

Wallace Fields Junior School Newsletter

Friday 5th January 2024



KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- **Monday 8th January 2024** - Swimming assessment session for selected Year 5 & 6
- **Wednesday 10th January 2024** - Netball Match Home V St Joseph's 3.10pm-4.10pm
- **Thursday 11th January 2024**
 - Blue House Mufti day
 - EAL Coffee Afternoon 2.45pm
- **Thursday 8th February 2024** - 4.30pm - 5.45pm PTA Valentines Disco
- **Monday 12th-16th February 2024 Half term**
- **Monday 19th February 2024** - INSET day
- **Monday 26th February 2024** - Year 6 Junior Citizen Day
- **Thursday 29th February 2024** - Year 5 Synagogue Visit
- **Thursday 7th March 2024** - World Book Day Dressing up day
- **Friday 15th March 2024** - Comedy Night
- **Thursday 21st March 2024** - Year 3 Butser Farm Day Trip
- **Monday 25th March 2024** - Face to face parent-teacher meetings
- **Tuesday 26th March 2024** - Virtual parent-teacher meetings
- **Wednesday 27th March 2024**
 - Wellbeing Day
 - 5pm - 7pm Choir performance
- **Thursday 28th March 2024** - last day before Easter break. Early finish.

[Click Here¹](#) for Upcoming Events

[Click here²](#) for School Calendar and to Subscribe to Calendar

HEAD'S UPDATE

Happy New Year: We had a blurry eyed start to the term as we got back to school on 2nd January 2024 and that was a bit of a shock for many, however after a restful break we are all fired up and ready for the new year. The school was buzzing again and attendance and engagement across the school has been superb. Next year the Christmas break is later and the return is later and so less time to prepare though more time to relax afterwards.

Congratulations to Blue House for winning last half term's house points awards and so they will be getting their mufti day next Thursday (11th January 2024).

¹<https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/events>

²<https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/calendar>

Clubs start up next week so please check your club leader's dates for the official starting days.

Celebrating Achievements Outside of School: Every Friday morning we have a whole school 'Celebration Assembly'. This assembly is an opportunity for several regular awards inside of school including Star of the Week and at the end of each month our special Believe Awards. We also give awards for Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), Times Tables certificates, French awards and good behaviour certificates. We announce the House Point winners for the week and the half term winners getting a free mufti day. We also celebrate achievements outside of school so if you would like us to openly celebrate something your child has done such as a swimming award, a grade award on a musical instrument or a trophy for a sport then please do send your child in with their award or email the office with the details (and a picture if you wish) and I will call them to the front in our Friday Celebration Assembly. This week we celebrated judo awards for Hugh and Imogen.

THIS WEEK

Welcome Back

We hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday break and has come back refreshed to start 2024. We have lots of exciting activities planned for this year. Click Here³ for Upcoming Events. Click here⁴ for School Calendar and to Subscribe to Calendar

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1743217136112210371>

<http://twitter.com/statuses/1742896682264650082>

NEXT WEEK

NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* Programme

Wallace Fields Juniors are participating in the **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* Programme** this term. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom activities which we have fully reviewed. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout⁵.

Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe

The NSPCC have shared some important information below on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe.

Parent/Carer support

Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers.

³<https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/events>

⁴<https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/calendar>

⁵<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout>

www.nspcc.org.uk/parents⁶

Activities to extend learning at home

Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/activities⁷

Online Safety Hub

For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more.

www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety⁸

Childline – under 12s

Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content.

www.childline.org.uk/buddy⁹ (5-7) www.childline.org.uk/kids¹⁰ (7-11)

Talk PANTS with your children. Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. See the You Tube video below or to download the free resources go to www.nspcc.org.uk/pants¹¹.

I hope you find this information about the NSPCC and the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme helpful. Please do contact our DSL Mrs Day if you have any further questions.

