



WALTON OAK WIRE

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Quick Links

Term Dates

School Calendar

FOWO

Uniform

School Meals

Pastoral Support Team

Trust Jobs

Online Forms



Headteacher's Message

Our Harvest assembly this morning brought a lovely end to the week. The children listened carefully and contributed well to the messages about why we celebrate Harvest in school. They also sang a well-rehearsed collection of songs really beautifully. Thank you for all the donations of food for the Walton and Hersham Foodbank. These were gratefully received by the foodbank staff this morning and will make a difference to the lives of those who need it within our community.



Another highlight of the week has been the pupil interviews that Mrs Bourne and I have been conducting with some of our year 6 children, in order to select our next Head and Deputy Head Pupil and the 2023/24 Pupil Leadership Team. We are all very proud of the children who applied for this role and demonstrated our Walton Oak Way by being ambitious and courageous. We interviewed them as we would anyone who takes on a leadership position in our school. They rose to the challenge and it was an extremely difficult choice to make. All of the pupils who were interviewed will take on a special role in school, even if they didn't make Pupil Leader. I look forward to sharing the outcome with you all next week.

Siân McCarthy

General Information

Dates for the Diary

You will have noticed that there is no longer a date's page at the bottom of this letter. This is because the buttons to the side of the front page are live links to our school website. The online calendar is regularly updated and contains all the latest dates for your diaries. This page can be viewed as a chart or a list by selecting either the 'calendar' or 'month' view. It can also be printed for fridges and noticeboards. You can view the online calendar with a simple click, along with the other information about FOWO, school meals, term dates, the pastoral team, uniform, online forms and jobs in the Trust. Please explore and let us know if you experience any problems with finding the information you require so that we can support you in navigating your way around.



Year 6 Bikeability

For those children who are booked onto the Bikeability course that is taking place next week, we would like to share a few reminders:

Please bring your bike to school each morning and leave it in Woody Oaks (in the KS2 playground) and collect it from there at the end of the day. If it is not possible for you to bring your bike back and forth each day, please let us know so we can make an alternative arrangement with you. Please also bring a waterproof jacket and cycle helmet. Children will be able to wear their usual trousers/skirt and school shoes. **All children must attend every day to pass the course.**

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



BBC Tiny Happy People



We are really looking forward to sharing some of the fun and free activities with you from the Tiny Happy People website.

This week I am sharing an activity that is aimed at 3-4 year olds, but it can be played by all the family. All you need is a drawstring bag (you could use a pillow case) and fill it with some household items, this could be a sponge, wooden spoon, a cuddly toy, a book- the list is endless. Then take it in turns to feel inside the bag and describe an item to each other using as much description as possible, without saying what it is.

On the link below is a short video to show you how to play. There is also a list of benefits of this game and how to extend the language used.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/sensory-bag-3-4-years/zt9q7yc>

I hope you enjoy playing it. Let us know how you get on. We'd love to hear from you.

Reception Stay, Play & Learn - Tuesday 3rd October

Don't forget to come along if you can and visit your child's classroom from 9-10am. It's a great way to gain some insight into their school experience. Children also love to bring their grown-ups into school to share in their learning. No need to book – just arrive via the office to sign in.

Dramacube's half term workshops

Don't miss out on a spooktacular 15% discount on Dramacube's Half Term Workshops when you book before midnight this Saturday!

For little pumpkins aged 5-7 years...

HALLOWEEN PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOPS | 2 Days | Esher & Hampton Hill

Children will enjoy spooky games, gory stories, arts & crafts and a fancy-dress competition as they work towards their own spooky performance for family to enjoy on the afternoon of day two!

For ghouls aged 8-12 years....

'MAKE-A-SCARY-MOVIE' WORKSHOPS | 2 Days | Walton, Esher and Hampton Hill

Young movie-makers will gain hands-on experience of screen make up, directing and performing in their very own scary movie.

Everyone gets a digital link of their final film and families will be invited in on the afternoon of day two for an interactive cinema experience!

