



October 2026 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN & MRS BASSETT-CROSS – 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 our Squirrels Class (Wood Street Nursery) and in Willows (at Wood Street) and Swifts, Swallows & Penguins (at Worplesdon) as well as those joining in other year groups. It has been a busy month and thus we have lots to share!

Living by our values

In our assemblies, we focused on the British Value 'The Rule of Law'. The children learnt that there are a set of rules that everyone in Britain must follow to ensure we all feel happy and safe. We then linked that with our school values that underpin behaviour expectations. We discussed the importance that every child is responsible for being a member of the 'school' 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 celebrates difference 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); verbal and written feedback; positive conversations with home; house points; certificates and stickers and citizenship awards.

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 logical and proportionate consequences are followed with a restorative approach:

- Reminder of the behaviour we expect to see
- 5 minutes away from the group
- Rest of session away from group
- Reflective time with a senior leader to reflect on behaviour discussing support needed to be able to follow the rules
- Reflective time with the Deputy Head / Head

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

Across our schools, we understand the importance of establishing a positive culture based on mutual respect. Consistent use of Behaviour for Learning strategies is vital to aid children's engagement such as the use of interactive strategies, the language of Growth Mindset (mistakes are an important part of learning), a promise to challenge each child in their learning, and to provide activities to aid transition into the classroom. Our aim is to prepare every child, so they are ready for their next step in education; their behaviour is an important part of this. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting us in the implementation of our Behaviour Policy.

Value of the month - Responsibility

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-judgmental 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.

Parent Consultation Meetings

The teaching team are looking forward to meeting with you face to face for your Autumn term Parent Consultation Meetings on 4th and 5th 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. Look out for more information on how to book your appointment. There will be opportunities for you to look through your child's workbooks, catch up with other parents and speak with leaders across the school.

The Importance of Attendance

Every day at school truly counts. Regular attendance is crucial for your child's learning, wellbeing and development. When children miss school, they miss out on vital lessons, time with their friends, and opportunities to build the resilience and routines that will support them throughout their lives. We know that even small amounts of absence can add up and impact on your child's progress, which is why we work hard to support every family in ensuring their child attends school every day.

Where any pupil we expect to attend school does not attend, or stops attending, without reason, the school will call the pupil's parent on the morning of the first day of unexplained absence to ascertain the reason. If the school cannot reach any of the pupil's emergency contacts, the school will carry out a home visit and if staff are unable to confirm the pupil's safety, they will contact the police. We take this approach because your child's safety is our top priority.

We're here to support you if your child is finding it difficult to attend school for any reason. Please do get in touch with us so we can work together to help your child get back into their learning routine and enjoy everything school has to offer.

Parent Tours

We've been absolutely delighted with the response to our parent tours at both schools! Every session has been full, and due to the overwhelming interest, we've now released additional dates to accommodate more prospective families. Our children have been wonderful ambassadors, really showcasing what makes our schools so special. The feedback from prospective parents has been incredibly positive, with particular praise for the exemplary behaviour of our pupils, our comprehensive wrap-around care provision at both schools, the high levels of engagement children demonstrate within their lessons, and our specialist teachers.

As we continue to strengthen the partnership between Wood Street and Worplesdon, we're constantly seeking new ways for the children to benefit from each other's school facilities. Some exciting examples of this collaboration include our music, PE and Spanish specialist teachers, who are based at Worplesdon, who will be providing lessons to our Year 2 children at Wood Street in the new year in preparation for their transition to Year 3. This partnership approach ensures that all our children across the federation have access to high-quality specialist teaching and helps to create a smooth and well-supported transition between key stages.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,



Kareen O'Brien
Executive Head Teacher



Laura Bassett-Cross
Deputy Head Teacher

NEED TO KNOW



VACANCY FOR DEPUTY SENDCO AND CENTRE TEACHER

The Governors and Executive Headteacher of The Federated Schools of Wood Street Infant School and Worplesdon Primary School would like to appoint an enthusiastic, committed and highly motivated Deputy SENDCo and Centre Teacher to join our team. We are looking for a highly motivated, caring and talented professional with proven skills in SEND provision to join our team at this successful and high attaining Federation.

