

# Wraysbury Primary School Whole School Newsletter



## September 2024

We have now been back at school 2 weeks and are entering week 3 of our school term. The children are settling in well to the new term and we hope that you are adjusting to the children being to being back in school too

It has been a very busy first 2 weeks! As a school we have spent the last week using our assemblies as a time to remind ourselves of our school rules and expectations and we have also focused on the theme of “Being Kind”. This comes from the Government and NSPCC communications in response to hate crimes and social media behaviour over the summer months.

This Newsletter is quite a long one but I wanted to take the time to ensure that everyone is aware of our procedures for the year ahead as well as celebrating things that have already happened this year and give you an idea of what is to come.

### **Firstly, there are a few new members of staff ...**

We are delighted that this year we have a new leadership structure. We welcome Mr Darbon as an Assistant Headteacher, with responsibility for KS1 and Mrs Morrissey as Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for KS2. This is

wonderful to have 2 additional Senior Leaders and adds breadth to our Leadership Team along with shared responsibility for even further school improvement.

In EYFS we are joined by Mr Rodriguez-Panea who is the new teacher for Ladybirds. Miss Jamison joins us as the teacher for Year 1 Hedgehogs. Once again, this year Mrs Gill will be teaching on a Wednesday in Year 1 Rabbits instead of Mrs McGregor. Mrs Clark-Hubbard joins Mr Darbon teaching in Year 2 and their class are Badgers.

Moving into Year 3 we are delighted that Miss Black joins us to be the teacher of Robins. Mrs Jenkinson is still teaching in Year 3 this year and has Sparrows class but as she only works 4 days a week, Mrs Morrissey is teaching the class on a Friday. In Year 5 we have Mrs Reznichenko joining us to be the teacher for the Red Kites and Miss Mackay teaches Owls class. Miss Mackay also only works 4 days a week and so Mrs Morrissey teaches in Owls on a Wednesday.

We are proud to have such an experienced and skilled set of teachers and they have

thoroughly enjoyed the first two weeks with the children.

We welcome onto our Support Staff team, Mr Emadi. Mr Emadi is a Specialist Teaching Assistant and is working with Miss Croft as an Inclusion Mentor in our Inclusion and Learning Hub. This is a nurturing environment that we have created in our modular building which helps to support our children who may be struggling with their learning. Other than that, our superb team of teaching Assistants is unchanged and we appreciate their skills and hard work in supporting the children.

### **School Uniform**

It was wonderful to see all our pupils looking so smart in the first two weeks back. Please can I ask you to ensure that your child's uniform is **all named**. We already have a box full of unnamed sweatshirts ☹ Footwear is a particular concern – please write the name on the labels inside the shoes. Please ensure that your child has the correct colour socks or tights; dark tights or white socks with skirts and pinafores and black socks with trousers for girls. **Plain** grey or black socks should be worn by boys.

**Trainers should not be worn as part of the school daily uniform**, by now everyone should be wearing school shoes (made from substantial material, not canvas or fabric). Please write a note to your child's teacher if there is a reason why your child does not have school shoes. School shoes should be flat and appropriate for all the running around that they do! Boots should not be worn unless we have severe winter weather.

For PE/Games every child should have a white t-shirt with the school logo and navy blue shorts. Tracksuits in a dark colour may be worn for **outside games only**, in colder weather. We actively encourage Velcro trainers in Foundation Stage and Y1 and Y2 as we find they give more support and are easier to do up. **The children do not need plimsolls. Please make sure that PE kits are in school every day.**

All Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils will need a school book bag, whilst KS2 may have a school rucksack or similar **small** backpack. This is because the KS1 and EYFS children store their book bags in their tray or a special box so that they can access them for reading.

Please remember fruit for KS2 children to have at break time **and a water bottle for all children.**

Please remember that **no jewellery** should be worn in school except for **stud**

**earrings.** Earrings **must** be removed for PE so it is better that they do not wear them on days they have PE. Permitted religious bangles **must** be covered by a sweatband for PE. **Hair that is shoulder length or longer should also be tied up please – this applies to girls and boys.**

The autumn term is known as Headlice season and having hair tied up does make it harder for them to spread. A reminder that nail varnish or false nails **are not** appropriate for school.

