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Headteacher's Message

It's hard to believe we have reached the end of our first half term. It certainly feels much more autumnal at the end of the 7 weeks than it did at the start. It will be winter uniforms all round after the break. When preparing your child's winter uniform, please ensure you check out our uniform link at the side of this page so you are clear in what we ask children to wear, especially regarding school shoes (not boots). Our uniform doesn't only look smart but it supports a sense of unity and belonging within the Walton Oak community, so it is important that the uniform policy is adhered to.

On the subject of community, it has been lovely to welcome parents and carers into school this week for our first parent consultation sessions of the year. Thank you to all those who came along to gain insight of their child's achievements and find out about how to further support at home. The teachers felt very positive about their conversations. I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. I was pleased to see lots of you exploring the range of books on offer at the book fair too.

Next half term will bring lots of excitement with the Year 6 residential trip to Bristol and Christmas preparations. I hope the children and their families enjoy this half term break and come back rested and ready for the second half of the Autumn term, filled with lots of festive fun.

Siân McCarthy

General Information

Black History Month

Since 1987, the month of October has been known as black history month in the UK. In our assemblies this month, the children have been learning about the importance of black history and how in the past it was often forgotten or ignored. This year's theme is "saluting our sisters" which is about celebrating inspirational black women.



Last week, the children listened to a poem called "change sings" by the poet Laureate, Amanda Gorman. The poem is a call to action for everyone - showing children that we all have a place in society and can work together to make a difference. Amanda Gorman wrote and recited the poem "The hill we climb" at president Biden's inauguration. She said, *"I'm the daughter of black writers, who were descended from freedom fighters, who broke their chains and changed the world."* ~ Amanda Gorman

This week, the children learnt about Kizzmekia Corbett, a black woman who was a leading developer of the Moderna covid-19 vaccine. They thought back to 1955 in Alabama, USA when Rosa Parks, refused to give up her row of seats, in the 'coloured' section of a bus for a white passenger, in protest of the rights of black people. The children imagined what Rosa might say to Kizzmekia today if they had the chance and also what Kizzmekia might say to Rosa Parks.

Mary (Year 6) said, *"I think Kizzmekia would say thank you for making a stand for the rights of black people. Because of this, I have had the opportunity to have a good education and do something really amazing."*

Brian (Year 4) said, *"Rosa would say well done to Kizzmekia for doing something very special. She would be happy."*



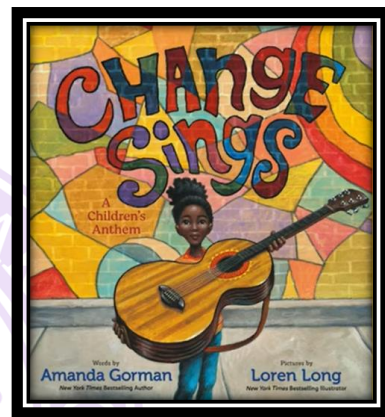
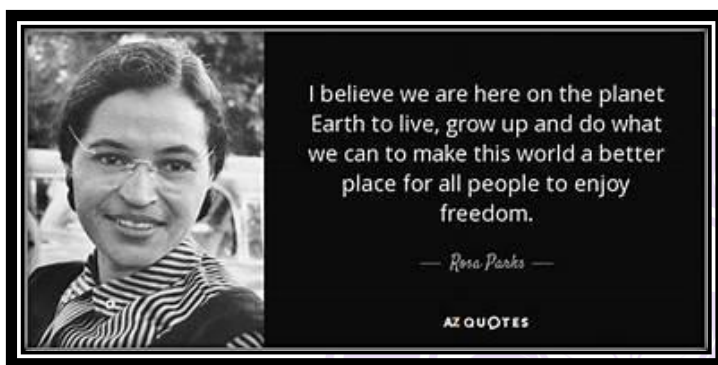


Teddy (Year 3) said, "Rosa would be so proud of Kizzmekia and so glad that she helped make things better for her."

Thomas (Year 4) said, "Kizzmekia would say to Rosa that, by making a stand, she made the lives of black people so much better."

Caitlin B (Year 5) said, "Rosa would say I am proud of you Kizzmekia and you must keep doing things that will make people's lives better".

Throughout our curriculum, children will continue to learn about the achievements through history of important figures from a variety of races and cultures. "I would like for every little girl to look at me and say, 'I can be a scientist too.' I want my legacy to be an inspiration. And, while inspiring, I would like to clear away barriers that keep many young girls from achieving at the highest of levels, making the world aware that women are worthy." Kizzmekia Corbett



Walking Home from Enrichment Clubs

This half term, any child in Year 5 or 6 with permission to walk home has been able to do so after an enrichment club at 4.20pm. However, after half term - when it will be getting darker at an earlier time - we will be asking that all children across the school, including in Years 5 and 6, are collected by an adult from an enrichment club. If your child (in Year 5 or 6) is due to walk home after school on a day they do not have a club, this is still absolutely fine as this is at an earlier time. Please ensure you make arrangements for after half term for any days your child has a club, ensuring an adult is able to collect them at 4.20pm.