This permanent, full-time position has become available to start in January 2027. This is an exciting opportunity if you aspire for excellence and thrive on the challenge of providing the very best for children and the school team.

We are seeking an exceptional, passionate and ambitious teacher to join our specialist High COIN (Communication and Interaction Needs) Centre as Deputy SENDCo / Centre Teacher.

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced practitioner who is passionate about supporting autistic pupils and those with communication and interaction needs to achieve outstanding outcomes. Working alongside our SENDCo and Centre Lead, you will play a key role in shaping provision, developing staff expertise and ensuring every child receives the personalised support they need to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

To apply and see further details: <https://www.eteach.com/job/deputy-senco-1566274>

SECOND HAND UNIFORM DONATIONS

We are very grateful for the continued support we receive through donations of second-hand school uniform. However, our current stock is now overflowing, so we would kindly ask that you remind anyone donating uniform of the following requirements:

- **Logoed items only** – please only donate items that have the school logo.
- **Good, resaleable condition** – items should be free from significant stains, damage or excessive wear.
- **Washed** – all donated items must be clean and freshly washed.

This will help us to ensure that the uniform we receive is suitable to be offered to other families.

Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support. It is very much appreciated.



LOST PROPERTY

Please be reminded that we no longer have a lost property box. Any items found will be dealt with as follows:

- Named items will be returned to their owners.
- Unnamed school-logo items in good condition will be added to our pre-loved uniform stock.
- All other items will be disposed of.

Please ensure that all items are clearly named. Thank you for your cooperation.

GOOD TO KNOW

A LITTLE HELP FOR OUR NEW DIGGING BEDS 🌱

We are delighted to let you know that our new digging beds have now been erected in school! We are really looking forward to the children being able to use them during their SPARC playtimes.

Before the children can get started, we need to line the beds and fill them with compost. If you are able to donate a bag (or bags) of compost, we would be incredibly grateful for your support. In addition, if you have any good quality, child friendly spades, rakes or buckets please let the office team know.

Every donation, no matter how small, will help us get the digging beds ready for the children to enjoy.



FRIENDS OF WORPLESDON SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES

MISSION 1 ACCOMPLISHED! ✨

Our young North Pole recruits have completed their very first **Operation Christmas Magic** mission – the **Hamper Mission!**



A huge **thank you to all our Worplesdon families** for the wonderful donations brought into school today. Together, you've helped make our first mission a fantastic success. 🌲
And, of course, completing a mission means one very important thing... **the children have earned their first stamp in their Operation Christmas Magic passports!** ★

One mission down... five to go!

The adventure is only just beginning. Families can follow the journey through our [North Pole Portal](#) on PTA Events.
FoWS Christmas Fair Team



Halloween Fancy Dress Sale - 9th October

With Halloween just a few weeks away, come to our fancy dress sale outside school on Friday 9th October at drop-off (8.30 - 9.00am). We have a selection of preloved costumes and accessories for you to browse, suitable for Halloween, World Book Day or simply dressing up at home!

If you are able to help set-up from 8.15am and then sell the costumes, please email worplesdonprimarypta@gmail.com.

If you have any good quality preloved fancy dress costumes and accessories to donate, please drop them off at the school office Monday - Thursday next week.

FoWS AGM and Planning Meeting Minutes

The FoWS AGM and Autumn Planning Meeting was held on Tuesday 22nd September. Minutes from the meeting will be available on the [school website](#).



