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## Headteacher's Message

Last week, I shared my enjoyment of the Reception and Year 1 Christmas performance and the Year 2 Christingle Service. This week didn't disappoint, with the KS2 Carol Concert and Nursery performances bringing much joy to us all. The KS2 performance reflected the maturity of the children, with some complicated arrangements within songs – particularly the Carol of the Bells, which gave me goose bumps. The children narrated the Christmas story clearly and confidently. In fact, the word I used in my feedback to describe the delivery of their lines was 'eloquent'. The Nursery performance was also an absolute delight. I am always so impressed that our very youngest children are able to perform so confidently, remembering their positions, songs and actions! The children also learnt the Makaton signs to accompany the words which was lovely to see. Once again, I'd like to thank all the staff for their efforts in ensuring that the children and their families have been able to make special memories this Christmas.

Today we handed out the WOW certificates for this half term, celebrating the children's efforts in continuously demonstrating the Walton Oak Way values. Please see their names and reasons in the 'Celebrations' section of The Wire. On Tuesday, we will celebrate the winners of the first Headteacher Award of the year. This is a special award for one pupil in each class who has shown an exemplary attitude towards learning and are a role model to others. Parents of the winning children have been invited to a special assembly on Tuesday, though their children don't know this yet! We will share this information in a Christmas edition of the Wire on Tuesday.

I was accompanied for most of the day today by Ben from 3C who, in the FOWO summer silent auction, won the prize of being 'Headteacher for the Day'. He has been an excellent Headteacher, excelling in all his duties. I hand over to Ben now for his contribution...



Today I have been the Headteacher. I enjoyed being at the gate and holding the phone box and saying hello to all the different people. It was also exciting to take assembly because I got to stand at the front and I put my hand up to make everyone quiet and they all did it! I liked giving out the awards because it was fun. I also got to walkie-talkie Mrs Bourne. Another thing I did today was check on other classes that they were showing good behaviour and I gave out green points and moved some children up to gold. I had lunch in my office with my friends. Over all I've had a great day being the Headteacher!



Siân McCarthy and Ben



### Governor Message

My name is Caroline Smart and I am in my first year as Parent Governor. I have sons in Year 1 and Year 5. As we conclude the Autumn term, I would like to share our recent Governor activity. We are still riding high from the fantastic feedback following our OFSTED inspection. We have continued with monitoring activities focusing on maths, oracy and the overall quality of education within the school.

I, together with Karina Kajelova, completed a learning walk around the school with a focus on belonging. It was fascinating to learn the myriad of ways the school ensures our children are safe and know they truly belong to the school community. Our favourite part was meeting a focus group of children in the library, we were assured by their very animated responses to all our questions. Children were clearly able to express who they could talk to at school if they had a problem, equally if they felt unwell they knew they would be well looked after staying at school and could trust staff to provide them medication.

Ceri Orrell and Emily Oliphant recently completed their 4 year tenure as Trust Appointed Governors. On behalf of all the Walton Oak Governance team I would like to extend thanks for their invaluable contribution and support to the school, particularly through the rocky waters of the pandemic. You will be missed!

Wishing all our school community a very merry Christmas and hope you enjoy a wonderful break.

### General Information

#### End of Term

School closes at 1.45pm on Tuesday 19th December for Christmas Holidays. All children return on Thursday 4th January 2024 from 8.30am.



#### Staff News

I am pleased to be able to share that after Christmas we will be joined by two new members of staff. Mrs Hamper, will be joining us as a Teaching Assistant. She will be based in Years 3 and 5. Also, Miss Camamile will be joining us as the new class teacher for 4D. We look forward to welcoming them to Walton Oak in the new year.

#### Reception Fire Engine Visit

Reception enjoyed a visit from the local Fire Service on Monday. They learned about what firefighters do and they looked at what they wear to help them put out fires. The children got to sit in the fire engine and have a go at using the water hose. They asked the firefighters lots of interesting questions about their job and found out what to do in the event of a fire.