Reception 2024 Open Day Tours: Tuesday 7th November, 9.30-10.30am

We have more tours arranged for prospective Reception parents. The next tour is coming up after the half term break. Details of these and the booking link are available on our website: <https://www.waltonoakprimary.co.uk/>

Prefects and Sports Leaders

This week, children in Year 6 had the opportunity to apply for the role of either Prefect or Sports Leader. Miss Pott and Miss Gardner were really impressed with the efforts that the children made in applying for these roles. In our assembly this morning, we shared the exciting news about who our Prefects and Sports Leaders are for this year. A big well one to the following children who will begin their exciting roles after half term.

Prefects

Lilly-May 6P
Harriet 6P
Cayden 6P
Larnie 6G
Demi 6G
Sienna-Mai 6G

Sports Leaders

Zara 6P (Lead Sports Leader)
John 6P
Lukas 6P
Eddie 6P
Theo 6P
Charlie 6G
Penny 6G
Harrison 6G
Lyla 6G



Secondary School Applications

Don't forget the deadline for applying for a secondary school place for September 2024 is 31 October 2023. Applications can be made here: www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions.

Mufti Day - Friday 3 November

Walton Oak is supporting Stripey stork and Walton Charities Christmas Appeal by holding a Mufti Day. Children can wear their own clothes for a £1 donation in cash or this can be paid via your child's Scopay account. Donations from the day will help to ensure that some of the thousands of children living in poverty across Elmbridge have a gift to open on Christmas Day.

PE Kits Update

A letter was sent to all parents and carers yesterday to share that after half term, all children from Reception to Year 6 will be required to come into school wearing their full school PE kit on their allocated PE day. Please take a look at this letter to ensure you know which day your child is required to be wearing their full school PE kit.

Parking Outside School

A polite reminder to ensure you are parking safely and considerately outside school. Please do not park on yellow lines or the zigzag lines, to give a clear view of the new zebra crossing.

Reading

Half Term Challenge

Over the half term break we would love you to capture some moments of your child reading with an adult. This can be a selfie or otherwise. Please share any great photos with us, as we would love to create a display in school of children reading at home with adults.



Enjoying a book with your child is a great way to share adventures and experiences together and it's the best way to get them reading for life. All children bring home a banded book to read with an adult at home. This helps to improve fluency and increase understanding of a range of vocabulary. As well as this, the children have 2 library books which they can read alone or share with adults at home. Sharing a book should be a positive experience and cuddling up with an adult at home to read can be a special time. As you turn the pages, you can ask questions, talk about characters, ideas and events, and decide what you think together.

Tiny Happy People

We missed the Tiny Happy people Update out of Last week's Wire! Here it is:

With the sunshine and dry weather set to continue over the weekend, this week it is a physical, outside game. This week's activity is called 'The Iceberg Game'. This is a chance for children to be active whilst having fun and using their imagination. On the link below is a short video of how to play the game. It can be played with 1 child or a group, why not play as a family. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/rangers-iceberg-activity/zf8v3j6>



This Week's Tiny Happy People Update:

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

Oracy in the Classrooms

Oracy refers to the ability to communicate effectively through speech. It uses language to express thoughts, ideas, and feelings, and to interact with others in a way that is clear, coherent, and appropriate. (votesforschools.com)



Over the last half term, as part of Walton Oak's involvement with Voice 21 (a national Oracy charity) the children and teachers have been thinking more about oracy. Teachers have been considering purposeful reasons for talk in



the classroom and planning opportunities to learn both through talk and how to talk. Part of this has been the introduction of vocabulary pyramids on our working walls where vocabulary is displayed in 3 tiers. The children are encouraged to use this vocabulary when talking about their writing during the planning and immersive stages of the sessions and then in their writing books. Here are some examples:

Talk Tasks in Maths are planned to allow the opportunity for children to rehearse the language needed to explain their mathematical thinking, a skill they can then use independently when completing reasoning activities.

Our weekly Thunks are part of this too, offering children an opportunity to share opinions and ideas of their own while listening and responding to the ideas of others. We hope you have enjoyed having these to discuss at home too.

Extra-Curricular Events

Year 6 Boys' Football Tournament

Last Friday, seven members of the Year 6 boys' football team travelled to Saxon for an inter-school football tournament. Each team played four matches which determined where they placed in the table. Despite some excellent goals from Lukas and Archie, Walton Oak didn't quite manage to win, but with only two points in it, it was a close one! Well done to all the boys involved.





Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby Festival

Last week, some girls from Years 5 and 6 took part in a Tag Rugby Festival at Reeds Rebels training ground. They learnt some key skills and played some fun mini matches with two other schools. They received a trophy for their participation in the festival and shared their experience with the rest of the children at Walton Oak in our Celebration Assembly on Friday. Well done, girls!



Pastoral News



Home-Start

This week, we would like to introduce Home-Start which is a local community network of trained volunteers and experts who offer support to families with young children who might be going through challenging times.

Every Home-Start volunteer is trained to work alongside you to overcome the challenges you are facing. They work with you to build on your strengths and give you the support that you tell them that you need.

For more information around the areas of support offered please visit -

<https://www.home-start.org.uk/Pages/Category/things-we-can-help-with>

Home-Start also offers an open doors community cafe in the heart of our community for tea, coffee, cake and a chat with other local parents and carers. These coffee mornings take place between 9:30am and 11:00am every other Tuesday at the Cromwell Community Centre, St John's drive, Walton On Thames, KT12 3NH.

If you would like to know more about Home- Start please contact Natasha on 07938 645949 or via the HSLW button on page one.

Job opportunities across Lumen Learning Trust and its schools

Echelford School is recruiting:

Are you friendly, reliable, willing to work outdoors in all weathers and physically fit, to ensure the safety of children and parents?

Do you care about your community and have a little time to spare?

If the answer is yes, we have the perfect job for you!! Echelford school are recruiting for a school crossing patrol officer. For more information please visit: <https://www.eteach.com/job/school-crossing-patrol-officer-1378197>



Darley Dene School is recruiting:

We are seeking to appoint a highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individual for the role of Teaching Assistant . This is an opportunity for an individual who is patient and emotionally resilient to join our friendly, inclusive and inspirational team of teaching and support staff. For more information please visit

<https://www.eteach.com/job/teaching-assistant-1378206>



FOWO

Esher RFC Fireworks – Friday, 3rd November

If you're looking for a fireworks display, why not try Esher Rugby Club on Friday, 3rd November? Gates open at 5pm and the display is at 8pm. Even better, buy your tickets using this link and FOWO receives commission!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/esher-rugby-fireworks-night-3rd-november-2023-tickets-736486439767?aff=Waltonoakprimary>. Last year the event sold out with a few days to go, so don't delay!

Quiz Night – Friday, 10th November at 7.30pm

Tickets are now on sale on Classlist for the FOWO Quiz Night on Friday, 10th November. Join us for a few hours of quiz fun, games and food courtesy of The Golden Century Fish & Chip shop in Hersham. The FOWO bar will also be fully stocked with Prosecco, beer, wine and soft drinks, plus bar snacks. Come as a team of 4-8 people, or sign up individually or as a smaller group, and we will create/find a team for you! Feel free to invite friends and family from outside our school community to join your team. Tickets cost £15pp with food or £10pp without.

Elmbridge Community Lottery – Please Support FOWO

FOWO now has an [Elmbridge Community Lottery](#) page! Buy tickets (£1 each) to be in chance of winning prizes of up to £25,000 each week. 50% of all ticket sales through the FOWO page go to FOWO, while 10% go to other local causes. To start supporting us, please visit www.elmbridgelottery.co.uk and search for FOWO.

Uniform/Halloween Fancy Dress Sale – Fundraising Thanks

Thank you to everyone who supported the second-hand uniform and Halloween fancy dress sale last Friday. We are pleased to say that we raised £54!

Family Gardening & Litter Pick Event – Thank You

A big thank you to everyone who supported the first FOWO family gardening event last Saturday. We had over 40 people attend, collected over 7kg of rubbish and removed a mountain of dead bushes from the amphitheatre! There's plenty more to do though and we will look to repeat these events each term.

Celebrations

Gold Leaves

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



Butterflies	Zakarya, Cillian, Oscar & Lucy
Ladybirds	Albion
Hedgehogs	Matty, Victoria, Jax & Jackson
Squirrels	Cecie
1A	Thomas, Theo, Scarlett, Aaima & Thomas
1H	Juno, Sam & Lilly
2DO	Jasmine, Mary, Cora, Kornelia, Emily, Max & Theo
3C	Tommy



3N	Seth, Daisy, Ayla & Madeleine
4D	Isaac, Millie, Amelie, Mia, Ella, Nina, Ronnie, Lamar, Charlie, TJ, Sami & Brian
4G	Milo, Phoebe, Florence, Reggie, Asenath, Poppy, Grace, Elina, Max, Tierni, Daisy, Maddie, Ruby & Izzy
5B	Lara, Maci, Naveesh, Abbie, Moosa, Ali, Freddie, Amelia, Eva, Matey, Tate, Amelie, Madeleine & Mimi
5P	Riley, Dylan, Nicolas, Ava & Eva
6P	Lilly-May