Booooooook before midnight on Saturday 30th Sept to get 15% off!

<https://www.dramacubeproductions.co.uk/october-half-term-workshops/>

Nursery - Learning Update



Last week, the children in Nursery were thinking about colours. We talked about our favourite colours and explained our choices, read the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear' and thought of our own colourful animal to create our own book, sorted items into their colour groups and went on a colour hunt around the school grounds. It was a lot of fun!

This week, we have been enjoying the rhyme 'Humpty Dumpty.' There was quite a commotion in the classroom yesterday, as we arrived we noticed a crime scene! The police had cornered off an area of the classroom where Humpty Dumpty had fallen off of the wall. It was our job to look for clues and come up with some ideas of how he had fallen. The children had some very creative answers which we added to our Humpty Dumpty display.





Reception - Learning Update



Children in Squirrels class have been very busy settling in to their new school and showing off their amazing learning. They have been sorting objects into colours and numbers, making cube towers to the number 10, practising their pencil grip by making patterns and playing a game recognising initial sounds in words. Well done Reception!



This week in Hedgehogs we have been exploring different ways to create Art. We used lots of different items to make our own pictures and shapes.



Reading

Reading Awards

Reading at home with your children helps them to strengthen their language, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. There is an expectation that you are hearing your child read at home at least 3 times a week. Every time your child reads with an adult, that 'read' is recorded (up to a maximum of 10 a week) and a visual representation of this is displayed in the classroom. The children then receive awards for reaching different points on the display. These are:

- 20 reads - sticker
- 50 reads – bookmark
- 100 reads - certificate
- 150 reads - pencil
- 200 reads - badge
- 300 reads – medal

Make sure your child records all their reads in order to achieve a prize this year.



Enrichment Activities

Year 3 Butser Ancient Farm Trip

On Monday, Year 3 went to Butser Ancient Farm to discover how we lived during the time period of the Stone Age to the Iron Age. The weather was very kind to us and we built wattling fences and made bronze jewellery in the sunshine. We sat around a fire in an Iron Age house and passed around artefacts from the ages including the skin of a fox, a goats skull, a harpoon and flint that was used to create a spear head. The children also brought home their cordage creations of weaved straw.





Year 4 River Trip



On Tuesday, Year 4 went on a walk to the River Thames. As part of their Geography learning this term, they are considering the question: How is Walton influenced by the presence of the Thames? On the trip, they looked at the wildlife, buildings lining the banks and the reasons that the river was being used for leisure activities. They gathered this information from their walk along the towpath and from a boat. The boat

took the children on a round trip from Walton Bridge past Desborough Island and through Shepperton Lock.



Writing workshop



When we arrived at Cardinal Newman School, we were welcomed into the hall to wait for everyone. When everyone had arrived, the author came (Robin Price) to greet us. He told us what our first activity was. We had to get into partners to write a story based on Greek Mythology. Then, we had to stand up and read it in front of everybody using a microphone (this was scary). We then changed partners so we could do another story, in this one we wrote about fairy-tale creatures. The author surprised us with a beatbox rap about chasing a deer – this was really funny. I enjoyed the day, especially the beatboxing. *By Evita, 6G*

On Thursday we went to Cardinal Newman for a writing day. We met an author called Robin Price and he really likes writing books about cats! We wrote short stories about Greek myths and modern fairy tales. We had a great time writing in our pairs. A couple of tips for writing stories is that you should start with speech and then describe the scene. We also were able to buy one or two of Robin's books and Robin would sign them! It was a really good experience. *By Katie (5P), Thomas and Ishara (5B)*

Pastoral News

Coffee Morning

The pastoral team are looking forward to their first coffee morning of this academic year. Inviting all parents and carers, with children under 5 welcome.

This is an opportunity for parents to meet the HSLW and ELSA and ask any questions in a relaxed environment.

If you would like to attend the coffee morning, feel free to pop over to the after school club building after drop off on Wednesday 6th at 8:50. We look forward to seeing you there.



