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Headteacher's Message

Today we held our remembrance assembly and the children were given the opportunity to think about the events they remember in their own lives and why they think they are memorable. The children shared their memories of special occasions with family and friends, and one or two noticed that they had remembered some sad things too like a pet dying or being scared on a zip line. Mrs Bourne helped them to notice that we often remember significant events that caused a big emotion of joy or sadness for a long time. Often we create a picture of that memory in our mind and sometimes we collect keepsakes such as photos, objects, tickets from places we've been or souvenirs we have bought there. Many children raised their hands to share they have a memory box that they keep these items in so they can look back from time to time and be reminded of happy times or important people. All of this discussion linked back to why we hold a remembrance day each year and why specifically, the poppy is an emblem that represents remembrance. They thought about why it's important to remember significant events, such as the World Wars, because we share pride for the soldiers who fought for the Country, it's important for loved ones of the soldiers who died to remember them and we also want to remember the harm it caused so we can work towards a more peaceful future.



In classrooms across the school this week, the children have created some art work. Our younger children made and decorated their own poppies. Our older children used photography to represent the idea of holding peace in their hands. Prior to making this they reflected on the fact that they will be the adults of the future and can have an influence on theirs and others lives through the jobs they choose and their attitudes towards themselves and others. They thought about their hopes for the future. These images have been put up in windows around the school. Please look out for them when you walk around the playground at drop off and collection times. I am sure you'll agree, they provide a powerful message.



Siân McCarthy





General Information

Christmas Jumper Day

This year, we will yet again be supporting Save the Children by taking part in Christmas Jumper Day. To ensure all children - including both Nursery classes - can take part in this important festive fundraiser, we will be holding our Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday 6th December. All children will be invited to wear a festive jumper - instead of their school jumper/cardigan - in exchange for a £1 donation to the Save the Children charity. The £1 donation can either be made in cash or via Scopay. Please note that children should still be wearing the rest of their school uniform (skirt/trousers, shirt, shoes etc.) on this day. We look forward to seeing the range of festive jumpers on display on Wednesday 6th December.



Year 2 Christingle Service

The year 2 Christingle service will be taking place on Thursday 7th December @2pm. The service will be held at St.Mary's Church in Walton and parents are welcome to attend. More information will follow shortly.



School Gates

Over the last few weeks, we have noticed that some parents/carers have started to use the back gate (by the KS2 Playground) to enter the school site either at drop-off or pick-up time. Whilst we can appreciate that this might be a slightly quicker route to your child's classroom if they are in KS2, it is causing congestion at a narrow part of our school site which is one of our main exits. For this reason, we'd likely to politely remind all parents and carers of our entrances and exits during school drop-off and pick-up times:

Main Gate (next to Little Oaks) - this is an entrance for all as well as an exit.

Back Gate (by KS2 Playground) - this is an **exit only**.

We thank you in advance for using the gates as detailed above to ensure we are working together to keep everyone safe whilst on our school site.

World Diabetes Day

We are going to be marking world diabetes day on the 21st November with a special assembly led by one of our students. We are inviting all children to wear a blue accessory to school that day in keeping with the theme of turning the world blue.

Reading

Book Corner Refresh



This week, the whole school began an exciting project to revamp and refresh the book corners in their class. This began with the children sorting the books in their classrooms by genre. All the books were then taken to the hall and the children went in class by class to choose books that they were excited to read and wanted to have in their classrooms. The reading ambassadors lead this project in the classrooms and some of our older ambassadors helped some of the younger children choose books by reading the



titles and blurbs to them. Once back in the classrooms, the children decided how they were going to separate the genres in their book corners. We hope the children enjoy having some new choices of books to read.



Tiny Happy People

This week is an activity aimed at 3-4 year olds but can be played by children of all ages and parents/carers too. This activity is a great example of using your building blocks in a new way to expand your child's vocabulary and teach patience and resilience.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/games-with-building-blocks/zpg9kty>

Have a go and let us know how it goes. We'd love to hear from you.

Oracy

There have been some great examples of lessons, with an oracy focus, in school over the last few weeks. Year 6 have had a debate and Year 4 have performed poetry using their voices and percussion instruments to enhance the atmosphere and meaning of the verse.



This week's THUNK

Is there more future or more past? How do you know?

Extra-Curricular Events

Year 6 Girls Football



Last week, the girl's football team took part in a Lumen Learning Trust tournament. They didn't come first but they were showing great sportsmanship and got a whopping 6 points and 14 goals in 4 games, coming 3rd place. The girls did very well and were pleased on how they played. The participants were: Mary, Zara, Lilly-May, Caitlin, Eva and Macie and well done to Mary, Zara and Caitlin for scoring some epic goals.

On Monday, Walton Oak girls' football team played a football match against Cardinal Newman. It was a very intense match and needed a lot of skills, the girls who participated were: Lyla, Poppy, Mary, Zara, Penny, Lilly-May, (Year6) Maci, Eva, Caitlin (Year 5). The P.O.M.S (Players of the match) were Eva and Maci. Maci was the goal keeper and was very focused the whole game. I think we were all very focused and played very well, the final score was 4-1 to Cardinal Newman. Even though we didn't win we worked hard and communicated well. The positions were: Mary=Striker, Lilly-May=Midfielder, Penny, Zara and Eva=Defenders, Lyla=Right wing, Poppy=Left wing, Caitlin=Centre midfield and Maci was our lovely goalie.



