# Wallace Fields Junior School Newsletter

## 3rd November 2023



## **KEY DATES**

- Sunday 5th November 2023 from 16:30 PTA Fireworks. Sold Out! No tickets on the gate.
- Monday 6th November 2023
  - Year 5 Surrey Fire and Rescue Service Workshop
  - Royal British Legion Poppies sold by Year 6 at lunchtime cash only
- Tuesday 7th November 2023
  - Open Day Tour for prospective parents now fully booked 10.30 -11.30
  - Royal British Legion Poppies sold by Year 6 at lunchtime cash only
- Wednesday 8th November 2023
  - Open Day Tour for prospective parents spaces 10.30 11.30
  - Girls football match 15:30-16:30

#### • Thursday 9th November 2023

- African Workshop
- Adults v Children Football Fundraiser Yrs 5 and 6 15:45 16:30

Click Here<sup>1</sup> for Upcoming Events

Click here<sup>2</sup> for School Calendar and to Subscribe to Calendar

### **HEAD'S UPDATE**



Praise Indeed: The immunisation team from Surrey Health came in and completed the immunisations for the whole school well within time. They were very keen to mention how helpful the staff were and described the children's behaviour as 'exemplary'. They were amazed at how polite and respectful the children were and this enabled them to finish in record time. They complimented the school ethos and it is so lovely to hear praise and positive feedback from visitors as it reaffirms our own belief that the children are excellent. The team go to hundreds of schools across Surrey and so they have a very clear comparison from which to draw opinion. Thank you for reinforcing this polite, cooperative and friendly attitude in your children as it makes a big difference here in school. It also ensures that the children have an enthusiastic and resilient approach to school life and this prepares them so well for secondary school and life in the future. I often remind the staff how lucky we are to have such supportive and respectful parents as this is not the case in every school and contributes highly to the school ethos. Thank you.

**Reward and Feedback:** I have included some more feedback from the parent questionnaire and included more information on the reward systems and certificates and accolades that the children achieve in school such as the Believe Awards. This is important, especially for the Year 3, as reward systems and feedback vary from school to school. Please read details below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/events

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/calendar

#### **BELIEVE and Head Teacher Awards**

**BELIEVE Awards:** The school values are summarised in our Believe Values (ask your child about them) and each month one child is chosen from each class as someone who represents all of the school values. They get a special certificate and ten house points. If you child comes home with a Believe Award please remember that this is only awarded once each month and so in the school year very few of these are awarded. Today was our Believe Assembly so the winners for October will have been announced. It is certainly an award of great significance and we hope you can celebrate with your child for being an amazing all-rounder.

Head Teacher Awards: These are awarded by the teachers for exceptional effort, achievement or progress in a particular area of the curriculum. They come to me for a special Head Teacher Award sticker in their book, a certificate if they are in the lower school and their names are recorded in my Head Teacher Award Book. These awards are also mentioned in their end of year reports and they receive five house points per award. Awards for **September** were Stanley H, Otis B, Julia E-L, Flora S, Amelie D, Dolsie S, Ivy M-K, Ela U, Josh T, Ella V, Naomi W, Andy W, Jayden E, Avi N, Connor H, Oscar O, Patryk P, Suria M-R and Henry W. **October** were Rory H, Amelia H, Arjun N, William R, Imogen D, Celine P, Alexandra S, Ciaran Y, Sam S, Finn K-Q, Olivia W, Nandika S, Reema K, Suria M-R, Stasi T, Josbon D, Livi B, Rose W, George H, Tony K, Zachary D, Oscar O, Oz Y, Isla H, Mia T, Lalana S, Thomas VDI, John G, Kate L, Ben S, Abby X, Dylan W, Yoon Seul C, Freddie W, Albert D (twice in one day), Sophie W, Sum P, Neil N, Tylor L, Quin W, Alejandra N, Peggy K, Sophie X, Aarushi B, Otis L, Rose W, Francesca L, Emily A and Ella C. Also Felicity V and John S. Well done to all those children for making a special effort and showing what great progress they are making.

