



March 2024 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure (like me) you have noticed and enjoyed the lighter mornings and evenings – we just need to see some more sun in the sky! The Spring term has been a busy and enjoyable term so far. It was wonderful to see so many parents enjoying Parents Evenings and seeing the wonderful progress the children have made so far this year socially, emotionally and academically. Please remember that we encourage an open door policy; this means you are welcome to speak to your class teacher on the door at drop off and pick up, you are warmly welcome to pop in to see your child's books any day after school, and remember teachers are always at the end of an email or call as necessary. If you do email during the day, please remember teachers will be unable to respond whilst teaching so for urgent issues, please inform the school office who will be happy to pass on to the teaching team.

As a values-based school, we strive to instil values that guide our thinking and behaviour. During February, the children focused on 'independence' and explored the notion of becoming independent socially, emotionally, physically, morally and academically. Whilst we promote independence for all children, we also looked at and explored the quote, "be strong enough to stand alone, smart enough to know when you need help and brave enough to ask for it." It has been a joy to see children growing in independence in school but also to see great examples at home and in the community in our 'Giving Back' scheme. This month we are looking at positivity. The children have already started exploring how our values can interlink and know how the power of positive thinking can change your mindset.

As a federation of schools, we always reflect on how we can be better. Over the last few months, we have asked for your feedback to help us review and improve our practice on our:

- Extended day provision which has already been shared and acted upon.
- Relationships and Sex Education which has already been shared with you and acted upon.
- Food Policy and the results are shared in the newsletter below.
- Whole school provision and the results will be shared with you in the next couple of weeks.

As always, we welcome constructive comments from our local community and know that partnership working will only strengthen outcomes for your children. In addition to the above, we have been busy consulting with the local community about our proposal for a MUGA on the school field at Worplesdon. In time, we will be sharing this feedback and would like to remind you that it is extremely important to hear as many opinions as possible so please keep sending me your thoughts via email (kobrien@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk).

You will remember from our October newsletter, we have introduced a new food policy as part of promoting healthy lifestyles which we received very positive feedback from parents and staff about the aims of this policy and the way we are going about achieving these. However, the section which states '*celebrating children's birthdays with cake or sweets is not encouraged in school time. Instead, we encourage parents to donate a book or small game for the class to enjoy*' was met with mixed feedback. Therefore, we carried out a further survey which showed:

- 47% agreed or strongly agreed that children should not bring in cakes or sweets for their birthday with 37% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing and 16% stating they did not have an opinion.
- 90% would be happy for children to celebrate their birthday in a different way.

With this in mind, we would ask that you do not send in sweets and cakes for your child's birthday, instead, we will be introducing a golden ticket which means that the birthday child gets to choose a reward (from the list created by the class) for the class on the day of his/her birthday. For children with birthday's in the holidays, their golden ticket will be given either just before or just after the holiday. If you would like to contribute a small gift for the class such as a book for the book corner, board game etc, you are very welcome but there is no expectation that you do so.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you a wonderful weekend (hopefully with some sun in the sky).

Best wishes,

Kareen O'Brien
Executive Head Teacher

Value of the month – Positivity



Updates & Dates

EASTER - SCHOOL FINISHING TIMES

As you are aware we finish for the Easter break on Thursday 28th March 2024. Children return to school on Tuesday 16th April 2024.

Thursday 28 th March 2024	1.15pm	The Haven children finish
Thursday 28 th March 2024	1.30pm	Mainstream children finish
Monday 15 th April 2024		Inset day
Tuesday 16 th April 2024		Children return to school

EARRINGS

For safety reasons children should not wear any jewellery in school. However, they may wear a wrist watch and if your child has pierced ears, **small studs (no hoops or drop earrings) may be worn**. These will need to be removed for PE lessons and if your child goes swimming.

EARLY BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS

This week at Night Owls we have been creating pom pom art. This was one of the suggestions from our parent questionnaire that went out recently. The children loved choosing one of the animal templates and sticking on the pom poms to make it colourful, as you can see from our pictures, they turned out really well.

