



WALTON OAK WIRE

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office.waltonoak@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

www.waltonoakprimary.co.uk

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Headteacher's Message

This week, Walton Oak hosted the Lumen Learning Trust Governor Convention, organised by our Chair of Trustees, Jo Roberts. We welcomed headteachers and governors from across the Trust to come together, connect and deepen our collective understanding of the vital role that governance plays in shaping and supporting our schools.

We were delighted to be joined by Mary Ellen McCarthy (CEO of the Lumen Learning Trust) and Sarah Kober (Deputy CEO of the Lumen Learning Trust), who delivered a powerful and inspiring reminder of why we dedicate so much time and care to our work: because we care deeply about every one of our nearly 3,000 children across the Trust. Their message was clear – we do what we do because we want every child to have the best life chances possible. While the journey isn't always easy, we remain committed and we never give up.

Governors play a vital role in this mission. They bring fresh perspectives, a wealth of professional skills and most importantly, they help ensure that our schools are being led with integrity, care and a strong understanding of what drives success. Through their visits and meetings, governors provide important assurance that we are doing all we can to offer the highest quality education.

Over the past few weeks, we've been pleased to welcome a number of our own Walton Oak governors into school as part of our leadership monitoring activities. Together, we have looked closely at how we ensure all learners can access the full curriculum and how we are embedding the Six Principles of Nurture throughout the school. These visits have sparked valuable conversations with staff and children and we are proud of what has been observed and achieved so far.

In addition, we are excited that school trips and enrichment opportunities are now well underway, helping to bring learning to life and deepen our pupils' engagement with the curriculum. These experiences are such an important part of primary education, offering our children the chance to explore, discover and learn beyond the classroom walls.

We are also incredibly proud to announce that all of our Year 6 Pupil Leaders have now been selected with Prefects and Sports Leaders receiving their badges in assembly today. The process of applying and interviewing for these roles was a challenging one and we were hugely impressed by the maturity, courage and resilience shown by all those who put themselves forward. Whether they were successful in securing a role this time or not, every child who took part demonstrated leadership potential and a real commitment to making a positive difference in our school.

Next on the agenda are our Pupil Parliament and House Captain elections! These important opportunities give even more of our children, across the school, the chance to have their voices heard and take on roles of responsibility. We're very much looking forward to seeing how our pupils rise to the challenge and what fresh ideas and enthusiasm they will bring to these teams.

Siân McCarthy

General Information

Parent-Teacher Consultations

Don't forget to sign up for a parent-Teacher consultation on either **Tuesday 21st** or **Wednesday 22nd October**. You will need to book an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher via Scopay. The 10-minute time slots will **go live at 9.00am on Wednesday 1st October** so please log into Scopay to select a time that is suitable for you. These first parent



Encouraging pupils to reach their full potential in a safe, inclusive & nurturing environment



consultations of the year are a great opportunity for you to find out how your child has settled into their new year group and discuss some key areas to support your child's progress across the learning areas.

Stay, Play and Learn Sessions for EYFS and KS1

We invite you to come and join in some phonics learning with your child in their classroom and get involved in their play and learning. This will be followed by a brief information session to help you support your child at home with their phonics. To book please follow the relevant link for your child's class and date that you would like to attend.

Reception Hedgehogs class:

Tue 7th October 9-10am <https://buytickets.at/waltonoakprimaryschool/1856144>

Wed 8th October 9-10am <https://buytickets.at/waltonoakprimaryschool/1856156>

Reception Squirrels class:

Tue 7th October 9-10am <https://buytickets.at/waltonoakprimaryschool/1856134>

Wed 8th October 9-10am <https://buytickets.at/waltonoakprimaryschool/1856151>

Nursery Butterflies:

Tue 14th October 9-10am <https://buytickets.at/waltonoakprimaryschool/1856166>

Nursery Ladybirds:

Thur 16th October 9-10am <https://buytickets.at/waltonoakprimaryschool/1856178>

Forest School Volunteers



Do you have green fingers? Like being outside? Want to help build a love of the outdoors at Walton Oak? We need your help! We're looking for enthusiastic parent or carer volunteers to support our Forest School sessions. If you're able to spare some time to join us in our lovely 'Woody Oaks' for sessions starting after half term, please email the school office to let us know your availability and register your interest. We would love to have you involved!

office.waltonoak@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

Parent Learning Conference 2025

We are pleased to share that, following parent feedback from our initial survey, bookings for our Parent Learning Conference on Wednesday 19th November are now live! Earlier today, parents/carers were sent an email detailing the key information for this exciting event. Attached to the email was our 'menu' of workshops and information on how to book the sessions you'd like to attend. The poster is also attached to the end of The Wire for your reference. Scan the QR code or click on the link to book your preferred sessions. We can't wait to welcome as many of you as possible to an evening that is designed to give our parents/carers key tools and strategies to support their children along their continued learning journey.