## **Parent Survey Feedback**

**Healthy Lifestyle:** The survey results showed 84.9% felt that school educated the children to have a healthy lifestyle (49.1% strongly agreed and 15.1% were indifferent). This is good to know with healthy living including wellbeing, sports and healthy eating fully embedded in our school curriculum. We are always looking at ways of improving and wellbeing days are now allocated to into every term.

**School Keeping Parents Informed of Child Progress:** This came out very strongly with 86.8% agreeing or strongly agreeing and 13.2% indifferent. No parents disagreed with this aspect. This is encouraging and by having termly parent / teacher meetings and a detailed end of year report parents are responding well to the progress information we provide.

#### THIS WEEK

http://twitter.com/statuses/1720385272381096120

#### **Successful Harvest Collection**

Thank you to all the parents and carers who contributed to our Harvest collection and thank you to Mrs Kidwai for taking the harvest produce to the local food bank. For the latest from Epsom and Ewell Foodbank and to see their urgently needed items click here<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup>https://epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk/



## **Huge Thank You**

A huge thank you to Mrs Webster and friends who so kindly agreed to take home all the lost property clothes which got wet in the lost property box to wash and dry them. We are looking for a new and better place to store lost property. Please ensure all uniform and coats etc have clear name labels so items can be returned to their owners.

### **IMPORTANT**

## **Set Parental Controls on Every App to Safeguard Your Children**

We have become aware of children accepting friends requests from people they do not know on gaming apps such as Roblox. If are you using a device such as Ipad or phone **you must set parental controls on every app**. See below two posters with essential tips for Android and Apple devices.

Also please click here on the link below for more information for parents about the popular children's game Roblox.

https://corporate.roblox.com/parents/





## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - Poppies available for children

If you would like your child to purchase a poppy to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, please supply your child with a suggested donation of £1. There are also a limited number of other items such as rulers, charity plastic bracelet, key rings and tie loop but we have limited stock.

Year 6 children will be selling them at lunchtimes on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th November 2023.



### **Dark Evenings - No Walking Home Alone From Clubs**

Children are not permitted to walk home after clubs from October half term as it is dark so parents/carers must pick up at 4.30pm from the main gate. If an alternative adult is picking up they must ensure the club leaders is informed directly.

## **Winter Uniform**

It is winter uniform now so grey shorts, grey trousers, grey knee-length skirt or grey pinafore with white shirt or blouse, red V-neck pullover with school logo or red cardigan with school logo and school tie. Black shoes (not fashion shoes, trainers or boots) should be worn with grey or white ankle socks, or grey, black or red tights. No red gingham dresses or polo shirts please. Remember coats for playtime and lunchtime and put **names in all** coats and jumpers.

Boots are not permitted in school. The uniform is smart sensible black shoes, no fashion shoes. Additional trainers for use at playtime. PE/Games kit can still be worn on PE/Games days though please ensure appropriate for the weather e.g. PE logo jumper if needed. Plain non branded joggers, black or grey for very cold days.

Ensure all uniform has a name label. For the full uniform click here.

https://www.wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/parents/uniform

#### **Final Reminder MP Christmas Card Competition**

Reminder that deadline is approaching for the Chris Grayling MP Christmas card competition. Children may design a Christmas card that is to be submitted to Mrs Curran. All entries to be handed to Mrs Curran. The deadline has been extended from Friday 3rd November to **Monday 6th November.** Late entries will not be accepted.

The design must be on an A4 paper in felt tip pen. Do not use glitter or stick anything onto your picture. It needs to be 2D.

Please clearly stated on the back of your design: Name, Year group, Age and School

The winning Christmas card will be the official Christmas card for 2023 and will be sent out to community groups, local charities as well as to the Prime Minister and members of the cabinet.

Good luck!

## **Squad Sporting Fixtures Coming up**

**WFJS Girls Football Squad** have their first friendly fixture at home with Cuddington Croft on **Wednesday 8th November**. We aim to kick off at 15.45. Supporters are very welcome. Please enter via the alleyway at back of the school. Parents of the squad have been informed via the SPOND app.