Enrichment Activities

England Rocks - TTRS Battle for KS2



Next week, from Monday-Thursday, our children in KS2 (Years 3-6) will be able to take part in an exciting battle on Times Tables Rock Stars. Across the four days, they will be able to play on any of the games to earn themselves coins that will go towards their class and school total. Many schools across England will be taking part so this is very exciting.



The children have been told about this national battle and are raring to go! At the end of the week, the top class across KS2 will be awarded with an additional break time. In addition, the top three players (those with the most coins/points earned across the four days) across the whole of KS2 will win a prize. It certainly is all to play for and we are eager to see where we place as a school overall.



Game play will be open from 7.30am-7.30pm each day. To support pupil wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60-minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60-minutes between 7.30am-7.30pm between Tuesday 14th - Thursday 16th November. Once the player goes beyond 60-minutes of play on that day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition. Let's get ready to show the rest of England what great rock star talent we have here at Walton Oak!

Pastoral News



Young Minds

Young Minds is a charity that supports children and young people's mental health. They have a dedicated parent section that has advice on how to talk to your child about mental health, a web chat and a really helpful A-Z that covers topics such as managing anger, gaming and self-esteem. You can find all the resources here <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>



Job opportunities across Lumen Learning Trust and its schools

Echelford School is recruiting: Your Community Needs You!

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. For more information click the link to **'Jobs in the Trust'** on the left had side of Page one.



Darley Dene School is recruiting: Are you ambitious and keen to make a difference?

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. For more information click the link to **'Jobs in the Trust'** on the left had side of Page one.



FOWO

Christmas Fair– Friday 1st December: 3.30 – 6.00pm. Announcing our new sponsor!

We are delighted to announce that local law firm, Nichols Marcy Dawson, is sponsoring Santa's Grotto at the Christmas fair! Nichols Marcy Dawson is based in Walton and provides a range of services including Property & Conveyancing, as well as Wills, Powers of Attorney, Trusts and Probate. A huge thank you to parent, Dawn Lawson, for making this happen!

Can you help?

- **Event sponsors:** could your workplace sponsor the fair in return for advertising and promotion?
- **Raffle prizes:** could your company provide or fund a raffle prize in return for promotion?
- **Stallholders:** we are keen to support businesses in our school community. Any school families that have a business selling items suitable for a Christmas fair are welcome to have a stall for a pitch fee of £10. A raffle prize would also be appreciated.

Please email fowo@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk for more details.

Volunteers on the day

Could you help on the day of the Christmas fair? These events rely entirely on volunteers to happen and for the fair we need around 60 – 70 people to help set up, run stalls and clear up. So, if you can spare 30 - 60 minutes on the day it is hugely appreciated. Your children are always welcome to help alongside you, and where that is the case, we try to put you on a games stall that is more interactive for them! Timings as follows:

- **1.30 – 3.15pm:** set up. We will need help putting out tables, setting up the tombola and the other games stalls.
- **3.30pm – 6.00pm:** can you do a 30 minute slot on a stall?
- **6.00 – 7.00pm:** can you help take down stalls, pack away the grotto, clear up rubbish etc?

Please email fowo@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk if you can help and let us know when you are available.

Date Change! Children's Christmas Jumper and Second Hand Uniform Sale: Friday 24th November 3.15pm

Grab a bargain at the next second-hand uniform and children's Christmas jumper sale on Friday, 24th November. All items are £1. Donations of good quality, reusable uniforms and Christmas jumpers gratefully received from Monday, 20th – Friday, 24th November. Please leave these in the purple bucket in the foyer

Easyfundraising – Have you signed up?

Shop online and raise money for FOWO! With easyFundraising, over 7,000 brands will donate when you make a purchase, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. We currently have 110 supporters – can we get to 125? You can get started at

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofwaltonoak/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n2



Celebrations

Achievements outside of School



Ahead of the half term break, Fraser, 3N, was selected to represent his Football Academy for the U8's in Belgium. They took 2 teams of 8 and with Fraser showing some great development in goal he was chosen as keeper. The boys did amazingly well, playing against elite academy teams such as Club Next, KAA Gent, KV Kortrijk, Sk Deinze and Club Brugge. They came 2nd in the league, progressing onto the knockout phases and winning the quarter and semi-finals, securing a place in the final with Club Brugge. It was 0-0 after the full 15minutes with Fraser making some great saves to keep them in it. The dreaded penalty shootout was won with some unfortunate misses from Brugge and some calmly taken pens taken by us. Final score after pens 0-2. We're very proud. Well done Fraser!



Lukas, 6P competed with sea cadets in a Swimming Gala located in London and their whole under 12 group won silver medals. What an achievement Lukas, we are very proud of you!



Gold Leaves

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

Hedgehogs	Lydia,
Squirrels	Philip, Thomas, Aisha,
1A	Mia, William, Lilah & Evie
1H	Eva, Mason,
2C	Millie
2DO	Ilana, Heidi
4D	Eliza, Jack, Habib, TJ, Amelie, Nina, Mia,
4G	Grace, Effie, Daisy,
5P	Samir,
6G	Ethan & Lilly-Rose
6P	Danas, John, Samanta, Zara, Bilal, James, Tamzin, Lilly-May

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



BBC TINY
Happy
PEOPLE



IMAGINARY PLAY IDEAS FOR DINNER TIME