Job opportunities across Lumen Learning Trust and its schools

Walton Oak Primary School is recruiting:

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and caring individual who can assist in providing a stimulating and creative environment for children attending the After School club (Monday to Friday, 3:10pm to 6pm)

For further information please visit <https://www.eteach.com/job/after-school-club-team-member-1371443> or click the link to 'Jobs in the Trust' on the left hand side of Page one.

Walton Oak Primary School is recruiting:

Walton Oak Primary School is looking to recruit a caring and enthusiastic person to join our Breakfast Club team. The right candidate will be willing to engage children in exciting play that makes them feel welcome and settled in our Breakfast Club (Monday to Friday, 7:25am to 8:35am)

For further information please visit <https://www.eteach.com/job/breakfast-club-team-member-1371436> or click the link to 'Jobs in the Trust' on the left hand side of Page one.





FOWO News

Calling all Tesco shoppers

Help FOWO win a Tesco Community grant for outdoor play equipment. From the first week of October until January, FOWO will be one of three charities on the charity token boxes in Tesco Stores; shoppers can vote for their preferred charity using the blue tokens given out at the till. At the end of the collection period, the charity with the most votes will receive £1,500 in donations from Tesco, the second-placed will get £1,000 and the third-placed £500. Please help FOWO be the number one charity!! We will be featured on boxes in the following stores: Ashford Extra, Ashford Express, Addlestone Extra, Chertsey, Esher, East Molesey, West Molesey, Hersham, Staines Express, Sunbury Extra, Weybridge (Queen's Rd), Walton. If you are in any of the stores, we'd love to see pictures of the token boxes to see progress!

Halloween costume sale and second-hand uniform sale – Friday, 13th October, 3.15pm

Save the date for a second-hand uniform AND Halloween fancy dress sale on Friday, 13th October after pick up. Donations of good quality, reusable uniforms (no old logo items, please – we can't sell or give away) and children's Halloween costumes are gratefully accepted from Friday, 5th October. These can be left in the purple FOWO bucket in the foyer.

Wanted – Gardening skills/Gardening event, Saturday 14th October, 10am

FOWO will be holding a series of family gardening events on Saturday mornings over the course of this year. We will be doing tasks such as clearing overgrown areas, planting seedlings, litter picking and other things that will help to improve our lovely school's outdoor environment. FOWO will also be providing refreshments. Please sign up for the event on Classlist so that we can prepare for numbers. We are particularly keen to identify any keen gardeners or people who work or own a gardening business that would be interested in getting involved. Please email fowo@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk if you can help!

FOWO committee update

FOWO held its AGM on Tuesday, 26th September, where the last committee stood down and the new one was appointed.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Kirsty Hubbard, Dawn McKenna and Thomasin Clarke, who stood down due to children moving on to secondary school/other commitments. A huge thank you for all of their hard work.

We're delighted to announce this year's committee below. We're always on the lookout for new committee members, and it is possible to join during the year; just email fowo@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk to learn more!

Chair: Helen Allingham,
Deputy Chair: Hollie Park
Treasurer: Jenny Johnson,
Secretary: Sarah Shotton
Caroline Smart

Lex Holness
Rachael Huang
Vicky Wales
Lizzie Mullen

FOWO finance update

Treasurer Jenny Johnson presented FOWO's finance report for the 2022-23 school year. We were pleased to announce that we raised a total of £7,754 during the year. We also donated £11,974 to the school (donations also drew on funds raised in previous years). Key Donations included:

- £7,910 for the EYFS outdoor area
- £1,203 for an anti-bullying workshop (all years)
- £1,000 for year 4 Delight workshops
- £500 for World Book Week author visit
- £345 for the Year Six Leavers' Celebration
- £180 for Coronation Celebrations
- Christmas books
- Ties for children moving from Y2 to Y3.



