



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

Issue: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## SCHOOL DATES

Date	Event
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Swimming starts selected Yr 5&6
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Happy Bags collected at 10am

## HEAD TEACHERS UPDATE

### How is the pandemic affecting school?

We are still getting through the pandemic and thankfully the infection numbers at school remain low compared to many local schools. We tend to use internal staff rather than external staff (or supply teachers) who arrive unfamiliar with our expectations, ethos and processes. However in the future, staffing may reach critical levels and this will obviously have an effect on the efficiency of teaching and learning whilst maintaining all the other things we do within school such as clubs, visitors, visits, playtimes and lunches etc. If this happens we will let you know – and individual teachers and support staff will be in touch with specific parents if we are affected in this way. For the time being the school maintains a very positive outlook and the majority of you are very understanding about the additional pressures it is putting on us as a school.

### How is the school supporting the children affected by the pandemic?

With the new variant spreading to record levels we still appreciate that some of the children need a little more support and reassurance to gain their confidence back. For most, they have come to terms with the Covid the restrictions, they are familiar with the sight of masks and their level of anxiety has dropped (especially in school). We continue to equip them with the mental strategies and ideas to cope, to improve their confidence and positive attitude and this works better than trying to shield them from reality which is not a good idea if we are aiming to ensure all our children are to become 'secondary ready' in the longer term. With some individual children cited by teachers or staff as needing additional support we employ specific strategies and the child might spend some time with our ELSA support team or visit the Wellbeing Suite. Within the safe and secure environment of school we can develop their skills to cope even better with the conflicts and issues that arise in life. If your child has to self-isolate then they will be able to access lessons via remote access and on the school's Google Classroom. Every child has a log in a direct access to their class and teacher. If your child is not unwell they can access the lessons remotely and work will be set by the class teacher or maths group teacher.

### What resources are available to parents to help with the issues caused by the pandemic?

We have a number of wellbeing resources on our website to help parents, carers and children <https://www.wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/our-school/wellbeing> and these are useful if you or your child are still suffering with anxiety or other issues caused by the pandemic. **You may also find helpful ideas** at:

- Place2be [www.place2be.org.uk](http://www.place2be.org.uk) or
- Young Minds. [www.youngminds.co.uk](http://www.youngminds.co.uk)
- In addition, you may like to contact Learning Space, <https://www.learningspace.org.uk/resources>.

### What do I need to do as a parent if I think my child has Covid and will I be contacted if my child has a close contact at school?

As a parent or carer please keep your child off school if they are ill or if you think they have Covid symptoms. They can take an LFT and if it is positive please contact the school office and follow the government advice. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>. If your child was in close contact with someone in school who has tested positive you will be contacted. Your child will need to take an LFT and if negative they can come to school though they will be required to take an LFT for the next seven days (all testing negative) or follow isolation rules if they test positive. Test packs can be ordered online via the NHS Covid app and picked up at local pharmacies once ordered. If your child tests positive please follow the government advice using the link above. The newest advice is that from Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 you should not book a PCR if LFT positive but self-isolate for seven days, LFT testing on day 6 and 7 (with each test being at least 24 hours apart). If you test negative on day 6 and 7 they can return.

If you need to visit the school in person, please wear a mask and wait outside if someone is already in the main reception area. Staff will let you inside as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding and I am sure that with your cooperation and prompt actions we can keep the infection rate as low as possible and keep school as normal as possible.

Kindest regards, Steve Lee, **Head Teacher**



## DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

The temperatures have dropped significantly and the mornings are particularly cold. Children lose heat quicker than adults and are more susceptible to the cold. Please ensure your child is wearing multiple thin layers under their uniform and has a jumper and coat. They must be in suitable clothes to play at playtime and lunchtime, so please make sure your child has a good sturdy winter coat to keep them warm and dry. Thank you.

## LUNCHTIME ENGINEER TALK

After the success of the previous zoom call with a maths consultant, Miss Sarjeant is organising a series of lunchtime virtual talks for pupils interested in Maths and Science with STEM professionals in 2022. The first one this term will be with an engineer and will be on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January between 12.30 and 1pm** in the computing suite. Those attending will go in for an early lunch. There are limited places so please encourage your child to sign up as soon as possible on **the sign-up sheet on the 5S classroom door**.

