



April 2024 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

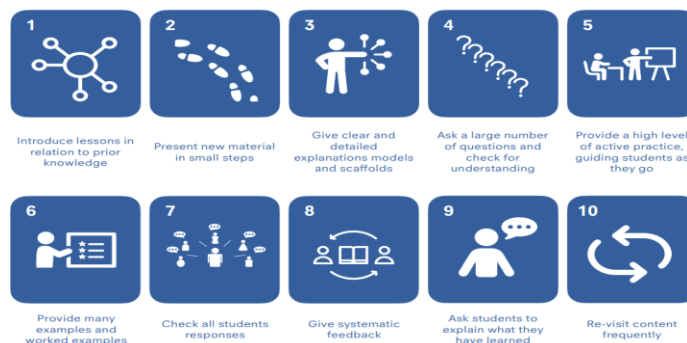
Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful Easter and like me, you are looking forward to the warmer months with lighter mornings and evenings, and all the exciting events that the Summer term brings.

We continue to make progress against our School Development targets for Wood Street Infant School & Worplesdon Primary School and I would like to take the opportunity to share some of these developments.

Curriculum Provision

During our recent INSET day on Monday, teachers received further training on Rosenshine's Principles for Instruction (summarised in the diagram below) with a particular focus on teaching approaches which help children to retain knowledge in their long-term memory.



One aspect of this training was the use of knowledge organisers. A knowledge organiser is a single sheet of paper that lists the important facts – not practical skills – that children should know by the end of a unit of work. An effective knowledge organiser should organise information into categories that help children to understand where the new information sits in relation to previously learned knowledge. They are used as:

- A planning tool, to clearly outline the core knowledge that should be taught
- A quizzing tool, to help children boost their recall of key knowledge
- An assessment tool, to help teachers check whether pupils have learned the key knowledge

Teachers will share these knowledge organisers near the end of the unit of work so that you can support your child to retain this knowledge in their long-term memory.

Values

As values-based schools, we strive to instill values that guide our thinking and behaviour; these values run through our curriculum design, our assemblies, playtimes and club provision. During March, the children have focused on 'positivity'. We have explored what we can do to remain positive, especially when life can be challenging including: building our resilience, using positive affirmations & the hero pose, noticing the positives in every day (however small) and always having hope. This month we are learning how to live with courage in our hearts and the impact this has on ourselves, on our family, on our school community and beyond. Please continue to let me know about how your children are demonstrating our school values at home, in your local community and beyond so that I can celebrate in assemblies by presenting with one of our special citizenship badges. My drive this term is to help children understand the fulfilment in demonstrating integrity, living by their values even when no-one is looking.

Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)

As you know we are raising funds towards our new state of the art MUGA on our school field which will provide an all-weather surface that the children can enjoy all year round for P.E. lessons, playtimes and extra-curricular activities. Our fundraising for this resource includes: various grants which we are currently applying for, as well as fundraising that we can do as a school community. We're delighted to announce that we are holding our first ever 'Colour Run' (**look out for details next Friday**) to begin our fundraising for our MUGA. You can set up your child's very own sponsorship page in just a couple of minutes to share with friends and family via our Goodhub page <https://app.goodhub.com/colourrun24>. In addition to the children's Colour Run, it would be great to see parents setting up their own fundraising events which can be advertised via our Goodhub page (such as a sponsored bootcamp, bake sale, choir event). Furthermore, if there are any parents and / or grandparents whose business links would like to get involved, please contact me on head@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk.

Value of the month – Courage



Updates & Dates

Nursery

The federation of schools recognises that beginning early years education at a younger age has a high positive impact on learning outcomes. Staff already work collaboratively with local early years providers to ensure a smooth and nurturing transition for the children joining our reception year however, as you will already know, we would like the opportunity to run our own nursery, educating our children from the start of their early education entitlement. After an extensive consultation, we have ascertained that there is a significant amount of support from our current parents to have a nursery at WSI; 186 parents completed our survey with 71% stating that they would support a nursery at the federation of schools with 41% preferring the site to be at Wood Street & 30% would prefer the nursery to be at Worplesdon. Of the 63 parents with a child under 4, 89% would support & use the nursery. Furthermore, our financial modelling confirms that our nursery would be financially viable and sustainable. Since the consultation, we have received confirmation of funding and therefore, we have begun the process of instructing architects. With funding secured and architects instructed, we believe that an April 2025 opening is realistic. Please complete our form (via your ParentMail account) if you would be interested in this new provision.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Karen O'Brien
Executive Head Teacher

FRIENDS OF WORPLESDON SCHOOL UPDATE

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break! We're so excited to be back for the summer term, we have lots of fun events and initiatives planned to help raise money; our key one being the Summer Fair on Friday 5th July 3.30-6.30pm. If you'd like to get involved with any element of the Fair from brainstorming & planning to helping on the day, do drop us an email or come along to our next meeting at Worplesdon Place on Thursday 2nd May at 7.45pm.

Following Dexter's winning logo design at the end of last term, we are delighted to present the finalised version which will now be used on all our communications and prints. I hope you agree it looks absolutely fabulous! A huge thank you to Rachel Pengelly for dedicating her time to creating it over the holidays.

Uniform sale - Friday 26th April

Find us at the green shed at pick up and drop off (weather permitting). Logo items £2.00, plain £1.00. We will send a reminder out next week.

Usborne Sponsored Read

Keep those Sponsored Read forms & money coming in, you have until Friday 26th April to get them to your class teachers so we can add up those minutes and *crown our winning class!*

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

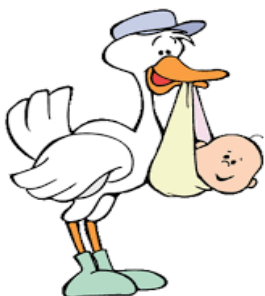
Your FoWS ☺

worplesdonprimarypta@gmail.com

STAFFING NEWS

We are delighted to inform you that Mrs Welland, Starlings class teacher, is expecting a baby. She will be commencing her maternity leave in the Autumn term; therefore, she will remain as Starlings class teacher for the rest of this academic year.

I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Welland all the very best for the forthcoming months.





Updates & Dates

EARLY BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS

It has been a pleasure to have all the children back this week and hearing all their Easter holidays. They have all settled back in well at both Early Birds and Night Owls.

This week at Night Owls we have introduced a new topic around bugs. The children have had the opportunity to create 3d bugs which they have coloured in. They also had the chance to create a light up bug from plastic Easter eggs. They loved the fact that they lit up and they could have them in the dark!

We have been lucky with the weather this week and the children have taken full advantage of this playing out on the playground. It is nice to see them running around with each other and making up games, as well as using the equipment on offer to them.

Next week our crafts will be focused around Earth Day where the children will be able to create grass heads.



MUFTI DAY

in aid of North Guildford Food Bank

Friday 26th April 2024

Children are invited to come to school in mufti in exchange for a donation of an item for North Guildford Food Bank. Donations will be collected in the morning at the front gates or in the PAC building if raining. The food bank are grateful for any donations but are particularly in need of the following items:

- Tinned meat, fruit, tomatoes, soup
- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo, conditioner and shower gel
- Cooking oil

Thank you for your support!





6 week online Mindfulness Meditation course

Sunday evenings at 7pm-8pm
starting on 19th May

£45. 

<https://buytickets.at/mindfulfarnham/1213122>

A mindfulness practice can support us to live from our best selves. Come and learn how to meditate using practices such as Mindfulness of the body, the breath and how our emotions and our thinking mind impact our well being.



Carolyn Williams MMTCP
MindfulFarnham.com
07940 153054