#### Parental Engagement Survey - Summary of Findings

This term, we sent out a survey to parents regarding parental engagement in school. Thank you to the parents and carers who took the time to complete this survey. The information that the survey has provided has been very useful, allowing us - as a school - to reflect on what we currently do to engage parents and carers in school as well as what we can do differently. Largely, the survey has shown that work commitments are the biggest barrier to parents/carers being unable to attend events in school. The majority of parents who completed the survey would be happy to engage in virtual workshops which is something we will certainly be looking at going forward. We are keen to make sure that the virtual world does not take away from parents/carers having the opportunity to physically come into school so we will be carefully planning which workshops and information sessions are best





delivered virtually and which events are best attended in person. Many parents/carers are keen to have wider opportunities to come into school and engage in their child's learning alongside their child; this is something that takes place in EYFS and Year 1 and has proved very successful. We are now looking at ways that we can replicate this experience from Year 2 upwards. Look out for further information regarding parent/carer workshops and events in the new year!

### World Religion Day - Monday 22nd January

In the new year, we will be celebrating World Religion Day on Monday 22nd January 2024. World Religion Day is observed on the third Sunday in January each year. In 2024, it falls on January 21st. The aim of World Religion Day is to promote unity and understanding among people of different faiths. With that in mind, we would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in coming into school on Monday 22nd January - or anytime during that week - to talk to the children about their religious traditions and beliefs. At Walton Oak, we want to celebrate and represent the diversity that we have in our community.

If you are interested in supporting us with this, do get in touch with Miss de Fraine via the office (office.waltonoak@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk) and she will contact you to discuss this exciting opportunity with you.

We can be incredibly flexible regarding your input. It may be that you would prefer to present to a smaller group of children (such as a class), or you may prefer to present to a larger group (such as a whole year group or two). We can also be flexible on days and times so please do pop me an email - via the office - if you feel you can offer any time at all during that week. Our children really value learning from real life experiences and they also enjoy having members of the community in school to share their first hand experiences with them.

### Reception - September 2024 Applications

A reminder the closing date for applications for Reception 2024 is **15th January 2024**. Please apply online via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>.

### Reading

#### 100 Reads

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 100 reads this week:



Jackson - Hedgehogs	Holly - Hedgehogs	Matty - Hedgehogs
Luke - Hedgehogs	Hattie - Hedgehogs	A'isha - Squirrels
Andy - Squirrels	Rory - 1A	Isla - 1A
Phoebe - 1A	Nancy R - 2C	Ruby - 2C
Eliza - 2DO	Emilia - 5B	

### Tiny Happy People

#### 7 ways to have festive family fun with your baby

Have some festive fun with your family by trying out some of the activities on the link below;

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/festive-family-activities/zrqynrd?fbclid=IwAR1\\_bGGS0MBBrTuAk0x\\_oS9j2Gcv2i-Tf11Cqe2seZ4umGLcYvINaIJd6VU\\_aem\\_Afn58jPqoB6PtEAWtVWIpGxhJKMS94kCGEDjXvCht7fti4q0vIC7A\\_1dWHxsRk2A7d4](https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/festive-family-activities/zrqynrd?fbclid=IwAR1_bGGS0MBBrTuAk0x_oS9j2Gcv2i-Tf11Cqe2seZ4umGLcYvINaIJd6VU_aem_Afn58jPqoB6PtEAWtVWIpGxhJKMS94kCGEDjXvCht7fti4q0vIC7A_1dWHxsRk2A7d4)

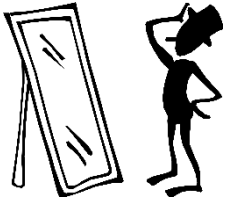


Lots of fun to be had by all the family. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Oracy

### This week's THUNK



In a dark room, what does a mirror reflect? If nothing, does that mean it is not working?



