend taking a moment to check through your child's pencil case and refill the items that have quickly run out such as whiteboard pens and glue sticks. Whilst we do have a small selection of these in school, which can be borrowed, children having their own resources makes the lessons run so much smoother and we really appreciate it.

After Half Term, we will be introducing the children to Homeworkopoly. This is a reward system we run where children who have read four times a week get a roll of the dice and receive a variety of rewards such as computer time, library time, games etc. We are more than happy, in order to encourage independence, for the children to write their reads in themselves, but would like this to be signed and acknowledged by an adult. We hope that this encourages those children who are reluctant readers to get their four reads completed, in order to receive the rewards. Please can you support your child with regular reminders each week.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you about the staggered start each morning. We still have a significant number of children who are not coming in during their slot and are arriving late each morning. There is a government requirement that children have a certain number of hours in school each day. If children are persistently not arriving within their time slot, they are not receiving these hours. In a week, this would mean your child is missing up to 50 minutes of learning time.

- Children in Water and Fire should be in school by 8.50.
- Children in Earth and Air should be in school in by 9.00.

If you having difficulty with this on a regular basis, please let us know. In exceptional circumstances, we may be able to alter time slots, so that children come in later in the morning, and then go home at 3.10.

With the weather continuing to get colder and set to get colder after Half Term, we encourage all children to come to school in a coat. Whilst they may not need it during the day, when it is damp, we will still be sending the children outside, so having a coat in school will help keep them dry.

We are also asking all children to bring a pair of field shoes in for PE on the field. We would also recommend an extra pair of socks so that children do not have to wear wet socks for the rest of the day. Field shoes can be brought into class in a named carrier bag and kept on their pegs. We will ask children to change into these for PE on the field, and then change back into their PE trainers afterwards.

Please can I remind you that the Homework Passport is still available online. Lots of children have already begun sending in their work and we are looking forward to our sharing session in December. We'd also like to remind you that children should be reading at least 4 times a week at home to an adult. There is a significant number of children who are not doing this each week. This is the most valuable support the children can receive and we would ask that you try to make this a priority in order to support your child's progress.

Finally, we will be completing our DT unit in the first week after Half Term. For this to be successful, we need **as much old newspaper as we can**. If you are able to send in any newspaper with your child, we would be very grateful! Thank you to those who have already sent some in!



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Thank you for your support.

The Year 5 Team

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