Other sporting fixtures coming up in the next six months are as follows:-

- Year 5 & 6 Netball Match A's Wallace Fields V St Martins at home on Wednesday 17th
   January. Arrive at 3.00 start at 3.15 pm
- Year 5 & 6 B's Netball at home on Wednesday 24th January. Arrive at 3.00 start at 3.15 pm
- Year 6 Girls Football St Martins v Wallace Fields (9 a side) at home on Wednesday 7th
   February. Arrive at 3.00 start at 3.15 pm

## **PTA and Fundraising**

## WFIS and WFJS PTA Fireworks Night - Sunday 5th November 2023

We can't wait to see you all on the school field on Sunday! Entrance is via Wallace Fields Infant School. **Come along from 4:30pm** to beat the queues and enjoy the atmosphere. Come hungry because our new Hot Dog and Chilli station will be the best place to grab a bowl to warm you up ready for the big display (veggie alternative for all options available!).

Please note that the event is sold out and there will not be any tickets available to buy on the night. There is limited parking and all access roads must be kept clear, so please come by foot if you can. Please park all scooters and bikes in the scooter park at the front of the Infant school. We ask that no one brings their own seating, fireworks, pets or sparklers. These will not be permitted onsite.



**Kids V Adults Football Fundraiser** 



Thank you to parents and carers who have signed up to our exciting Kids V Adults Football Fundraiser. **All parents and carers who signed up will be playing against their children**. A reminder that the Upper School matches are on Thursday 9th November and Lower School matches are on Thursday 16th November.

The team are being created and children will be told their teams soon in assembly - Year 5 and 6 will be told on Monday 6th November and Year 3 and 4 will be told on Monday 13th November.

If you have signed up with your child, please send your child into school with their football kit or sports clothes, shin pads (if they have them) and a water bottle in a bag. Children can wear football boots but with no metal studs. If they do not have them, trainers are acceptable. The children will be given time in school to change before matches. We recommend also ensuring your child has a coat so they can keep warm whilst waiting for their match to start.

Adults, please come to school for 3:10/3:15 wearing suitable clothing and shin pads (if you have them). We will hold a briefing in the hall at 3:15 to explain teams and pitches before heading to the field at 3:25 for matches at 3:30.

We aim for the event to be finished by 4:30.

A reminder that this is a fundraising event and if possible, we would be grateful of a donation (£8 adults and £5 children). Donations will be collected prior to the matches beginning.

We look forward to seeing those attending on Thursday 9th!

**Happy Bags Collection - 14th November 2023** 



Are you having a clear out at home? Please bring in on 14th November 2023

Happy School Bag is an easy fundraising scheme that helps schools, clubs and other organisations to raise funds through the collection of pre-loved reusable clothing. They are doing a collection from Wallace Fields Junior School on 14th November 2023. Please drop off items by the school gate before 10am on that day.

Please keep any second hand logoed uniform and bring into school for the next uniform sale by the PTA.

#### We accept We don't accept ✓ Adult and children's X Dirty, Damaged, Wet clothing Clothes ✓ Paired Shoes X Uniforms, Underclothing √ Fashion accessories X Toys, Books, DVD's ✓ Handbags, Belts, X Duvets, Pillows, ✓ Hats, Scarves Household linen X Carpets, Blankets, √ Jewellery, Perfumes Curtains Please ensure that all items X Bric-a-Brac placed in the bags are in good REUSABLE condition. Thank you

### YEAR 3

## **Year 3 Science Workshop 'The Human Machine'**

Wallace Fields Juniors is delighted to welcome 'The Human Machine' on **Thursday 16th November 2023** to deliver 'You and the Mean Machine Game Show' to Year 3. This fast-paced workshop allows children to explore the world of growth and food, in line with National Curriculum guidelines.

Children will be using all their senses:

- To appreciate the importance of exercise and eating the right amounts of different types of nutrition.
- To be able to identify muscles and the ways in which they move.
- To learn about the different types of teeth and how they function for different purposes.