## Pastoral News

### Autism - Top tips for Christmas at home

Christmas is supposed to be the most wonderful time of the year but for lots of young children with autism it can be stressful. Whether they are excited or overwhelmed, here are some top tips to help the stress of Christmas:

#### Sensory Needs

Christmas is sparkly and noisy. It can be chaotic and cold. There's lots of colour and glitter everywhere and people showing up in brightly coloured Christmas jumpers. There can be unusual smells, like pine trees or candles. Some helpful hints to help your child's sensory overload could be:

- Take the banger out of the crackers at home
- Avoid scented candles that can make your house smell different
- Try to set the Christmas lights to always on rather than flashing



#### Share the plan

With all the excitement of Christmas day, it's important to remember that what your child really wants to know is what the plan is for the day. Remember you could try using a now/next board or some children benefit from having choices. You could even try leaving some parts of the day blank, offering them a small number of options to choose from.

#### Flexibility

Remember to be prepared to be flexible, Christmas can be stressful and busy. Give thought that sometimes our young people just won't be able to do what we had planned, so try to have some appropriate options available as back up plans. Prioritise which battles that you are willing to stand your ground on.

#### After Christmas

Just as we prepare for Christmas and all the changes it brings it is beneficial to give as much thought to how we prepare for the changes back to 'normal' again. Try using a calendar to mark out important dates for example, when you are taking the Christmas decorations down and school return dates.

#### Fun!

Lastly, remember to have fun! Christmas can be stressful but it's also meant to be fun. Try to go with the flow and enjoy all of the special qualities that a child with autism brings!



### Job opportunities across Lumen Learning Trust and its schools

#### Darley Dene Primary School in Addlestone 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 click the **Trust Jobs** button on the left hand side of page 1.

**Lumen Learning Trust is recruiting** We are looking to appoint a member of staff to support in the delivery of P.E. lessons across the five Lumen Learning Trust (LLT) schools, this is an exciting role for anyone who is interested in coaching and developing youth sport. This role is supported by Sports Premium funding and therefore is a fixed term contract, expiring on 31st August 2025. There is the possibility that the contract will be extended subject to the funding from the DfE continuing. For more information please click the **Trust Jobs** button on the left hand side of page 1.

### House Competitions

#### Christmas Door Decorating Competition

Last week, we shared the wonderful creations that our children had worked so hard on as part of their first house competition for this academic year. The judging panel - which included our House Captains - had a tough job on their hands as they were tasked with scoring every door out of 10. The criteria for consideration when scoring included: creativity, festiveness and complexity. It's fair to say the judges were blown away with the quality of the decorative doors. The word 'wow' was heard on multiple occasions. In this morning's assembly, Mrs. Bourne revealed the final scores which we are excited to share with you:



**1st - Griffin – 299**



**2nd - Dragon – 289**



**3rd - Phoenix – 285**



**4th - Pegasus - 274**

You can see just how close the scores were but Griffin were proudly presented with the first competition trophy that is now displayed on their section of the house board in the hall. In addition, the above scores have been turned into house points for all houses and Griffin have earned themselves an additional 100 house points for winning. What a fantastic first House Competition. We look forward to finding out what the next competition will be!





## FOWO

Merry Christmas, and a big thank you to everyone for supporting FOWO this term. Between all the various activities from the Christmas Fair to the Quiz Night, Movie Night, uniform sales and affiliate fundraising, we have raised over £3,400 this term! All of the money goes back into the school, and FOWO was delighted to fund the Christmas Books once again this year so that each child receives a present!

### Esher Rugby's New Year's Eve Party – Fundraising Link

If you're making plans for New Year. Check out the New Year's Eve party at Esher Rugby Club, 7pm – 1am. Early bird family tickets cost £25. Book using this link, and FOWO will also receive a commission.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/new-years-eve-party-at-esher-rugby-club-tickets-754484071167?aff=Waltonoakprimary>

### Ellie and Starlight's Christmas Adventures Special Promotion

Local drama company is putting on its festive theatre show, Ellie and Starlight's Christmas Adventure at the Cecil Hepworth Playhouse in Walton from 13th – 24th December. Buy your tickets using the code: WOAK23 and get £1 off the ticket price, plus FOWO receives a £1 donation. You can buy tickets here: [www.ellieandstarlight.co.uk](http://www.ellieandstarlight.co.uk).

### BAG2SCHOOL Collection – 19th January 2024

If you're having a clear-out, please bag up any unwanted items and save them up for our Bag2School collection on the 19th of January. Bag2School collects unwanted reusable clothes, bags, linen and soft toys and pays us by the weight collected. You can read what they accept here: <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>.

