



October 2025 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN – FEDERATION NEWS

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a great start to the new academic year. The children have settled in beautifully to their new classes and we have enjoyed meeting our new joiners in Swifts, Swallows and Penguins as well as those joining in other year groups. It has been a busy month with lots to share!

Bertie Time

Bertie O'Brien, our therapy dog, has been busy at both schools across our federation and is thoroughly enjoying being back at work! Since introducing Bertie as our therapy dog, he's become an invaluable member of our team, supporting children in so many meaningful ways. Bertie has helped reluctant readers discover their confidence by providing a calm, non-judgemental listening ear during reading sessions - there's something magical about how children relax and flourish when reading to him! Beyond reading, Bertie has been instrumental in supporting children's emotional regulation, offering comfort during moments of anxiety or upset, and helping children to feel safe and secure. His gentle presence has provided countless children with a quiet space to share their worries and feelings, knowing that Bertie will listen without judgement. The positive impact on children's wellbeing, confidence and engagement in learning has been remarkable, and I'm incredibly grateful to have Bertie as part of the team.



Living by our values

We were proud that OFSTED noted 'Pupils' character development is exceptional. Central to this is the way pupils have an in-depth understanding about the school values and why they matter. In our assemblies last month, we focused on the value of 'Belonging'. The children have learnt it is important that everyone feels happy and comfortable in the various groups they belong to. We have learnt the importance of having rules, showing kindness, and building relationships. We discussed the importance that every child is responsible for being a member of the Worlesdon team and are expected to:

- Talk and act positively
- Embrace and follow instructions
- Act kindly, keeping hands and feet to themselves
- Make themselves be the best they can be

We also discussed that we are schools that celebrate differences, and this also applies to behaviour, meaning some children will require different levels of support to ensure they are able to follow the school rules.

Supporting children's behaviour

Positive recognition is an integral part of our Behaviour Policy and our school's strategy for recognising effort and excellence includes:

- Class-wide rewards (ten to achieve small reward swiftly), at least once per day but we aim for twice per day
- Verbal and written feedback
- Positive conversations with home
- Positive postcards home
- House Points
- Certificates and stickers
- Head Teacher recognition
- Golden leaves & certificates
- Citizenship Awards

When implementing this policy, staff ensure that they apply our test of reasonableness: reasonable expectations; reasonable consequences (these include supportive interventions); and reasonably delivered.

Value of the month – Friendship



Updates & Dates

We base our school Behaviour Policy on expectation, and clarity through shared routines and language. When the children do not follow our reasonable instructions, the following reasonable consequences are followed with a restorative approach:

1. Reminder of the behaviour we expect to see
2. 5 minutes away from the group
3. Rest of session away from group
4. Reflective time with Assistant Head to reflect on behaviour and to discuss support needed to be able to follow the rules
5. Reflective time with the Deputy Head
6. Reflective time with the Head Teacher

You will see on the attached behaviour ladder that the consequences are hierarchical however, for those behaviours deemed more serious (e.g. bullying, physical violence or racial discrimination) will receive a more serious consequence.

Across our Federation, we understand the importance of establishing a positive culture based on mutual respect. Staff will ensure that they adhere to the ratios of 10 rewards to 1 warning. Furthermore, the consistent use of Behaviour for Learning strategies is vital to aid children's engagement such as the use of interactive strategies (e.g. whiteboards and pens, number fans, partner talk, lollisticks), the language of Growth Mindset (e.g. 'mistakes are an important part of learning'), a promise to challenge each child in their learning, and to provide coming in activities to aid transition into the classroom.

Our aim is to prepare every child, so they are ready for their next step in education, and their behaviour is an important part of this. ***I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting us in the implementation of our Behaviour Policy.***

Learning time

With strong learning behaviours already established, staff have been able to focus on children's learning. This year, there is a relentless drive to improve children's mathematical fluency. Staff have agreed on a non-negotiable list of facts that children must secure within each year. We hope you will be able to protect time with your child in mastering these number facts which will help them when solving reasoning problems within maths lessons.

