



September 2023 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful Summer break and that like me, you are re-charged and ready for the year ahead. I look forward to catching up with you all over the coming weeks but in the meantime, I would like to take this opportunity to give a special welcome to the families and staff who are joining us this year.

INSET Days

For staff, the term started with three inspiring and informative INSET days. The first training day was led by Dr Neil Hawkes who is well known as an inspirational speaker, educator, broadcaster, author and popular TEDx presenter. Neil has a global passion for inspiring others to experience how values such as respect, integrity and altruism, can enhance our lives and enable our planet to flourish. Recently, he was invited to speak at the United Nations (in Geneva)! Staff learnt more about how we can use our Values-based Curriculum to inspire children to be the best they can be, socially, emotionally and academically. You can find more information about Neil's work via his website <https://www.neilhawkes.org/>.

Our second INSET day, led by an external consultant, focused on our curriculum design. Subject leaders worked on their specific curriculum areas (such as PE, art, history and music) to ensure planning is well sequenced, engaging, is accessible for all and reflects our high expectations for all children. Our third and final INSET day focused on Safeguarding and over the course of the term we will continue to share ways you can support your children to stay safe.

We have now set our final two INSET days for this academic year. They are:

- Tuesday 2nd January 2024
- Monday 15th April 2024

Drop off and pick up arrangements

As you know, our new timings are the following:

The Haven

- Drop off: 8.45 am (please note registration closes at 9am)
- Pick up: 3.00pm (please note there is no longer an early pick up on Fridays)

Reception to year 6

- Drop off: 8.45-8.55 am (please note registration closes at 9am)
- Pick up: 3.20pm

The drop off window means that children can come into class over a ten minute period which means staff have time to warmly greet each child in their class and ensure they are feeling happy and ready for the day.

It is wonderful to see families continuing to use our **Walking Bus** service. We ask that parents drop off at The Fairlands Community Centre at 8.25am with the bus leaving promptly at 8.35am. Thank you so much to the following parent helpers: Miss Rodd, Mr Bispham, Mrs Sherwin, Mrs Persin, Mr Cant and Mrs Wittich. Without this help, we would have had to stop this service.

Key information for the start of term

Please see the new **PE timetable** (below). As in previous years, we ask that children come to school in their PE kits so we can maximise our time being active.

Day	Year Group
Monday	Penguins / Falcons / Year 1 / Year 6
Tuesday	Falcons / Year 3 / Year 5 / Year 6
Wednesday	Reception / Year 3 / Year 4 / Year 5
Thursday	Year 2 / Year 4
Friday	Year 1 / Year 2

Penguins and Falcons children may also take part in mainstream inclusion PE sessions, in which case teachers will advise as to which days on an individual basis.

Finally, in order to prepare for the year ahead, the annual calendar of events will be published on the website and emailed next Friday to parents via ParentMail. Alternatively, hard copies will be available from the office. We have tried to include as many dates as possible for the year, however, there will be additional dates as the year progresses and we will inform you of these through our monthly newsletters.

I would like to wish you all a happy and successful year ahead.

Best wishes,

Kareen O'Brien
Executive Head Teacher

Value of the month – Belonging



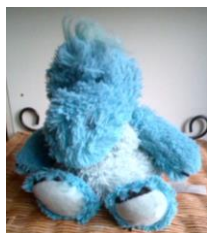
Updates & Dates



REMINDER

To support our safeguarding practice on our school site, please can we remind you that parents should not come onto the site (unless dropping off for Early Birds) until 8.45am when the gate opens. Our pedestrian gate is open for Early Birds and also for any early appointments. Thank you so much for your support.

As we begin the new school year, we wanted to politely remind you that the space outside our early years area is filled with resources for the children's learning and the teachers have prepared the spaces to ensure this is ready for them. Please can we ask that you support us by monitoring the children as they move through to their classrooms or wait for their siblings and you ensure that children do not play on the equipment or with any of the resources. Thank you in advance for your support.



EARLY BIRDS AND NIGHT OWLS

It has been lovely to have the children back at Early Birds and Night Owls. They have settled back in really well and we have had great fun listening to all the exciting activities and trips they went on during their break. One morning we had 10 different countries, amongst the children, that had been visited. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new children at Early Birds and Night Owls. They have all settled in really well and have said they enjoy attending the clubs which is great news!

This week the children have had the opportunity to pretend to be teachers and classmates in our role play classroom area. Some of the children have chosen to fill out 'All about Me' butterflies and footballs which tells us a little bit about their likes and dislikes. We have put some of these up on our display. The children have had the chance to go outside and play but due to the heat we have been letting the children out for 15-minute slots and then sending them back in to cool down.