## Celebrations



### Achievements outside of School



Well done Molly, 4G, who performed brilliantly in the Dramacube production of Annie this week alongside several other children from Walton Oak School. We are very proud of you all!

Last week, Fraser (3N) got the chance to play for his academy in a tournament at Arsenal Youth's training facilities. It was cold but the boys did really well and won their group of matches....Fraser was pretty cold but thawed out once he got on the tube into London to see the lights. You can tell here how cold he was! It was really exciting to play at Arsenal and the standard was very good. Well done Fraser, what an experience – we are very proud of you.







### Gold Leaves

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

<b>Butterflies</b>	Teddy Miles Zak
<b>Ladybirds</b>	Levi-John
<b>Hedgehogs</b>	Holly Victoria Eliza Ryan Jax
<b>1A</b>	Sadie
<b>1H</b>	Tommy
<b>2D0</b>	Lydia Phoenix
<b>3C</b>	Amelia Mahek Libby Mustafa Eva Tommy Vaughn
<b>3N</b>	Zach Ruben Sienna Kiri-Mai Elisabeth
<b>4D</b>	Ronnie Ella Mollie Willow-Hope Thomas Jasmine Mia Amelie
<b>4G</b>	Daisy Lilah-Grace
<b>5B</b>	Bentley Matey Vadim Callum Matey Edwin Maci Jemima Chloe Amelia Lara Eva Moosa Thomas
<b>5P</b>	Katie
<b>6G</b>	Archie Harley William Penny Larnie Finn
<b>6P</b>	John





WOW Awards



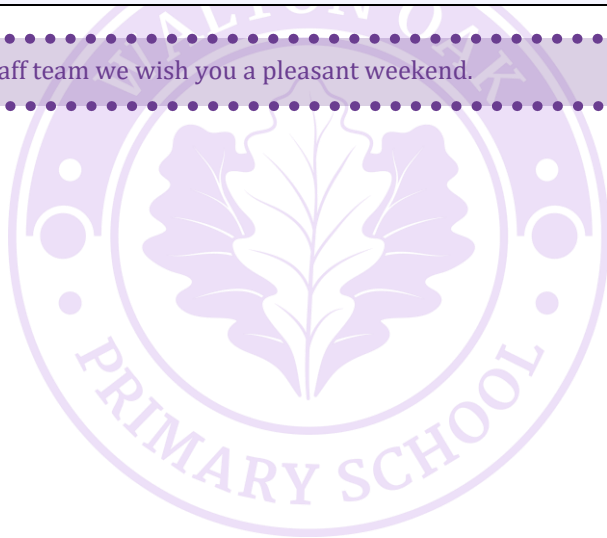
Butterflies	Teddy B	Teddy B has grown in confidence this half term and it has been wonderful to hear him use his voice during small groups.
	Mominah A	Mominah has shown curiosity around her learning this half term, taking part in carpet sessions and joining in with small groups. She has been extending her learning further at home, completing some of our ideas for home challenges.
Ladybirds	Albie H	Albie is now arriving at Nursery with a big smile! He has developed in confidence, initiating play with others and always demonstrates the Walton Oak Way.
	Alfie V	Alfie has developed his confidence this half term. He is becoming more willing to share his thoughts and ideas with others and had become an initial sounds super star when identifying initial sounds in phonics!
Hedgehogs	Atanas A	For trying so hard with all his learning this term and becoming much more confident to share his learning with the adults.
	Ryan M	For consistently trying hard to answer questions in class. He is making great progress in his writing and he always shares nicely with others.
Squirrels	Mahdi K	Mahdi has grown in confidence this half term. He is now using his language to communicate with adults and peers and enjoys sharing his ideas and knowledge.
	Ariya K	Ariya's independence has really shone through this half term, she enjoys choosing activities that will challenge her and has shown a real enjoyment for her learning.
1A	Harry S	Harry always has a positive attitude to his learning in every lesson. This half term he has shown great resilience in his writing and this is something that needs celebrating!
	Lilah Y	Lilah is a very kind and respectful member of the class. She is never afraid to offer help to someone when she notices they are upset. She also shows great respect by always listening to others.
1H	Juno C-B	For always being ready to learn and bringing her smile with her. Juno is always showing our Walton Oak Way inside and outside the classroom.
	Dylan L-S	For always trying his best in all areas of his learning and demonstrating our values. Dylan is a kind and caring member of the class and will always check in on those around him.
2C	Charlotte M-P	Charlotte's consistent positive attitude and resilience within her learning is a shining example of the Walton Oak Way. Her confidence is ever increasing which has been wonderful to see too!
	Demyd P	Demyd comes into the classroom every morning with a beaming smile. He continually demonstrates enthusiasm and resilience within his learning and always brings a positive attitude even when faced with challenges - well done, Demyd!
2DO	Jacob	Jacob is a very kind, caring and considerate member of 2DO. He always shows the Walton Oak Way in style! He also tries very hard in all his work! Well done, Jacob.
	Emily S	Emily is always ready to learn! She is very resilient and shows a positive attitude towards improving her work. She makes positive contributions towards class discussions and is super helpful.
3C	Ben H	Ben's continuous effort and enthusiasm is evident in all his learning. Despite any struggles he experiences, Ben's positivity and resilience helps him strive to be his very best.
	Eva L	Eva's radiant smile and compassionate nature towards every member of our class is admired. Eva always shows great initiative and looks for new ways to get involved in all class activities.
3N	Ezmie S	Ezmie is always willing to help others in the classroom and continues to show kindness on the playground. Ezmie has been able to face resilience when it comes to having confidence in herself and her abilities.
	Immy O	Immy's smile brightens our classroom. She demonstrates the Walton Oak Way all day, every day and is a fantastic role model. She is always willing to help anyone. Immy is inclusive and collaborative towards every member of our class.
4D	Thomas J	Thomas is always challenging himself in every aspect of his learning, showing resilience and ambition putting his heart and soul into everything
	Savannah H	Savannah starts every day with a positive attitude and a cheerful smile. She is collaborative in everything she does, always showing kindness and understanding to everyone.
4G	Molly Clarke	For always striving to do her best in every aspect of school life. Molly is a joy to have in the classroom, she shows examples of all of our WOW values every day.