In order to cover the cost of the visit this year we would appreciate a **voluntary donation of £5.00 from each child.** Without your donation we would be unable to offer the children the opportunity of this valuable experience. To make your payment please visit Scopay our online payment portal.

## YEAR 4

### Year 4 Forces Workshop - Tuesday 14th November 2023

The Crewe Theatre Team of actors, through performance and workshops will reinforce the children's learning of Key Stage 2 Science on Forces. They are visiting on **Tuesday 14th November 2023**, and they will demonstrate how gravity and friction need controlling and how ball balancing and tower building can create unbalanced forces! We believe this experience will be worthwhile to the children's learning, enjoyment and understanding of this topic.

In order to cover the cost of the visit this year we would appreciate a **voluntary donation of £5.00 from each child.** Without your donation we would be unable to offer the children the opportunity of this valuable experience. To make your payment please visit Scopay our online payment portal.

## YEAR 5

## **Year 5 River Trip Rearranged**

The postponed River trip will now go ahead on 23rd November 2023.

# Learning

## Moving from Pencil to Pen...

We all know that children here cannot wait for that magic day when their teacher moves them from pencil to pen. It really is a big moment and means more to them than just "I can write neatly".

We know that moving – or not moving – from pencil to pen can have a dramatic effect on a child's confidence and self-esteem. Moving a child from pencil to pen can give them a new found confidence and self-belief in their own ability, and therefore we must acknowledge that for some children, for whom handwriting may always be difficult, their inability to move from to pen can have a huge adverse effect on this confidence.

This, along with recent research, has meant that as a school we have been thinking very deeply about our current use of the 'Pen Licence'. We ensure that all handwriting lessons include gross motor and fine motor warm up exercises and link these to the need for good posture when writing. We focus on fluency and the correct construction and rotation of letters to enable fluent and legible handwriting. From next week, we will be encouraging the children to write in pen in all handwriting lessons – after all, we would not expect a child to learn how to play violin without the violin or hockey without the hockey stick, so asking a child to write fluently without a pen seems rather old fashioned to us now. This means that all children will now use a pen for their handwriting lessons.

For handwriting lessons, each class has a selection of Berol handwriting pens for the children to use, however these can be tricky for some children particularly those who write with their left hand. The children will be taught strategies to support this, however, should you be happy to provide your child/ren with an alternative, please ensure that the pen has blue ink and must have a felt or rollerball nib. Please do not supply your child with a biro as these require a lot of hand pressure and give an inconsistent ink flow (so not very different from pencils).

Many thanks for the feedback that we have received from parents regarding pen licences – there will be further changes coming soon and updates will be included in future newsletters.

Mrs Crabb

**English Lead** 

#### **French Homework**

The topics in French to practise on Linguascope:

- Year 3: Age (Linguascope Elementary)
- Year 4: La famille (Linguascope Beginners & Linguascope Elementary)
- Year 5: Le corps (Linguascope Beginners)
- Year 6: Review personality traits: Linguascope Beginners and/or previous vocabulary

#### 500 Word Story competition - Closes Friday 10th November 2023



500 Words, the UK's most successful children's writing competition is now open for submissions and runs until Friday 10th November. We would love for some of our amazing children to enter the competition and see some of their entries. The two age categories are 5-7 year olds and 8-11 year olds and children of all abilities are encouraged to enter. There are some amazing judges this year and it is once again supported by Her Majesty, The Queen.

All the stories must be

- 500 words or less (the title is not included in the number)
- be written by an individual not a group
- be a child's original idea
- be narrative not rap or poetry
- The stories must not:
- give any personal data or details about the child
- recount a historical event

The stories are judged on the following criteria: characterisation, plot, originality, language and enjoyment.

If you click here,<sup>4</sup> you will find far more details, hints and tips about entering the competition - and we would love to see and read some - so please send in some entries to our English Lead, Mrs Crabb so that they can be displayed and celebrated in school. Good Luck!

### **ONLINE SAFETY**

This half term, we are focusing our online safety lessons and discussions on Online Bullying - also known as Cyberbullying. The children are learning what cyberbullying is and how to spot signs of it. They are being equipped with strategies to support them, or someone they know, if they ever experience cyberbullying.