## SWIMMING STARTS MONDAY

If your child has been selected to take part in swimming lessons starting Monday then you will have already been informed and completed a consent form. Children should come to school in their school uniform, with their named swimming things (including costumes and a towel) in a waterproof swimming bag. Pupils with hair below the collar must also bring a named swimming hat. Watches and earrings may not be taken to the pool. Please can they bring a fruit snack to eat after swimming. The children will be walked to Epsom College in time for their swimming lesson and back to school afterwards. **Year 6, please ensure your child is in school promptly as we will leave at 8.55am sharp.**

## BABUSHKA ARTWORK

Thank you to all the pupils who designed some beautiful artwork for the Babushka Christmas Concert. Due to Covid, the event was only published on Google classroom and DVD's were not produced; but attached at the end of this bulletin are all the winning artwork.

## CLUBS STARTING & SPACES

Most clubs start next week (week commencing 10th January 2022), except for Theatre Arts which started on Friday 7th January. Spanish & Science club both start on Thursday 20th January. Most clubs are now full but there are some spaces in the following clubs: Chess, Theatre Arts, Netball, Spanish & Year 6 Science club. If you are interested in signing up for a club please contact the club leader directly. Contact details of club leaders will be on their club letter. For club letters and timetable please [click here](#).

## INTERESTED IN WORKING IN SCHOOL?

We have an opportunity for someone interested in joining our strong and highly motivated team of support staff to work as a Special Needs Assistant (SNA). If you are keen to work with children and possibly develop a future in support work or teaching then this would be an ideal role to get that experience. You would become a member of our supportive, positive and enthusiastic staff, working for 26 hours per week supporting a child with additional needs to allow them full access to the curriculum, with support and guidance direct from the class teacher and the SENDco. If you are interested in applying please see the advert by [clicking here](#) and complete the application form on the Eteach website. **Deadline is Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

## WRAP AROUND CARE AT WFJS

Energy Kidz are delighted to announce bookings are available for wraparound care at **Wallace Fields Junior School!** Breakfast Clubs will run from 7:30am until 8:45am and after School Clubs run from 3:20pm until 6:00pm. Energy Kidz's online booking system allows for flexible payment options including our handy instalment plan that allows you spread the cost of termly or yearly bookings over monthly instalments. To book please login/create an account and secure your place online by [clicking here](#). With an added flexibility, your child will be able to go straight into class from Breakfast Club in the morning and go to school clubs as usual after school and then they seamlessly and safely join Energy Kidz after school. It could not be simpler or easier! Please do sign up as early as possible – and if enough parents sign their children up for Energy Kidz now the greater the chance of starting up earlier than the actual launch date! For more information [click here](#).

## WELLBEING AT WFJS

We are always keen to ensure all the children are safe and happy. If you are concerned about your child's mental health or wellbeing; please contact one of the following: The class teacher, Mrs Bruen (ELSA), Mrs Fowler (ELSA), Mrs Thompson (Year 3 and 4 Wellbeing champion) or Miss Hallett (Year 5 and 6 Wellbeing champion). Please refer to the links and resources on our school Wellbeing webpage by [clicking here](#).

## DECEMBER AWARDS FOR TTRS

Well done to those who won awards in December for Times Table Rockstars (TTR)

- Improvement in accuracy: Jordan (3M), Lily-Rose (6K) & Theo (6K)
- Increase in coins earned: Jayden (5C), Jeremy (6K) & Brittany (4G)
- Improvement in Studio Speed: Willow (3M), Ciaran (3M) & Elizabeth (3M)
- Increase in correct answers: Qutbuddin (6H), Jimmy (6H) & Maisy (6K)

## HAPPY BAGS COLLECTION~

### TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 10AM

Please help us with desperately needed PTA funds and saving the environment by simply clearing out any of the following items: Reusable clean & dry clothes, Reusable clean paired shoes, Fashion accessories, belts, jewellery, handbags/bags, scarves, hats, small ornaments, gift box sets and console games. Please save any good quality unwanted school uniform for Wallace Fields second hand sales. Your bags should be brought to school by 10am on the day. Thank you for your support! For more information go to [www.happyschoolbag.co.uk](http://www.happyschoolbag.co.uk)

# COMMUNITY

## WFJS PANTO STARS

Congratulations to Heidi L and Amelia L for taking part in Epsom Playhouse's pantomime "Beauty and the Beast" this year. They appeared in seven performances over a course of 4 days between Christmas and New Year. *"Neither of them have performed in front of such a big audience before and they were both brilliant and had an amazing time."*



## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022!