Year Group	Key Number Facts	Target by End of Year
Year R	Number bonds to 5	Instant recall of bonds to 5
Year 1	Number bonds to 10 and 20, counting in 2s, 5s, 10s	Instant recall of bonds to 10
Year 2	Number bonds to 20, 2x, 5x, 10x tables	Recall 2, 5, 10 times tables
Year 3	3x, 4x, 8x tables, addition/subtraction within 100	Recall 3, 4, 8 tables
Year 4	All times tables to 12x12, related division facts	Instant recall all tables
Year 5	Decimals, fractions, % equivalence	Recall key equivalences
Year 6	All of above, focus on speed/accuracy	Fluent recall, rapid calculation

School Development Plan

Our plan for the next three years has been written which reflects our areas for development from our recent OFSTED inspections, parental questionnaires and children's feedback. The finalised plan will be uploaded onto our website by the end of this month. All parents will be alerted.

Parent Consultations

The teaching team are looking forward to meeting with you face to face for your Autumn term Parent Consultations on Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th November. Within the meeting, your child's class teacher will share how your child has settled, their current attendance and any improvements required, their social and emotional development including the values they live by, and your child's strengths and next steps in reading, writing and maths. Please can you email your child's class teacher beforehand if there is anything that you wish to discuss to ensure that this is addressed in the meeting; we do not want you to leave feeling frustrated with unanswered queries. You will be able to book your appointment via your ParentMail account from Monday 13th October. There will be opportunities for you to look through your child's workbooks, catch up with other parents and speak with myself and other leaders across the school.



Updates & Dates

Finally, please remember that we have an open-door policy and hope that you will feel comfortable to approach staff with any comment, question or concern you have for us.

Best wishes,

Kareen O'Brien

Kareen O'Brien
Executive Head Teacher

SPORTS NEWS

Year 5 & 6 Cross Country

Today, our cross-country team represented Worplesdon Primary School brilliantly at the local schools' race, and we couldn't be prouder of every single runner. The course was particularly challenging this year, with steep uphill sections that tested even the most experienced runners. However, our children showed exceptional resilience and determination throughout. When the going got tough on those gruelling climbs, they dug deep, pushed through their discomfort, and kept going – demonstrating exactly the kind of character and perseverance we nurture at Worplesdon. Whether they finished first or last, every child gave their absolute best and supported their teammates with encouragement and cheers. It was wonderful to see our school values of resilience and teamwork come to life on the course. A huge well done to all our runners – you've made us incredibly proud, and you should be very proud of yourselves too!



STUDYBUGS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

A better, safer way to report when your child is sick and off school.

With a few quick taps or clicks, you can give your child's school all they need to record absence due to illness.

Get the free mobile app now or register online to use via your web browser:

<https://studybugs.com/register>

Register Free!

HARVEST / FOOD BANK

As part of our community commitment, we will be supporting this year's Harvest festival by providing donations to the North Guildford Food Bank. We are asking for these to be brought into school on Friday 17th October and handed into the school office. These will be distributed to the food bank on Monday 20th October.

Please see below a list of items that are in demand:

- Tinned tomatoes
- Tea
- Drinking Chocolate
- Tinned meat
- Shower / bath gel
- Tables sauces (tomato ketchup and mayonnaise)

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity at this time. We know that this will make such a difference to some of the families in our community.





Updates & Dates

EARLY BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS

This week at Night Owls we have focused our activities around National Poetry Day and Vegetarian Day. The children have had the chance to cook vegetable fajitas. They thoroughly enjoyed chopping up vegetables and then stir frying them in a pan. They then enjoyed eating them, with many asking if they could make another one!

Our activities, around National Poetry Day, involved making bouncy balls linked to the poem 'Bounce Back' by Michael Rosen. This activity did prove to be quite messy with mixed results, but good fun was had by all! The children also had the chance to get creative, writing their own poems. We had an infant category and a junior category with prizes on offer of 200 house points for 1st place, 100 house points for 2nd place and 50 house points for 3rd place. I am happy to announce the following winners:

Juniors - 1st place - Zoe P

Never have I ever swam to the bottom of the sea but I have swam to the bottom of my pool,
Never have I ever died but I have died in my video games,
Never have I ever eaten a chocolate bar whole but I have eaten a mini cupcake whole,
Never have I been to Australia but I have been to America,
Never have I ever sky-dived into a volcano but I have been on a helicopter over the Grand Canyon.