Transition

Prospective Reception Open Morning Tours: Various dates – see our website [here](#)

Is your child due to start school in September 2026? Please come and have a look around our school. You can book [here](#) to join a tour - You are welcome to bring your child along.



Surrey CC Guidance for Secondary Transition

If your child will reach the age of 11 between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026, they will be due to start secondary school in September 2026. You can apply for a secondary school place from **1 September 2025**.

The closing date for on-time applications for secondary schools is **31 October 2025**.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary>

Local Secondary School Admissions information and open events for the 2026 Y6-7 Transition:

Heathside Walton:

<https://www.heathsidewalton.org/open-events/75.html>

Three Rivers Academy

<https://www.threeriversacademy.org/Admisssions/Admissions/>

Thamesmead:

<https://www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk/admissions-arrangements/>



Esher Church of England High:
<https://www.esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=21>

Prospective RECEPTION & NURSERY Open Morning: Saturday 18th October 10.0am – 11.30am.
Come and meet the team and have a play in our reception and nursery classrooms.



Year 6 Pupil Leaders

Congratulations to our Year 6 Pupil Leaders who found out their roles this week. We look forward to seeing them taking on their responsibilities and being role models to the other children in the school throughout this year. This will provide them with important experiences on the lead up to joining Secondary School.

| Year 6 Sports Leaders | Year 6 Prefects |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Lailah | Poppy |
| Willow | Jasmim |
| Daisy | Mia |
| Jamie | Milo |
| Tierni | Ruby |
| Florence | Grace |
| Mollie | Dino |
| Phoebe K | Delilah |
| Eliza | Kiara |
| Rosie | Jack |
| Ariyaana | Zulaikha |
| Phoebe H | Max |
| Asenath | Jack |
| Millie | Freddy |
| Ronnie | |



Our Wonderful Prefects 2025/26



Our Wonderful Sports Leaders 2025/26

Reading

Playing with Poetry

On Thursday, we celebrated National Poetry Day in school. This year's theme was 'play' and it gave us the perfect chance to explore just how fun and creative poetry can be!



Throughout the day, children listened to poems read aloud and discovered that poetry can be silly, joyful and full of energy. Classes enjoyed playful favourites, like Michael Rosen's 'Chocolate Cake' and Benjamin Zephaniah's 'Talking Turkey'.

Poetry is a brilliant way for children to play with language. It helps them grow in confidence as writers and performers, sparks their imagination and gives them the freedom to experiment with rhythm, rhyme, words and expression. The short length of lots of poetry can also help to engage the most reluctant of readers.

Why not take a few minutes to share a poem together at home? Just like reading a story, enjoying poetry builds language skills, supports learning and shows children that words can be powerful, playful and fun!



Here are some poetry resources that you can enjoy at home:

National Poetry Day Poems - A collection of free poems that can be filtered by age group
www.forwardartsfoundation.org/national-poetry-day/poems-and-resources

Chocolate Cake (Michael Rosen) - A crowd favourite read by the poet himself
[Watch here](#)

Talking Turkey (Benjamin Zephaniah) - Full of energy and fun
[Watch here](#)

Write a Poem in 5 Minutes (Simon Mole) - A playful tutorial to get started with writing poetry
[Watch here](#)



Tiny, Happy People



Fun Quiz

Got a spare 5 minutes? Not sure what to do with your child? Then take this quiz which will direct you to a quick and fun activity to do! Answer a few simple questions, the website does the work for you and will select an activity that suits you and your child. With half term approaching what a great tool to have in a click of a button.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/4-5-activity-selector/z6tvsk7>



Oracy

Take Home Focus – Let’s Talk!



