



Dear Parents/Carers

It gives us great pleasure to welcome everybody back to a new academic year at Wraysbury Primary School. We hope you all had a relaxing summer break and that the children are settling in to their new classrooms with their new teacher.

Curriculum

Year 1 have started the year settling into the classroom and learning the rules associated with their new classrooms. Our first topic is called 'Spooky Fruit' and we will be exploring among other things, fruit, vegetables and animals associated with Autumn. If you have any expertise in this area, we would love for you to come in and share it with us. If you are not already DBS checked, please collect a pack from the office to apply.

School Clothing

Please can we remind you that **all** clothing, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats, needs to be clearly named. All children need to wear black sensible school shoes. Trainers are not allowed! All children's hair shoulder length or longer must be tied up with a black or blue hairband and bows should be blue or black and **small** in size.

<u>Girls Uniform (Winter)</u>	<u>Boys Uniform (Winter)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grey pinafore dress/skirt or black trousers• Sky blue polo top with logo• Blue sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo• Plain tights in a dark colour• White socks with skirt or pinafore• Black socks with trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain grey trousers• Sky blue polo shirt or blue cotton shirt• Blue sweatshirt with school logo• Black or grey socks

PE Kit

It is important for reasons of hygiene and safety that children should always have PE clothing available in school. Children's clothing needs to be clearly named. Children need to wear a white t-shirt, navy shorts and Velcro trainers. During cold weather dark coloured tracksuit bottoms and a dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt will be needed for outside games. For safety reasons, jewellery must not be worn at school except for small stud earrings but these must be removed for PE lessons. **Please ensure that earrings are not worn on your child's PE day.**

PE clothing needs to be kept at school in a clearly named bag. Teachers will send PE kits home every half term to be washed.

Outdoor Learning

We endeavour to take the children outside whatever the weather, if possible please provide a pair of wellingtons (named) that can be kept on the rack outside so the children can access the eco

area and outdoor learning environment. It would also be advisable to ensure the children bring a raincoat to school each day now as the weather is beginning to change.

PE Days

Outdoor PE – Monday

Indoor PE – Wednesday

Morning routine

We are always trying to encourage the children to be independent in the mornings by hanging up their own coats, putting their water bottles away and putting their book bags in to their trays. We do understand that it may be necessary to occasionally speak to the teacher in the morning with a very important message otherwise teachers are nearly always available after school to talk to or a meeting can always be arranged if you speak to the office.

Healthy Eating

Infants have free fruit provided for them daily. However, you are welcome to provide an extra piece of fruit in your child's lunchbox or book bag if you think this will encourage them to eat fruit mid-morning. Children concentrate better when they have something to eat and water to drink. Please make sure that children's lunch boxes are filled with healthy snacks, which give them energy and help them to focus in lesson time. We discourage sweets and chocolate. If your child has any special dietary requirements could you please discuss these with their class teacher.

Please note we are strictly a NUT FREE SCHOOL so no peanut butter, Nutella or any other nut products please including Kinder Bueno.

Drinking Water

Children are encouraged to bring drinking water into school that can be sipped throughout the day. Water bottles can be purchased from the Office at a cost of £1.50 each. Please ensure these are named as children often have similar bottles. Squash and flavoured waters are not allowed!

Reading

Every child will continue to bring home 2 school reading scheme books to read at home, which will be changed every Monday. We would love you to hear your children read every day. Please record in the Reading Record Book when you or somebody else hears your child read. This lets us know whether or not to change a child's book. These records are extremely useful and please feel free to write comments regarding how you felt your child read a book, e.g. that they found it a little difficult or that they really enjoyed it! We assess the children regularly to ensure they are on the correct level book. As they progress through the reading scheme, the emphasis moves from decoding words to comprehension. It is important to encourage your child to think about what the story might be about by looking at the front cover, retell the story in sequence, summarise the main points and answer questions about what has happened. These questions should be a mixture of literal questions (they can locate and retrieve the answer from the written words) and inferential questions (they need to think beyond the words to gauge what the author is suggesting and apply their own knowledge).

Homework, Spellings and handwriting

This year we are trialling a new way of children completing homework. Each half term the children will get a list of suggested ideas to complete over the half term which will be based on our topic. We hope the children will enjoy choosing a few of the suggestions and completing them over the half term. The children can, if they like, bring in the homework to show the class at the end of the half term. We do encourage parents to help their children with these activities. We are also trialling a new way of children doing spellings. We will no longer be sending home spelling lists for children to learn for formal testing. Instead we will be teaching spellings of tricky words and common exception words within our daily phonics teaching. Children will be required to practise the taught spellings at the start of each phonics lesson. The focus words for each week will be displayed within the classroom to help the children to apply them in their written work. We have attached a list of the words for you to see which words they will be working on and are expected to know how to spell consistently in the written work by the end of Year 1. If you would like to work on these at home with your children, please do. Handwriting will be focused on during phonics lessons and all structured writing sessions and children will not be introduced to cursive handwriting until they are able to recognise and form the individual letters correctly independently.

Book Café

Last year we introduced a monthly Book Café, it was received well and so we will be continuing it again this year. We hope you can join us in the studio to share a book with your child whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a croissant. We aim to hold the Book Café on the last Friday of each month.

Friday 27th September (Donations for Macmillan)

No Café in October

Friday 29th November

Friday 20th December

Help Required

Reading & Trips

We always welcome parent helpers to join us on school trips and to listen to children read. If you would like to help with reading please speak directly to Mrs Broadway. All parent helpers require a police DBS check – packs for this can be collected from the school office. **Please note the DBS check is valid for three years so if you have older children in the school it may need renewing.

Junk Modelling

Donations for junk modelling are gratefully received – please place all items in the green builder's bag outside the Year 1 classrooms. Cardboard, paper, fabric and other craft items are welcome but NO PLASTIC please. We are very keen to protect the environment and say no plastic in case children's models are not disposed of appropriately at the end of their life.

Donations

Donations are very welcome in Year 1 and 2. We are always grateful to receive the following items:

Scrap paper

Wrapping paper and craft materials

Old keys, curtain rings, cutlery, teapots and tea sets

Small pieces of wood for the woodwork bench

Car parts for the outdoor area

Wooden pallets, tree stumps

Compost, plants and tools for the vegetable patch and planters

Plastic animals / people

Sand pit tools, guttering

Large jigsaws

Please remember, if you have any queries or questions we are very happy to meet with you after school and answer them. If you have something that you would like to discuss in more detail, then please make an appointment. We look forward to an exciting school year and we are very grateful for all your support.

Mrs Broadway and Miss Wise