With the weather being drier we took the opportunity to send the children out on scavenger hunts. The junior children had riddles that they had to solve to take them onto the next clue, working their way around the school as they did so. The infant children had a slightly easier hunt where they had to find certain items around the school, such as something round, something smaller than a paper clip etc. The children loved this activity and they all got 25 house points each at the end.

Next week we will be basing our activities around World Book Day and Mother's Day.



PTA NEWS

THANKYOU! We are so very grateful for your support of the last two events we held - the Junior Discos and Break the Rules Day and are delighted to announce we raised:



We intend to spend these monies imminently on some much needed items for the school and look forward to sharing these with you in the next few weeks.

Coming up....

Wonderful Women Day - Friday 8th March

Thank you so much for your generous donations this week - we have a fantastic haul of gifts! We know the children have been busy making some very special things for you too and are very excited about the shopping morning next Friday - please look out for full details on Monday!

Logo Competition

Thank you once again to all the fabulous entries we have received so far - this is your last week to enter so please send pictures of your designs by email to: worplesdonprimarypta@gmail.com (keeping the original copy) or hand them into the office by Friday 8th March. For all the details and full T&Cs please see last Friday's weekly newsletter.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,
Your PTA x



Updates & Dates


**The Winston Churchill School**
Caring | Inspiring | Successful



**PRIMARY SCHOOL
STUDENT ORCHESTRA**

**MUSIC**

Music is for every single person who walks the planet

**The Winston Churchill School**
Caring | Inspiring | Successful

Dear Year 4-6 student,

The Winston Churchill School Music department are looking for young musicians to join our new 'Primary School Student Orchestra', which will be running throughout the Summer Term. It will be an opportunity for students to come together with other musicians, including student music leaders from Winston, to rehearse and perform music. Any student who learns an instrument (no matter the instrument) can join.

Rehearsals for the 'Primary School Student Orchestra' will take place on Wednesday evenings between 4.15-5.15pm in the Performance Space at Winston. Below is the full list of rehearsal dates:

<u>Summer half term 1:</u>	<u>Summer half term 2:</u>
24.04.24	05.06.24
01.05.24	12.06.24
08.05.24	19.06.24
15.05.24	26.06.24
22.05.24	

The 'Primary School Student Orchestra' will then be invited to play in our Summer Concert on Tuesday 9th July, which will be a fantastic performance opportunity as well as a chance to listen to the outstanding music making taking place at Winston.

The rehearsal sessions are FREE to attend.

On the day of each rehearsal, students should sign in at the main school reception from 4.05pm. They do not need to wear school uniform. Music stands will be provided.

If you would like your child to take part in the 'Primary School Student Orchestra', please complete the google form: <https://forms.gle/bJPQP55eXsMn7Fy9> by no later than Friday 22nd March.

We look forward to you joining us!

Mr Chris Drake
Director of Music & Lead for Primary Liaison

**DO YOU WANT TO
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE?**

We are looking for **caring, energetic, passionate** people, with a sense of **fun** and a **positive** outlook who take **pride** in what they do.

If this sounds like you, and you'd like to learn more
get in touch on **07789 935650** or email chwilson@edwardsandward.co.uk

No catering experience necessary. Full training given. Local opportunities available. Part/Full time. School hours and evenings only.


feed the future!

www.edwardsandward.co.uk

edwards and ward
at the core of the food industry

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

WAY OUT WEST



**FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
YEARS 1 TO 6!**

**MONDAY 8TH - THURSDAY 11TH
APRIL 2024**

9:30AM - 12:30PM EACH DAY

A fun filled week with games, craft, Bible stories, music and more!

Book your child:
www.gracechurchguildford.org.uk/holidaybibleclub

**GRACE CHURCH GUILDFORD,
CHERTSEY ST, GU1 4HL**

JOB VACANCY

We are looking for a catering assistant, term time + 3 days, 10.00am to 2.00pm, minimum wage.