WOW Values certificates

In our Celebration Assembly this morning, two children from every class were presented with the very first WOW Values Award. The class teachers, supported by nominations from the children, decided on the two children who would receive this special award based on those who have displayed great efforts in exemplifying the values that we have explored this term: being **kind**, being **inclusive** and being **collaborative**. Congratulations go to the following children:



Lewis	in Butterflies	for always being kind and inclusive in Nursery. He is a wonderful friend and role model to others.
Oscar B	in Butterflies	for showing great resilience in his learning and tackling new activities this term.
Salim	in Ladybirds	for displaying curiosity when learning and always being kind to others.
Luna	in Ladybirds	for demonstrating great curiosity this half term in her learning and being ambitious at carpet time, always putting her hand up to answer questions.
Isabel	in Hedgehogs	for always being so kind and helpful to everyone in the class. She has really impressed us with how her confidence and independence has grown this term.
Jax	in Hedgehogs	for always having a positive attitude to learning. He has also really challenged himself in Phonics as well.
Leo	in Squirrels	for always being ambitious in his learning and challenging himself, even when things get tricky.
Eden	in Squirrels	for always being a kind and considerate member of the class and being respectful to her peers.
Rory	in 1A	for always being a kind and caring member of 1A at all times. He is always polite to adults and to his friends in the classroom and in the playground.
Phoebe	in 1A	for always being an inclusive member of the classroom. She is always making sure that others aren't left out and tries to include everyone at all times.
Pia	in 1H	for always being kind and inclusive to the children in our class and checking in on those who are sad.
Mason	in 1H	for always demonstrating our Walton Oak Way inside and outside our classroom.
Alan	in 2C	for always demonstrating a positive attitude to his learning and helping those around him to be their very best too.
Nela	in 2C	for being kind and inclusive with all of her peers during learning time and during the wider school day. Nela consistently demonstrates this wonderful caring attitude.
Max	in 2DO	for showing perseverance in his behaviour choices and mindful of his actions. He has been so resilient in his learning and has tried his best in every lesson. It is really paying off and he should be so proud!
Cora	in 2DO	for simply being a superstar! Cora has settled in so well and has been a brilliant role model in every respect. She always tries her best, puts her hand up during every discussion and is super helpful!



Amelia	in 3C	for being kind and caring towards other children in the class. Amelia shows great enthusiasm towards her learning and always strives to do her best.
Henry	in 3C	for always offering a helping hand towards other children in the class. Henry is patient, respectful and hard working in all areas of learning.
Brody	in 3N	for showing ambition in his learning every day. Brody is inclusive and collaborative towards every member of the class. He is a pleasure to teach.
Louie	in 3N	for being respectful of other people's feelings and being kind when they need a friend. Louie is inclusive towards everybody in the class or on the playground.
Mert	in 4D	for working collaboratively in class during discussions especially in maths.
Nina	in 4D	for always being kind and inclusive in the classroom and at play.
Poppy	in 4G	for being an excellent role model. She shows kindness and is respectful towards her peers and adults alike. Poppy is a pleasure to teach and a valued member of 4G.
Leo	in 4G	for showing all the WOW values. He collaborates well with all of his classmates and shows kindness to both his peers and adults. His smile brightens the classroom.
Abbie	in 5B	for consistently being kind to others and working collaboratively within class. She is always being considerate and thoughtful towards adults and peers within the classroom.
Hailey	in 5B	for being resilient with her work and being brave within class. Starting a new school can be really scary so well done, Hailey – your hard work has been recognised.
Eva	in 5P	for being a supportive and kind friend. She always gives her all in her learning, particularly in Reading, and is a respectful member of our class.
Nicolas	in 5P	for being an ambitious and resilient learner who shares his brilliant ideas in class. He is kind and caring to all, encouraging inclusivity at lunchtime.
Jayden	in 6G	for always being kind and inclusive to all children, especially at break and lunchtime.
Larnie	in 6G	for always being kind to those around her and making sure everyone is included.
Tamzin	in 6P	for going above and beyond to support her friends by being kind and collaborative in and around school.
Cayden	in 6P	for being a kind and inclusive member of the class by checking in on others and always offering words of encouragement to his peers.

Congratulations to all of our WOW Award winners this half term.



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



Mufti Day

Walton Oak is supporting Stripey Stork and Walton Charities Christmas appeal. Donations from the day will help to ensure that some of the thousands of children living in poverty across Elmbridge have a gift to open on Christmas Day.

Friday 3rd November 2023

Children can bring in a £1 donation in cash or this can be paid via Scopay.



READING AT HOME...

We would like to create a display of children reading at home with adults.

**PRIZE
DRAW**

All entries will go into a prize draw

Winners will be drawn on Friday 3rd November in assembly



Please capture any moments that you would be happy to share and send to the office email with the subject : Reading at home picture