### **Communication**

Do please keep an eye on our website. It will be updated regularly with useful information including letters, useful links and details of what the children are currently learning. Do look at the "Our Learning Tab". We will also be making good use of Instagram this year to celebrate the wonderful work and achievements of our children.

### **Our Library**

Please look after the books that your child borrows as they are costly to replace and we will need to make a small charge for lost Library and Reading Books. We do need to find someone to look after our Library. A couple of hours a week to keep it organised! **Do we have any volunteers who would like to do this?**

### **School Dinners**

Please be aware that Y3 - 6 pupils need to pay for school dinners online (unless you are

eligible for Pupil Premium). We can give you a code for accessing the online payment system. Whilst it is possible to prebook your child's dinner choice online, please be aware that you will need to cancel it if your child is off sick, decides to have a packed lunch or is sent home.

Unfortunately, meals ordered and not taken will incur a charge. It may therefore be best not to book too far in advance. Do please contact the school office to cancel an order by 9.00 am on the day that they are absent.

**Please be aware that dinner money accounts must be run in credit (have money on them at the start of the week that a child will be having dinners).**

### **Pupil Premium**

If you think that your financial situation has changed recently you may be eligible for Pupil Premium. This entitles your child to the "catch up programme" and also for free school meals. It also means that your family will be given supermarket vouchers during the holidays which is really helpful in contributing towards the family shop. If you believe that this may be applicable to you then please check on this website. We will then be in touch with you. You just need your NI number to hand.

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/rbwm/>

**Families who are currently eligible do not need to reapply.**

## **Dogs**

Just a reminder that dogs are not allowed on or near school premises even if they are on leads. Thank you for supporting us with this.

## **Medicines and Welfare**

We are fortunate to have staff in school who help to look after the welfare needs of our children. If a child has an inhaler or needs any medication on a regular basis please ensure that it has been given to the Office. We send home Health Care Plans for you to renew and asthma cards to be updated – please return this as soon as you receive them. If medicine needs to be given as a one off such as completing a course of antibiotics or cream for a rash, please ensure a medical form is completed. No medication should be kept in book bags. We are only able to give one dose which we aim to do at about midday.

Please can we also ask that if your child is sick then they should not return to school until 24 hours after the last bout of sickness. We may increase this to 48 hours if we have an outbreak of a bug that is difficult to contain. Sometimes children have accidents in school donations of spare underwear would be gratefully received and if your child does borrow a change of clothes please wash it and return it to us asap.

## **Head lice**

With the start of the new term there is always a rise in the number of head lice cases. Please check your child's hair regularly and remember that the best way to prevent an outbreak is to continually comb their hair through with a very fine comb and loads of conditioner.

## **NUTS!**

Please be aware that we are a nut free school and have children and staff with severe allergies. Please do not send nuts into school or products that contain nuts. Thank you for your support.

## **Lunch Boxes**

A reminder that lunchboxes should be as healthy as possible and **should not** contain sweets or chocolate bars.

## **Parking and the Gates!**

A reminder that we have 3 gates, though only two are in operation currently. The gates are open from 8.30-8.40 and from 3.05 each afternoon. Children who are just about to come through the gate just on 8.40 will be sent to the Office as they will not have time to get to their class for the register/dinner orders. Why not aim to get your child into school at 8.30? All classes do SODA which is Start Of The Day Activities. They could be accessing 10 minutes additional learning a day if they come in at 8.30!

Please **do not park** on the grass verge, the white zig-zags or yellow zig-zags outside the front of the school or on yellow lines. Please do not park across people's driveways.

Cars should park according to the Highway Code and not block the school's double gate which is the access for the emergency services or people's driveways.

Also, please note that Fairfield Approach (opposite school) is a private road and has parking restrictions too. Please do not park down this road.