Friends of Worplesdon School

EVENTS CALENDAR

AUTUMN 2026





OCTOBER

2nd	Christmas Mission 1: Hamper donations (No mufti)
9th	Halloween Fancy Dress sale
16th	Break the Rules day



NOVEMBER

3rd	Deadline for Christmas card orders
6th	Christmas Mission 2: Raffle ticket delivery
13th	Mufti – Christmas Mission 3: Bottle donations
20th	Mufti – Christmas Mission 4: Chocolate donations
27th	Mufti – Christmas Mission 5: Cake donations
29th	CHRISTMAS FAIR

Dates and events may be subject to change

Many thanks,

Your Friends of Worplesdon Primary School

worplesdonprimarypta@gmail.com
https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_worplesdon_school/
<https://facebook.com/worplesdonprimarypta>



HARVEST FOODBANK COLLECTION

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be collecting donations for **Guildford Foodbank** from **Monday 5th October until the morning of Monday 12th October**. We would be incredibly grateful for any contributions you are able to make. This year, the foodbank has specifically requested the following items: **puddings, cereal, soup, shaving foam, drinking chocolate and noodles**. They would also be very happy to receive any other non-perishable donations. Thank you for your generosity and support in helping local families within our community.

Please send any donations into your child's classroom.

Thank you for your kindness and support.

If you have any questions, please email Lparker@sfet.org.uk.

NICE TO KNOW

EARLY BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS

This week at Night Owls we have been having fun cooking Quesadillas. This was linked to World Vegetarian Day on October 1st. The children were given half a tortilla each. They could then add salsa, sweetcorn, peppers, tomatoes, spinach and pinto beans. These were then cooked on the hob to melt the cheese and brown the wraps. They went down a treat with the kids thoroughly enjoying them. We were impressed with the children as they learnt how to chop vegetables and try eating some vegetables they had never tried before.



Due to our cooking activity, there was no set craft this week. The children were given the freedom to paint anything they liked. This is always a nice chance for the children to use their imagination and the results were fantastic.

Next week are activities will be space themed based around Space Week.

Our Stars of the Week this week are:

- Early Birds: Max for always being so quick and helpful to help tidy up and take toys through to be put away.
- Night Owls: Megan, Elena, Bea and Piper for reading to the infant children each night, helping them learn new words and keeping them entertained.

WORPLESDON PRIMARY SCHOOL IS TURNING 60 NEXT MONTH!

We're delighted to be celebrating this very special milestone with our school community. The school first opened 60 years ago and was originally known as Fairlands Primary School. Since then, generations of pupils, families and staff have helped to shape the school into the wonderful community it is today.

We're looking forward to marking the occasion. Look out for more details about our planned celebrations over the coming weeks.



Robinson Crusoe
The Pantomime
By Kei Bailey



Thursday 26th November- 7:30pm
Friday 27th November - 7:30pm
Saturday 28th November - 2:30pm & 7:30pm

Book Now!

07459 437 666

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





WOKING PIANOTHON

Henry Plaza
Victoria Place
SATURDAY 3rd October 2026
9:00-6:00

**In aid of the Woking Hospice
and the
Woking Young Musicians' Trust
OPEN TO ALL AGES AND STAGES**

The PIANOTHON is an opportunity to entertain without the pressure of a formal concert.
Come and help raise money for these worthwhile causes. It will be a rewarding experience!

For more details or to book a slot, please contact:
Pam Lunn
Email: jivebunny@talk21.com
Phone: 07917 874473



NORMANDY TENNIS CLUB

OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMPS

PLAY • LEARN • IMPROVE • HAVE FUN

A fantastic opportunity for all young players to stay active, develop their skills and enjoy their time on court during the October half term!

 WEEK 1: 19TH – 23RD OCTOBER WEEK 2: 26TH – 30TH OCTOBER	 2.30PM – 5.30PM (3 HOURS PER DAY)	 £36 PER DAY	 ALL AGE CATEGORIES WELCOME FOR THE FULL 3 HOURS PER DAY
---	--	--	---

3 AGE CATEGORIES

8-10 YEARS OLD	11-13 YEARS OLD	14-16 YEARS OLD
-----------------------	------------------------	------------------------

(These can merge depending on numbers)

-  **QUALITY COACHING**
Develop skills & technique
-  **FUN GAMES & DRILLS**
Keep active and engaged
-  **ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**
From beginners to more experienced

 **NORMANDY TENNIS CLUB**

 **CONTACT US:**
egperformancetennis@gmail.com

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!