Extra-Curricular Events

Sports Leader Training



This week our newly elected sports leaders took part in some training to equip them with skills and knowledge to run clubs and games with the rest of the school. The children took part in team building games and had to do some coaching themselves to other children, they all did really well and came away with lots of ideas. Well done sports leaders!



Enrichment Activities

Walton Bridge - Year 4 Sketching Adventure!



This week, Year 4 put their sketching skills into action with some real-life drawing at Walton Bridge!

The children showed fantastic stamina and enthusiasm on their walk to the bridge and worked so hard to apply the techniques they've been learning this half term — scumbling, hatching, cross-hatching and stippling. They carefully observed the bridge and its surroundings, adding those details into their artwork with great focus.

We were so impressed by their resilience, determination, and creativity. Every child made their teachers proud with their effort and concentration. Well done, Year 4!



Pastoral News



Surrey Paediatrics Parenting Service

Barnados have launched a free parenting support group run by Barnardo's Surrey Paediatric Parenting Support Service for families with children aged 5 and under who may be showing signs of neurodiversity, have a diagnosis, or are simply experiencing challenges at home.

BARNARDOS Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

Surrey Paediatrics Parenting Service

Surrey Paediatrics Parenting Service

Is your child experiencing:

- Big emotions
- Sleep difficulties
- Sensory difficulties
- Speech & Language difficulties

We can offer you support! Contact our team today!

You can find out more information and how to refer into the service at www.Barnardos.org.uk or scanning the below QR Code:

SURREY HEARTLANDS Health and Care Partnership | **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

Bianca Downey: 07354200290 | Jo Hernandez: 07394 865 632
Fleur Howlett: 07856 479486



Job opportunities across Lumen Learning Trust and its schools

Darley Dene Primary School in Addlestone is recruiting: We are seeking to appoint 2 highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individuals for the role of Teaching Assistant. This is an opportunity for individuals who are patient and emotionally resilient to join our friendly, inclusive and inspirational team of teaching and support staff. For more information click on the link on page 1.

Diversity and Equality

Black History Month



Throughout October, we will be acknowledging and celebrating Black History Month with our children through assemblies, discussions and classroom-based activities. This important month gives us the opportunity to reflect on the achievements, contributions and stories of Black individuals, past and present and to deepen our understanding of equality, justice and representation.



On Monday, Mrs Bourne will launch the month with a live virtual assembly from Picture News, which children from Year 1 upwards will take part in. The assembly will introduce this year's theme: "Standing Firm in Power and Pride." This theme

encourages children to think about what it means to stand up for what is right, to be proud of who they are and to recognise the strength in diverse voices and identities. Across the school, children will explore inspiring figures, moments in history and stories that highlight resilience, leadership and the ongoing journey towards fairness and inclusion. We look forward to sharing some of this work with you later in the month and we encourage families to continue the conversation at home by talking about the people and stories your child brings home from school.

Respect Everyone's Right to Learn



This week in Monday's assembly, the children learned about a truly inspiring person, Ellie Goldstein.

Ellie is a young model who has Down syndrome. She became well-known when she modelled for big brands like Gucci, showing the world that beauty comes in all forms. Ellie didn't stop there, she also helped design the first ever Barbie doll with Down syndrome! She worked with the company to make sure the doll looked and felt just right, so that more children can see themselves in the toys they play with. More recently,

Ellie has joined the cast of Strictly! She is the first contestant with Down Syndrome to perform on the show and is doing brilliantly.

In our assembly, we talked about how Ellie shows us the importance of believing in yourself, even when things are difficult. She proved that people with disabilities can do amazing things and that everyone deserves to feel seen, valued and included. Ellie's story reminds us that at Walton Oak, we respect everyone's right to learn, to be themselves and to succeed in their own unique way.





FOWO

Autumn FOWO Events – Dates for your diary

We are excited to announce our events for the Autumn term!!

- **Wednesday 22 October 2025 - Break the Ghouls (Rules) Day** - break the school rules for a small donation
- **Friday 28 November 2025 - Christmas Fair** - Full school mufti in exchange for tombola donations

More details to follow, but keep your eye on The Wire and Classlist for future communications.

FOWO Uniform Rail – Bag scarily good bargains and help the environment

As you are all aware, the second-hand uniform rail in the foyer is always full of a bargain.