2nd place - Isla B with 'Friendship'

3rd place - Emmy K with 'Love'

Infants - 1st place - Robbie GS & Lily GS

Hedgehog, Hedgehog, what do you see?
I see a purple cat looking at me.
Purple cat, purple cat, what do you see?
I see a black sheep looking at me.

2nd place - Asher B - 'Endangered'

Well done everyone, it was very difficult to choose as they were all amazing!

Please can we take this chance to ask parents to please notify the office or staff at Night Owls if you know you are collecting your child/children at the end of the day from class even though they are booked into Night Owls. We are currently having to locate teachers around school to check that children have been collected safely from class, even though they have been booked in for that day's session at Night Owls. You can email the office or Mrs Fyfe, Extended Day Supervisor, at sfyfe@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk.

Our stars of the week this week are:

- Early Birds - Bobby H for always using good manners and being a good friend
- Night Owls - Theo S for always being so helpful and listening to the adults at all times





Updates & Dates



LITERACY AMBASSADORS

- Hello, my name is Isla and I'm 11 years old. I'm in Jays class and I wanted to be a Literacy Ambassador because I like working with other people. I also wanted to help in the newsletter because I thought that it would be a good opportunity for me to practise my writing. I like English; it's my favourite lesson because I find writing very fun. I love listening to other people's opinions as well. Out of school, I write stories about animals.
- Hello, my name is Nyah, I'm 10 years old and I'm in Wrens class. I wanted to be a Literacy Ambassador because I think interviewing students in the school is very fun. My favourite subject is history because I like learning about the past. My hobbies are dancing, swimming and running.
- Hello, my name is Ethan and I'm in Wren class. I chose to be a Literacy Ambassador as I wanted to know everyone's thoughts about the school, and I was curious to know what is being learnt about in other year groups. My favourite subject is maths, and my nickname is Young Sheldon. Can you guess why?
- Hello, my name is Fred and I'm in Kestrels class. I love English, so I think that I'll be good at writing up reports about the learning across the school. I think that everyone should be allowed to have opinions about their work and be proud of what they have done. Outside of school, reading and writing are my passions. If English was taken out of school, I'd probably pass out!
- Hello, my name is Lola and I'm 10 years old. I'm in Kestrels class and my favourite subjects are art, English and maths. I was chosen to be a Literacy Ambassador, as my teacher recognised how advanced my descriptive language is. I'm excited about my role because I'm new to the school and wanted to venture further into the school. My hobbies include crochet, football and my paintings at home (I'm really good!)
- Hello, my name is Maisie and I'm in Jays class. What makes me a great Literacy Ambassador is that I have a great memory. In the year 4 Dr Dolittle production, I managed to recite 28 lines! Also, I love children! My favourite subject is English because I like using description and various things. My mum is actually a professional at writing things.



☀ Parenting Workshop: Raising Neurodiverse Children ☀

Does your child struggle with focus, sensory sensitivities, or finding balance in daily routines? Parenting can feel even more challenging when the “basics” don't come easily.

In this interactive **online workshop**, we'll explore the *Big 5 habits* every child needs:

- ☾ Healthy sleep routines
- 🍎 Positive eating habits
- 📺 Balanced screen time
- 🌍 Regular movement
- ❤ Emotional regulation

You'll learn:

- ✓ Practical ways to set loving boundaries
- ✓ Why some habits are harder to teach than others
- ✓ How to explore your own blocks around boundary-setting

✨ Perfect for any parent who wants to feel more confident and compassionate on their parenting journey.