Celebrations



Gold Leaves

Well done to the following children who all received a gold leaf this week:

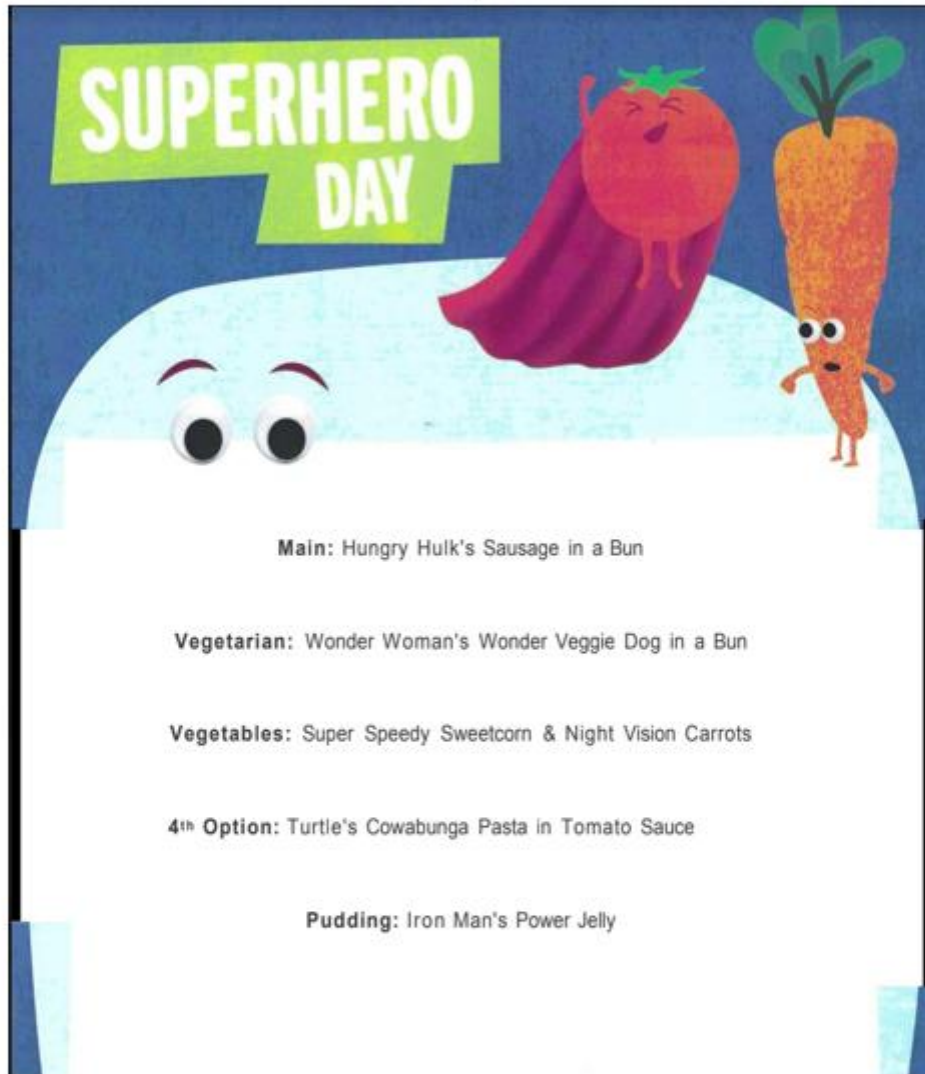
| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Butterflies | Zak, Teddy & Oscar |
| Ladybirds | Lewis & Bella |
| Squirrels | Kairav & Ariya |
| 1H | Ella & Ivy |
| 2DO | Niamh & Lydia |
| 3C | Zach, Musafa & Ruben |
| 4D | Courtney, Charlie, Willow, Amelie, Mollie, Emily, Brian & Tommie |
| 4G | Raian, Izzy, Ruby, Milo, Florence, Freddy & Holly |
| 5P | Arlo, Katie & Bartosz, |
| 6G | Joel & Lilly-Rose |
| 6P | Tommy |

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





Superhero Lunch Thursday 5th October



Please use your Scopay account to book your Superhero Lunch