In the run up to spooky season, we are asking for donations of children's fancy dress costumes as we will be changing the rail over in the next week or so - just in time for 'Break the Ghouls' day. All items are £1 so why not do your bit for the environment and school community and take a look.

As we are getting into the cooler months, we have put summer uniforms away and added trousers, pinafore dresses, jumpers and skirts. There is also plenty of PE kit, including black joggers and hoodies.

Seymours Christmas Fair Boards – Total Reached!!

A huge thankyou to everyone that offered to have a Seymours board outside this home to promote the Christmas Fair. We think that has been the quickest uptake of boards yet, and means that we will receive the maximum donation of £20 per board!

Easyfundraising – Support FOWO while you shop!

Did you know that there is an easy way to support FOWO?? Sign up to easyfundraising and FOWO automatically receives a proportion of the funds spent - at no extra cost to you!

Be sure to download the Easyfundraising donation reminder which alerts you when shopping with a participating retailer that a percentage of the sales goes to FOWO - there are so many!

Follow the instructions when signing up to ensure the FOWO/Walton Oak receive your donations!

Find FOWO on Socials

Connect with us to be part of the amazing FOWO community?!

- Instagram ([@friendsofwaltonoak](#))
- Facebook ([Friends of Walton Oak - FOWO](#))

We're looking forward to connecting with you all!

House Competitions



House Captains - The Campaigns Begin!

Firstly, a big well done to every child in Years 2 and 6 who submitted an application for the role of House Captain. We had a great number of applications, especially from our Year 2 children. It's clear to see the thought and time that has gone into the applications, which made the job of shortlisting even more challenging. Yesterday, the children who had been shortlisted received a personal letter to inform them that they had reached the next stage



of the process and explaining that they can now begin their campaigns for votes. A big well done to the following children who have been shortlisted:

| | Dragon | Griffin | Pegasus | Phoenix |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| Year 2 | Cole (2S) Kai (2S) Cecie (2S) | Arlo (2L) Thomas (2L) Isabel (2L) | Jax (2L) Roman (2S) | Matty (2S) Luke (2S) Odette (2L) |
| Year 6 | Mia (6BD) Ruby (6BD) Mert (6BD) | Max (6BD) Tommy B (6BD) Jack (6J) | Freddy (6J) Lailah (6J) | Daisy (6J) Milo (6J) Joshua (6BD) |

We are very much looking forward to seeing the children lead on their campaigns over the coming weeks, ahead of the voting that will take place before the end of this half term. Very best of luck to all of our candidates!

Celebrations



Gold Leaves

Well done to the following children who all received a gold leaf this week for following our Walton Oak Way Values:



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Butterflies | Gabriel |
| Ladybirds | Violet K |
| Hedgehogs | Lucas, Max, Riley, Rory, Lola & Aria |
| Squirrels | Aaria |
| 1B | Bella |
| 1N | Dylan M, Salar, Mariana & Teddy T |
| 3B | Ivy |
| 4C | Sierra, Helena, Dylan, Samuel & Elizabeth |
| 4A | Cara, Jazib, Ruby, Theo, Emmy, Cora & Max |
| 5C | Amelia, Elliot, Zach, Georgie, Jessica B & Anoushka |
| 6BD | Thomas, Skyler, Florence & Phoebe |
| 6J | Jack, Dino & Kiara |

On behalf of the Walton Oak staff team we wish you a pleasant weekend.



Upcoming dates for the diary

New dates added in red

| | |
|---|---|
| Tue 7 th Oct | Reception Stay, Play & Learn 9-10am |
| Wed 8 th Oct | Reception Stay, Play & Learn 9-10am |
| Tue 14 th Oct | Year 6 Bristol Residential (3 nights) |
| | Butterflies Stay, Play & Learn 9-10am |
| Thur 16 th Oct | Ladybirds Stay, Play & Learn 9-10am |
| Sat 18 th Oct | Prospective Reception & Nursery Open Morning 10-11.30am |
| Tue 21 st Oct | Parent Teacher Consultations 1.50-4.30pm |
| Wed 22 nd Oct | Parent Teacher Consultations 4.00-7.00pm |
| Wed 22 nd Oct | FOWO Break the Gouls (Rules) Day |
| Fri 24 Oct | INSET DAY |
| Mon 27 th Oct | HALF TERM |
| Mon 3 rd Nov | Children return to school |
| Mon 17 th Nov | Individual/Sibling photos |
| Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st Nov | Year 6 Bikeability |
| Weds 19 th Nov | Parent Learning Conference 5-7.30pm |
| Mon 24 th Nov | Year 1-6 Flu Vaccinations |
| | Year 6 Height and Weight checks |
| Wed 26 th Nov | Nursery Mufti - donations for Christmas Fair |
| Fri 28 th Nov | Christmas Fair 3.30-6pm |
| Fri 28 th Nov | Mufti - donations for Christmas Fair |
| Fri 19 th Dec | End of Term 1.45pm |