	Annabelle Wong	For always being her best. Amelie is a conscientious learner who shows all of the WOW values in all aspects of school life
5B	Jemima P	For showing curiosity and ambition towards her learning and never being afraid to give things a go. Jemima is always kind and thoughtful towards others in class. Well done, you should be very proud of yourself.
	Eva D	For being resilient within her learning and always being kind and helpful within the classroom. Eva has been especially courageous this term when contributing in class. Well done!
5P	Dylan S	Dylan has embraced his learning in Year 5 and is often proud to share his ideas in class. He is a cheerful and happy member of our class and it has been brilliant to see his resilience and confidence grow. Well done, Dylan.
	Cvetelina A	Cvetelina is a friendly and happy member of our class who is always willing to show kindness to anyone. She arrives each day with a smile on her face, ready to learn. Well done, Cvetelina.
6G	Archie	For always being curious with his learning which allows him to be ambitious and challenge himself. Archie also makes sure he is kind to others.
	Helen	For being courageous and resilient when starting a new school. Helen has settled into 6G well, showing kindness and respect to others around her.
6P	John	For demonstrating excellent resilience and being ambitious in all of his work, allowing him to make exceptional progress in his Maths amongst many other areas of his learning.
	Lilly-May	For being curious within her learning, sharing her thoughts and ideas with the class and asking excellent questions that clearly allow her to make thoughtful decisions within her work.

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





# JUNIOR HOCKEY

@

## SUNBURY & WALTON HAWKS

**We're looking for new players across  
all age groups.**

**Join us at our training sessions:**

U8 & U10 Boys & Girls: Sundays 9-10:30am

U12 Girls: Thursdays 6-8pm

U14 Girls: Tuesdays 6-8pm

U16 & U18 Girls: Wednesdays 8-10pm

U12 & U14 Boys: Thursdays 6-8pm

U16 & U18 Boys: Thursdays 8-10pm



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