WFIS & WFJS PTAS ARE  
PLEASED TO INTRODUCE THE

# 2022 CHALLENGE

For the **first half of this term**, we are encouraging our pupils to **raise £20.22 by taking on a new challenge!** You can do it individually, as a family or as a group. **How you do this is entirely up to you.**

Once you have completed your challenge, donate the money you have raised at [www.pta-events.co.uk/wfispta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wfispta)

**£20.22 is your target**, but there is no minimum amount needed to join in, and no maximum should you raise more.

Use the **number 22** to inspire you! You could:

- do a **22km** sponsored bike ride
- help your family with **22** jobs
- try to score **22** goals
- bake and sell **22** cupcakes
- perform a **22** minute sponsored dance routine
- make **22** pieces of art to sell to your friends and family
- sell **22** of your pre-loved toys
- make your bed **22** days in a row

**Use your imagination!** We can't wait to see what creative ideas you come up with.

Do share any photos and stories with us so that we can let everyone else know about your wonderful experiences. You may even inspire others to try something new!

## WRITE A LETTER TO HELP FIX OUR FOOTPATHS!

As you will know, there's a local campaign to fix the problematic footpaths around both the infants and junior schools. We at the WFJS PTA are supporting this campaign along with the support of the Junior School Council and the Infant School Pupil Parliament. We are campaigning to have the footpaths along the school routes resurfaced to make them safe and prevent accidents. You may have already signed the petition and now we'd like to get the children involved. If your child is keen to do so, please support them in writing a letter (handwritten or typed) to share any stories about falls/accidents/problems they may have experienced as a result of the footpaths not being safe. Please address all letters to Chris Grayling (MP for Epsom & Ewell).

[Click here](#) for a link to the leaflet that the WFI has produced. Please contact Poonam on 07949167373 (by Monday 17th January) when you're ready to hand in your child's letter or if you have any questions.



Please see below some adverts for our free WEA courses running in January, some are via zoom, others face to face.

[www.wea.org.uk/eastsurrey](http://www.wea.org.uk/eastsurrey)

Please also make contact with me if you'd like to book a specific course for a group you are working with.

- [Introduction to Being a Teaching Assistant \(a free course\)](#) Friday 14th Jan 10am- 12.30pm
- [Introduction to Being a Teaching Assistant \(a free course\) Via Zoom:](#) 26th Jan 10am- 12.30pm
- [Level 2 NCFE Certificate in Counselling Skills \(via zoom\) Free](#) Every Thursday from 27th Jan- 28th July from 9.30am- 2.30pm
- [An Introduction to Bereavement Support: Free](#) Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 10am- 12.30pm

- [Encouraging Positive Behaviour in Young Children- Free](#) Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 10am- 12.30pm
- [Encouraging Positive Behaviour in SEND children- Free](#) Tue 18th & 25th Jan 10-noon
- [Relaxation for Parents- FREE -Thursday](#) Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 12.30pm- 2.30pm at Horley YMCA Family Centre
- [Helping Your Child to Manage Stress & Anxiety- FREE](#) Monday 31st Jan and 7th Feb 12.15pm- 2.15pm

## LOOKING TO GET FIT THIS JANUARY AND HAVE LOTS OF FUN



Sign up to Mum-Dance, the 80s dance fitness class .7.30 - 8.30pm in the main hall at Wallace Fields Junior School. Recommended by OK Magazine and BBC, now it's your turn to get fit to all your best 80's songs such as Salt n Pepa, Abba, Fame and MCHammer. Book now at <https://mum-dance.co.uk/pages/epsom-class>