Walton Oak Parent Learning Conference 2025

Wednesday 19th
November
5.00-7.30pm

Take a look at our 'menu' of workshops on offer for you during our Parent Learning Conference. Click on the link below to select which workshops you'd like to attend.

Menu

Reading Workshops

Early Language

To share the importance of Early Language in children and how to support at home. (Nursery, Reception & Y1)

Comprehension Skills

To share reading comprehension questions, the process and strategies used in school and ways to support at home (Yr4, Yr5 & Yr6).

Writing Workshops

Developing Fine Motor Skills

To share the importance of developing fine motor skills and how this leads into handwriting, strategies used in school and ways to support at home. (Nursery, Reception & Y1)

Spelling

To share the key elements of the spelling expectations within the curriculum and to equip parents with ways to support with this at home. (Y2, 3 & 4)

Grammar

To share the key grammar features explored in KS2 and their importance within writing. (Y4, 5 & 6)

Editing & Up-levelling

To explore strategies to support children when editing and up-levelling their writing independently. (Y4, 5 & 6)

Maths Workshops

Early Number

To share the key elements of the Early Number curriculum with parents and to equip parents with ways to support with their child's Maths learning at home. (Nursery, Reception & Y1)

Introduction to Fractions

To explore how children are introduced to fractions through the curriculum and provide parents with ways to support this area of learning at home. (Y2 & 3)

Problem Solving & Reasoning

To provide parents with detailed examples of how to solve maths problems and how to verbally reason and justify answers to mathematical problems. (Y4, 5 & 6)

Book onto your preferred workshop sessions here:

<https://forms.gle/1o6gsNJFurTVPrmZA>

Click on the link or scan the barcode to select the workshops you'd like to attend!





THAMESMEAD SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

Thursday 9th October 2025

5.30pm - 8.00pm

Headteacher's talks at 5.30, 6.15, 7.00, 7.45pm



We warmly invite parents and primary school students to visit our successful school

You do not need to book to attend but will need a ticket on arrival if you would like to go to the Headteacher's Talk.
More details are on our website.

Thamesmead School, Manygate Lane, Shepperton, TW17 9EE

Tel: 01932 219400 Email: info@thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk

Website: www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk

Morning tours of the school are also bookable via the school office

"My daughter is happy and thriving at Thamesmead. An extremely good school and would highly recommend to other parents" – Year 7 parent.

"We never had any doubt choosing Thamesmead was the right decision. We're proud to be part of the Thamesmead community." – Year 8 parent

"Thamesmead teachers have been outstanding, showing true passion for their role and supporting our children." – Year 10 parent







WINTER WARMERS

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED FROM
OCTOBER 1ST**

**Do you have a winter coat, scarf, hat or gloves that you no longer require?
Donate them to us at The Hub for our Winter Warmer initiative.**

[READ MORE](#) 

WINTER WARMERS

We are open Monday 9-4, Thursday 9-4, Friday 9-4 and Saturday 9-12.

If you are in need of a new coat, we will announce when we are open for collection so watch our social media channels!

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED FROM
OCTOBER 1ST**



WINTER WARMERS

We are accepting donations of clean coats, hats, scarves and paired gloves.

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED FROM
OCTOBER 1ST**

Items **MUST** be clean and handed to a Duty Manager at The Hub during opening hours.

Items **CANNOT** be left outside The Hub as will be treated as fly tipping and we will be fined.

A poster with a winter-themed background of snow and trees. The text is presented in various colored boxes: red for the title, white on a blue background for the first sentence, white on a black background for the date, and white on a light blue background for the two final sentences.