

November 2023 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful half term break and are ready for the big lead up to Christmas! I know the PTA and teachers have been planning lots of wonderful events and activities for the children and yourselves to enjoy. Please continue to check your ParentMails for dates and further information.

Since September, we have been using our assemblies and opportunities within the curriculum and school day to instill our school values. The children have shown an exceptional ability to demonstrate what it means to be a good friend and how to promote a sense of belonging. Within this month's focus on 'understanding' we will be delving into our Anti-Bullying Policy as part of the national Anti-Bullying Week. We will also be supporting Children in Need with a fundraiser raising an awareness and understanding of those less fortunate than ourselves.

We were delighted with a recent visit from an external educational consultant who celebrated teaching and learning in the classrooms across the federation of schools. The children's learning behaviour, enthusiasm and eagerness to learn was evident across the school. With learning in mind, I hope you enjoyed meeting your child's class teacher this week and hearing about their personal growth and their next steps. As always, please do not wait for parent consultations to share information or ask a question, we would much prefer you to contact the school straight away.

The children have been enjoying our outside spaces at playtimes and lunchtimes but with the colder weather coming in, please can I remind you to provide your children with suitable outerwear. A warm coat is a must with gloves and scarves great additions too. The field and outdoor areas are used all year round and can become wet and muddy. It may be wise to bring in additional socks so that the children are able to change out of their wet ones whilst their footwear dry.

As you will know from my previous communication, we are currently leading a tendering process for our catering service. Those companies bidding for this service have been to see the service at both schools and to hear from myself, governors, staff and children about our expectations of catering moving forward. The process will continue to run through November, with a decision to be made at the beginning of December.

Finally, I am extremely grateful to those parents/carers who continue to make the areas surrounding and, in the school, a safe and stimulating environment. Whilst parking can be difficult, we are so pleased to see so many parents taking this opportunity to walk, scoot, park and stride into school leaving the area immediately outside of school traffic free. However, most recently, there have been more parents driving to school and trying to park as close as possible to the school gate. Please can I ask you to:

- Make a promise to walk, scoot, cycle or park and stride at least once a week;
- > Park considerately, driving further away from the school entrance;
- > Never park or drop off on the zig zag lines at the front of the school;
- Never park across residents' driveways;
- > Use the unofficial one-way system around Fairlands to ease congestion (see map over page)

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Kaneen O'Bri

Kareen O'Brien Executive Head Teacher



Updates & Dates



PLEASE NOTE ...

UNIFORM

School uniform is an important part of feeling a sense of belonging, as well as a way to show respect for our school. Please can we ask you to help your children be wonderful ambassadors of our federated schools, by wearing their uniform smartly and by wearing the appropriate uniform. Please can we remind you that:

- Sensible black shoes must be worn (not trainers)
- Make up, nail varnish and temporary tattoos 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.)
- Plain hair / alice bands and clips should be worn in hair, not over-sized hair bands, bows or head sweatbands
- Haircuts should be smart and *should not* include tramlines
- Shoulder length hair should be tied back at all times

For PE, they should all be in a full navy (grey) tracksuit with long jogging bottoms and a long-sleeved hoody. Thank you for your support.



POPPY APEAL

Supporting the Poppy Appeal shows you care about the lives of our Armed Forces community and helps the British Legion continue their vital work supporting serving and ex-serving men and women, and their families. Poppies are available from the School office, thank you for your support.

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WEEKLY UPDATE FOR EARLY BIRDS AND NIGHT OWLS

This week at Night Owls we have focused some of our crafts around Halloween which the children were all excited about. Our dressing up section has been very popular this week! The children were able to create pumpkins using different facial cut outs. An alternative activity on offer was sticking toilet paper onto a giant ghost and a giant mummy. Later on, in the week we focused our activities around bonfire night. The children were able to make fireworks out of different coloured cable ties. We also used coloured card and paper to make rockets.

Please can we kindly ask parents to please make sure that their child/children have a coat in school. We are still going outside at Night Owls when possible but due to the weather we do ask that all children have a coat on if they have one. Please can we also remind parents to sign their child out on the register at pick up time. This can either be in the form of a signature or initials rather than a tick please. This way we can then refer to who collected them when needed.

You should also be receiving our parent questionnaires in regard to Early Birds and Night Owls. We appreciate all your feedback so kindly ask that you fill these in and send them back please.

Next week we will be looking at Remembrance Day and Diwali.

BERTIE BOOS' NEWSFLASH

With the 5th November and Bonfire Night just around the corner, many of you will be looking forward to going to your local firework and bonfire displays. They are always great fun for us but please remember we have sensitive hearing fireworks can be very frightening for us and other pets. Here are some top tips we would like to share with you.

- Before the fireworks season starts, provide your dog with a doggy safe haven, somewhere they know they are safe. Provide toys or chews that they enjoy to keep them busy
- Calm your pet during firework nights by playing gentle music, or put on the TV to mask the firework sounds
- Walk your dog during daylight hours to avoid times when fireworks are likely to be set off
- Close windows and curtains to muffle the sound of fireworks. Blackout your doggy safe haven, so they can't see any flashes outside
- Ignore the firework noises yourself. Play with a toy to see if your dog wants to join in, but don't force them to play

Have fun and stay safe! Bertie and Bertie

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please can we ask that if your child is going to be late due to a medical appointment, that you notify the office in advance. You are able to do this by phone 01483 232126, email <u>office@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk</u> or StudyBugs. If messages are given to the class teacher, unfortunately they do not always make it to the office staff, thank you.

WOKING & SAM BEARE





WOKING & SAM BEARE HOSPICE - 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Woking & Sam Beare Hospice are holding a Christmas Market on Saturday 2nd December. One of the stalls will be an Advent book stall for the twelve days of Christmas. The idea is that twelve books will be individually wrapped up in a bundle for children to open each day.

We would love to get children and parents involved by donating any new or good quality pre-loved books they may have at home. The deadline for donations in order to allow staff time to wrap them will be Friday 17th November. We will have a collection point for donations in the school office.

All proceeds will go directly to Hospice care so that they can continue to help patients and their families.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Can you believe it is that time of year again... 'Christmas'. In order to help us get into the Christmas spirit, we are asking for donations of real Christmas trees (by 30.11.2023). Ideally, we would like two, one for the main entrance area and one for the school hall. If you are able to help, please email <u>abennett@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk</u>, thank you ③.

PTA – DATES

Please note the following...

- Sunday 3rd December Christmas Fair (**confirmed timings 11.30am 2.30pm**)
- Wednesday 13th December Infant's panto

Amendments...

- Friday 10th May Mother's Day sale **NOW** Friday 8th March Someone Special Day shopping morning
- Friday 14th June Father's Day sale NOW Thursday 13th June Someone Special cocoa and movie night



Updates & Dates

Start saving your change for the Christmas fair stalls!