The George has given permission for parking in the pub car park but for mornings only.

A good place to park is the Village Hall Car Park which is along The Green and then walk.

## **Scooter/Cycle Pods**

We hope the children will use the scooter and cycle pods! These were bought for us by the PTFA. Please encourage your child to walk or scooter to school with you where possible, rather than drive. Please be aware that we cannot take any responsibility for any loss or damage to them. Please consider locking your child's bike/scooter.

## **Attendance**

Please remember to ring the school office if your child is not going to be at school because they are ill. If we don't hear from you, we will

send a text followed by a phone call to your named contacts in order to check that everything is OK and it is vital we know the reason for absence in order to monitor and report to the borough and other authorities.

**All term time absence** needs to be requested on a term time absence form, available from the office or the website. A reminder that holidays cannot be authorised in term time and exceptional absence can only be authorised in extreme circumstances. Please ensure that you ring in every day if your child is off in order to update us on the reason. In the near future I will be sending out all the new Attendance Arrangements which have been put in place by the Borough and the Government.

### **Teachers and Phase Leaders**

Thank you so much for attending the KS1 and KS2 Meet the Team/Inductions meetings. We hope that you enjoyed meeting each other and finding out more about the year ahead. If you have any questions or queries then please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or the Phase Leader, after school is a better time than first thing in the morning.

### **Parents Teachers Friends Association!**

The PTFA is a great group of people who help to fundraise for the extras whilst having "fun". Everyone is very welcome to join and it is a

great chance to make new friends and socialise with other parents. Don't worry if you can't commit to loads of meetings; there aren't loads! Do you have an attitude where you are willing to get stuck in? If you do then please let us know as we would love you to shadow someone this year and maybe take a role next year. Please email us at: [wraysburyschoolptfa@gmail.com](mailto:wraysburyschoolptfa@gmail.com).

Please note that the next meeting is coming up soon – look out for the date as soon as it is finalized.

### **Year 6 admissions to Secondary School**

Please be aware that the admissions into Y7 are open and close at the end of October. Please apply to your home authority and read the information carefully about completing the form, particularly in respect of the selective schools (Grammar Schools).

### **Pupil Leadership Team**

Congratulations to those pupils in Year 6 who applied for the Head Prefect Roles. They wrote some wonderful applications and they all took part in their interviews with confidence, speaking so well about their thoughts and ideas.

I am delighted to tell you that the Head Prefects are: Zara-Sofia Asante and Dhyaan Suri and the Deputy Head Prefects are Lyla Swabey-Sillence and Jordan Ford.

## **What have we been up to?**

### **Key Stage 1**

Wow! What a fantastic start to the new school year and what a first couple of weeks back at Wraysbury! The children have come in beautifully, wearing the correct uniform, on time and with happy, smiling faces. We even had a class with 100% attendance! The hard work (and fun) has already started, with children getting stuck into their work. Year 2 have based their work around 'The Snail and the Whale' creating detailed sentences and pieces of art, while Year 1 have read the story 'My Class as a Family' whilst getting to know each other. We have begun learning about Zones of Regulation, as part of our social and emotional curriculum, which the children have loved. Below are the photos of the 'Zone boards' the teachers and children have curated! Talk to your child to find more about these.

### **Key Stage 2**

The children in KS2 have come back to school with a fantastic approach to learning. The Lower Juniors kicked off the week with some lovely art and descriptive writing based around their text, Commotion in the Ocean. Year 5 began their Stone Age topic, with the text "Boy with the Bronze Axe" and the Year 6 children wowed their teacher with some poetry linked to their book, "I am Cat." All children across the key stage have also been working very hard and participating

well in our new social and emotional learning curriculum, Zones of Regulation. The children took part in many group tasks and projects to begin to understand the various emotions we can experience on a daily basis in school and how we can regulate those emotions. Below is a selection of some of the wonderful work that was carried out by them. In the coming weeks, we will continue to delve deeper into what these emotions look like and continue to work on how to regulate them.

## Key Stage 2



## Key Stage 1