Cyberbullying is bullying with the use of digital technologies. It can take place on social media, messaging platforms, gaming platforms and mobile phones. It is repeated behaviour aimed at scaring, angering or shaming those who are targeted.

Please see attached a poster on how to combat or support your child at home with cyberbullying.

<sup>4</sup>https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4



## **WELLBEING**



### **CLUBS**

## **Exciting New Club Launch - Lego Club**



## **Gardening Club**

The Gardening Club on a Tuesday lunchtime is hugely popular.

Children who take part **MUST** wear wellington boots or a spare pair of old shoes and coat, otherwise unfortunately they will be unable to take part.

Thank you to Alejandra's Mum for donating some lovely gardening gloves. If anyone else is able to donate gardening gloves or equipment that would be fantastic.

**This week** we started clearing this area so we can make sure we are composting properly plus we aim to have a wild flower area here that will attract butterflies and bees and also cheer us this overgrown area.

Some of the children painted stones which we have displayed in our school garden





## Wraparound Care Provided by Junior Adventures Group - JAG!

Junior Adventures Group Club (JAG) provides excellent wraparound care at Wallace Fields Junior School. They run Breakfast Club from 7:30am until 8:40am and After School Club from 3:25pm until 6:00pm. From September, a new part session 4.30pm -6.00pm has been created for After School Club and is live on the JAG Magic Booking system (price is £11.00). This means your child can attend

a Wallace Fields Club and then join JAG at 4.30pm at the reduced price. This is from September 2023 and available to juniors only.

It would be very helpful if all parents could register on JAG

https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/term-time/after-school-club/ even if they never use JAG during their time at WFJS. This would allow a late pick up in an emergency. JAG cannot take unregistered children due to them being under a different Ofsted registration. The office cannot look after a child beyond school day and those children who are regularly picked up late must register with JAG.



#### **General Reminders and News**

#### **Parent Consultation Meetings**

We are holding:-

- Face-to-face appointments on Monday 13th November 2023 3.45pm 6.15pm
- Video call appointments on Tuesday 14th November 3.45pm 6.30pm

If you have not done so already please book via School Cloud. To login to School Cloud please visit <a href="https://wallacefieldsjunior.schoolcloud.co.uk/">https://wallacefieldsjunior.schoolcloud.co.uk/</a>. For security and safeguarding reasons, you will need to use the email that it is registered with the school to access your account. You will also need your child's name and date of birth and your first name and last name. A step by step guide on how to make appointments is attached to this email and for a video guide click here <a href="https://vimeo.com/473882995">https://vimeo.com/473882995</a>

#### **Tours for Prospective Parents**

Do you have a child hoping to start in Year 3 at Wallace Fields Junior School in September 2024? There are open days for prospective parents in November. **Tuesday 7th November is now fully booked**. **There are still spaces on Wednesday 8th November 2023**. The tour will be from 10.30am until 11.30am. This is an opportunity to tour around our school with some of our prefects, see the classes in action and view the school at first hand. There will be a brief presentation on arrival and then a question and answer session with the Headteacher at the end of your personalised tour. This is not aimed at children as they get a chance to meet their new teacher and school in the summer term if successful in gaining a place. If you have younger pre-school children we appreciate that you may have to bring them on this tour however, please note that there are no crèche facilities. Places are limited to 30 per day so please book early to avoid disappointment.

If you are interested in booking the tour, please click on the following link and complete the form if you would like to attend.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER<sup>5</sup>

We look forward to seeing you.

### **X Formerly Twitter**

To view the latest photos and exciting updates from Wallace Fields Junior School you can follow our school on X formerly Twitter. X formerly Twitter has changed its policies so now to view our posts you do need an X (Twitter) account so you need to create an account and log in. When you are logged in you will then be able to view the latest tweets on our Home Page.

## School Fundraising - How Can You Help?

In a school where state school funding is lower than we would like, voluntary contributions and fundraising are vital.