We have introduced Dibley the Dinosaur this week, as pictured, to the children at both clubs. He is handed out to a child that staff feel is following the school values or rules. The child gets to keep him for a while, then they choose a person they think is following the values and they pass it on to them, explaining why they have given Dibley to them. It is working really well and one night he went to 7 different children which was great and showed that lots of children were making the right choices.

Next week we will be looking at Roald Dahl stories and activities linked to his books.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS

We are very fortunate at Worplesdon to have an excellent team of visiting peripatetic musicians who teach our children. If your child would like to have lessons at school we have a number of instruments that you can hire from the school for £35 for the year. Instrumental lessons are charged at:

- Individual 30 mins £21
- Individual 20 mins £14

If you would like to explore lessons for your child please contact the teachers directly:

- For Flute, Clarinet or Saxophone please contact Mrs. Jasmine Ravenhill: jasmine_ducker@yahoo.co.uk
- For Oboe please contact Ms Carolyn Baynes: cbaynes@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk
- For Piano please contact Mrs Starr Meneely: starr@surreypiano.com
- For Brass (Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium) please contact Mr. Andrew Nash: andrewtrptnash@btinternet.com
- And for Drums or Guitar please contact Rock and Pop: admin@rockandpopfoundation.com (please note that Rock and Pop have their own charging structure)

Please get in touch with Carolyn Baynes if you have any further questions.

Music Theory Lessons:

All our children who have started taking ABRSM music exams are encouraged to start working through their Theory Grades. This is because you can't progress beyond Grade 5 on your instrument without having taken Grade 5 theory. If your child has started taking practical exams please contact Jasmine to sign up for Theory Lessons which will be held on Tuesday mornings at 8am and are charged at £35 for the term jasmine_ducker@yahoo.co.uk.





Updates & Dates

START OF THE YEAR MEETINGS

Reception	Wednesday 27th September – 3.30pm
Year 1	Monday 11th September – 3.30pm
Year 2	Thursday 21st September – 3.30pm
Year 3	Thursday 14th September – 3.30pm
Year 4	Wednesday 20th September – 3.30pm
Year 5	Tuesday 12th September – 3.30pm
Year 6	Tuesday 19th September – 3.30pm
The Haven	Monday 18th September – 3.30pm

GUILDFORD ROCK SCHOOL

Guildford Rock School have a few spaces remaining for their Thursday Rock Band Club for this term on guitar, keyboard and vocals? If you are interest please contact Sam, details below.

01483 363090

contact@guildfordrockschool.com

www.guildfordrockschool.com

GUILDFORD HERITAGE OPEN DAYS – FRIDAY 8 TO SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER ACROSS GUILDFORD

There are over 50 interesting, historical and beautiful venues open this weekend for free across Guildford. For details, please visit [Guildford Heritage Open Days 2023 - Heritage & History in Guildford and surrounding villages, Guildford - Visit Surrey](#) and download the Hidden Treasures leaflet.

Saturday only, Guildford Town Centre – the Story of Guildford Trail

Have fun on the trail and enjoy finding out about our town's history!

Learn about Guildford's fascinating history and collect stickers along the way as part of our Heritage Open Days event.

Stickers can be collected from venues marked on the map with a red dot on Saturday 9 September. Each venue is open from 11am until 4pm, with some opening slightly earlier or later.

The Family Trail Sticker books are available to pick up from [Guildford Tourist Information Centre](#).

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

One stop shop for parents - <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>.



1922 2023
Guildford Rugby

Join our minis Rugby team for Year 5 girls and boys

Have a go with three sessions free and no commitment. All welcome every Sunday morning at Guildford Rugby Club.

8:50 (for a 9am start) to 10:15.
Join the Under 10s weekly training session.

Come along and have a go at Rugby.

Ideal for any kids looking to get a head start in rugby over the next few years at school.

You will be welcomed by a friendly and experienced group of coaches. We follow the RFU guidelines and embed the TREDs values (Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline & Sportsmanship)

The emphasis is on fun, fitness and inclusivity.

No experience of rugby is required.
A gumshield is required.

Please let us know if you like to come along by contacting Danny Knight or just turn up, we'd love to meet you.

Guildford RFC
Broadwater Park, Guildford Road
Guildford
GU1 2JH

Danny Knight
dannyknight1975@gmail.com
07748311100

Under 10s train on Pitch 9 next to the main car park behind the clubhouse.

See map
www.guildfordrugbyclub.co.uk/home

Garden Art for children at Sime Gallery, Worplesdon, GU3 3RF.

Heritage Sundays - 10th and 17th September 2-4pm, come and join us.

Our recent children visitors and Worplesdon Pre-School children helped us win our first Silver award for Guildford in Bloom 2023.