📅 Date: Tuesday 4th November

🕒 Time: 7:30–9:00pm (UK)

💻 Online via Zoom

🎫 Tickets: £12

📧 Book now: info@carolynbaynes.co.uk



Updates & Dates



FRIENDS OF WORPLESDON SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES

Upcoming events/initiatives:

Fancy Dress Amnesty - We welcome donations of fancy dress costumes & accessories that are still clean and wearable ready for our Fancy Dress sale in October. Please drop these bagged up into the office.

Break The Rules Day: Friday 10th October - a chance for children to break rules for £1 each! From non-school uniform (mufti) to bringing in an unhealthy snack for breaktime! See poster for details.

Fancy Dress sale: Friday 17th October - a chance to bag a bargain for Halloween / parties / World Book Day next year - see poster for details.

WPS Christmas Fair: Sunday 23rd November, 1130-2.30pm - our biggest event in the calendar - more details to follow (if you would like to join the Christmas planning team please let us know).

Socials:

Please do follow us to keep up to date with all our news:

https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_worplesdon_school/

<https://facebook.com/worplesdonprimarypta>

🏷️ My Name Tags 🏷️

Still need new name tags? Visit www.MyNametags.com to purchase all your labels for uniform, water bottles, lunchboxes, bags and more. Add our **school ID code 29668** at the checkout and the FoWS will receive 24% back in commission!

💰 Easyfundraising 💰

If you're not already signed up to a fundraising cashback site then do please consider shopping for your usual online purchases via their website [here](#) and they will donate a percentage of sales to our school. With over 7,000 brands signed up, from retailers to holiday companies, you can help us raise funds so easily and at no extra cost!

👕 Pre-loved uniform

All Pre-Loved Uniform is available to purchase online! Head to [PTA Events](#) select what you want and pay - it's quick and easy! 📧 📦

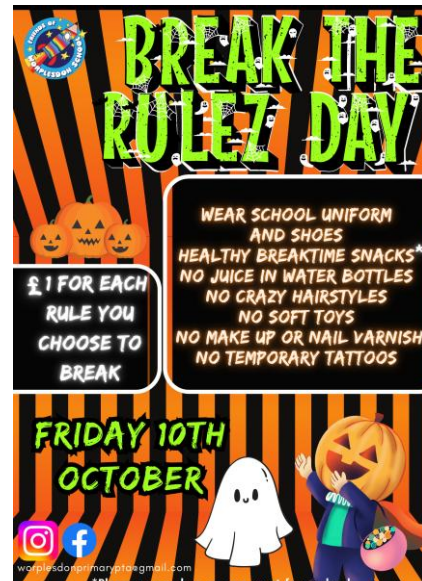
You will receive an email order confirmation and a further email when your order is ready to collect. All orders will be ready to collect within 7 days of your order. Collection is from the school office. All Pre-Loved uniform can be exchanged or refunded 7 days from date of collection.

Best wishes

Your Friends of Worplesdon School

Natasha Baxter (Chair), Karen Pointer (Deputy Chair), Jen Stanhope (Secretary) & Kirsten Purcell (Treasurer)

worplesdonprimarypta@gmail.com





Updates & Dates



Snow White

Book here!




Or
Call 07972152653

The Pantomime
by Ben Crocker

Thursday 27th November 7:30pm
Friday 28th November 7:30pm
Saturday 29th November at 2:30pm & 7:30pm

Adults £10 Children £8
Fairlands Community Centre,
Guildford, GU3 3NA



Sponsored by www.mhelectricalservices.co.uk



<https://www.ticketsource.com/whats-on/guildford/fairlands-community-centre/snow-white-the-pantomime/e-zealaq>



GASKIN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHES 2025

FREE LUNCH

24th December

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR MEAL
WWW.FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM
INFO@FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM
MARTA 07855846597

FREE DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME
DELIVERY WITHIN 10 MILES OF GUILDFORD
DELIVERY BETWEEN 12PM - 3 PM

WE NEED VOLUNTEER DRIVERS TO DELIVER

FREE EVENT - LONELY, STUDENTS, HOMELESS, VULNERABLE, OPEN TO EVERYONE IN NEED