We have a fantastic PTA who raise significant funds for the school. With their efforts, they are able to fund many resources e.g. whole school experiences, outdoor benches, musical instruments, dictionaries, air conditioning units, match funding us on Chromebooks, class iPads, as well as the annual pantomime to name just a few recent purchases.

Our own **School Fund** has also been a very important source of income over many years, providing funds to support some of the things, which have enriched the educational experience of our children including the refurbishment of our library, purchasing Chromebooks, iPads and replacing worn out equipment/furniture. Sometimes, we ask you to contribute directly to workshops via Scopay, but however we pay for these experiences, it is vital that you continue to support us please.

When we talk to parents, we know that some of you would like to know all the ways you can help enrich our school so that you can decide how you would like to help. We would love to continue to grow our curriculum with more workshops/themed days/resources, improve our indoor and outdoor areas – we are planning more breakout areas for small group learning, we are fundraising for an all-weather surface so that the children can always enjoy the outdoors.

### How can you donate/help us this year?

Please donate directly to the PTA (Registered Charity No. 287744)
 <a href="https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/8007">https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/8007</a>

<sup>5</sup>https://forms.gle/FVFFsXY15GstVAGA9

- Please remember to tick the Gift Aid box as we receive 25p extra for every £1 donated
- Some employers match their staff's charitable giving, so do please check with your employer for their Payroll Giving scheme
- Please donate directly to our School Fund via Scopay (Tucasi) under WFJS Voluntary
   Contribution at the bottom of your Scopay screen <a href="https://www.scopay.com/wallacefields-jun">https://www.scopay.com/wallacefields-jun</a>
- Please help at / attend the PTA's exciting fundraising events during the year Every penny will go towards helping the children.

**Thank you** in advance for your help and support. We are very aware that times are continuing to be financially difficult for many families, but with increasing pressure on state school funding, contributions and fundraising are vital so we feel it necessary to ask you to consider donating to support our school. We know a lot of you kindly do so already. Please help us make Wallace Fields Junior School even better! Kind regards, Claire White (School Business Manager)

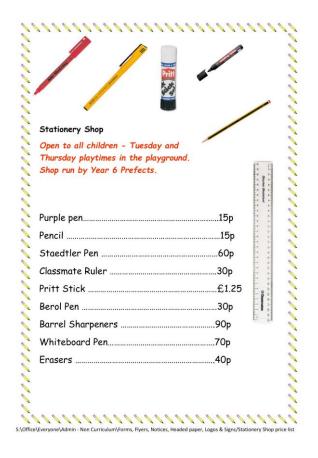
### School Dinner Menus for Autumn / Winter 2023





## **Stationery Reminder**

Your child must have the right stationery in class and if not this impacts on everyone, disturbing them. Please ask your child to check if they need stationery. Class teachers may send your child home with a slip indicating which stationery they need. Parents may provide their child with a little cash so that they can buy replacement stationery as necessary. Children may purchase replacement whiteboard pens, glue sticks, pens and pencils at our stationery shop run by Year 6 prefects on Tuesday and Thursday break times (at the 4J window).



## **COMMUNITY NEWS**



www.festivelightdisplay.co.uk





# Upcoming musical events at St Mary's Ewell November and December 2023.

Tuesday 31st October Trinity Laban Chamber Choir 1,05pm followed by afternoon tea. Free Admission.

Tuesday 7th November Jonathan continues the Bach series at 1.05 pm with the Toccata Adagio and Fugue in C, BWV 564 and the 6 'Schubler' Preludes, BWV 645-650. Free Admission followed by tea and chat.

Sunday December 3rd at 5.30pm is the Advent Carol Service.

Tuesday December 5th at 1.05pm Jonathan continues the all Bach lunchtime series with some Advent and Christmas Chorales, and Variations.

Saturday December 9th at 7.30pm – Jonathan and Sarah Holmes invite you to the ever-popular 'Christmas Cracker'.

This features well known carols for the audience, and Offinistmas music, solos and duets for organ and piano. Get into the spirit of Christmas by puting on your Christmas jumper and having a great singson.

£10 suggested donation, with seasonal refreshments

Sunday December 17th at 5.30pm is the Christmas Carol Service.