⁶<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/parents>

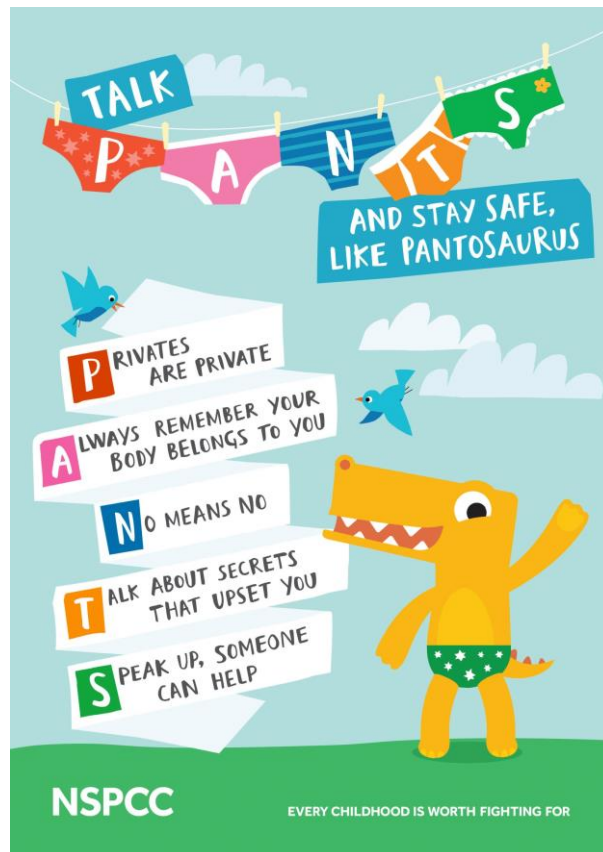
⁷<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/activities>

⁸<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety>

⁹<http://www.childline.org.uk/buddy>

¹⁰<http://www.childline.org.uk/kids>

¹¹<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants>





<https://youtu.be/SzbMEVYivg>

Blue House Mufti Day - Thursday 11th January 2024

Congratulations to Blue House for winning last half term's house points awards and so they will be getting their free mufti day on Thursday 11th January 2024. Blue House may wear their own home clothes and ideally with something blue to celebrate their victory.

Coffee Afternoon for EAL families - 11th January 2024 2.45pm.

Parents/Carers of children with English as an additional language (EAL) are warmly invited to attend a coffee afternoon on 11th January from 2.45-3.30pm. Please email THallett@wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk¹² **if you would like to attend so she can gauge numbers for teas and coffees.** this is an informal opportunity to meet up and not a formal presentation. It is great for parents and carers to meet up, share things in common and make local connections. Please do come along.

Netball Match Fixture

Next week the school netball team will be playing St Joseph's at home on Wednesday 10th January 2024 from 3.10pm-4.10pm. Parents are welcome to come and watch. Parents will be able to access the school via the main front gates at 3.05pm. Latecomers may need to wait until the gates are reopened for end of school. Mr Sellars (our sports Lead) will be coordinating the game and member of the St Joseph's team will be referee.

YEAR 3

Year 3 Science

In Science this term, Year 3 are learning all about light. They will be doing lots of experiments over the next few weeks and the children will need torches for this. If any children have a torch at home, please can they bring it with them to school on Thursday 11th January 2024. Thank you.

¹²<mailto:THallett@wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk>

YEAR 5 & 6

Year 5 Homework Change

Year 5 have moved their maths homework dates due to staffing. The date the **maths homework will be set is now a Tuesday and it will be due in on a Thursday. This will start next week.** The children have all been informed this week. Thank you for all your support with the homework.

Swimming Year 5 and 6 Spring Term

Following the feedback provided by parents regarding their child's swimming ability, selected children who are non-swimmers have been invited to attend a swimming assessment session on 8th January 2024. The letter of invite went out to selected children on Tuesday 12th December 2023. If you did not receive a letter then your child will not need attend these lessons.

If you did receive an invite letter, please remember that your child will need swimming costume/trunks, a towel and a swimming hat if their hair is below their collar. They may also bring a fresh fruit or vegetable snack for after swimming. The children will be accompanied to Epsom College for the swimming lesson and will leave school at 8.55am. The first session is a full assessment and actual time in the water will be limited. Subsequent weeks the chosen children will have full swimming lessons..

PTA AND FUNDRAISING

PTA Valentines Disco

Happy New Year from WFJS PTA. We hope you all had a fabulous break and are ready, like we are, to kick off the new year. We're starting with a Valentines Disco! Thursday 8th February 2024.

Tickets available now via PTA Events: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wfjspta>



Circus Poster Design Competition - Deadline Sunday 7th January 2024



Other PTA Events



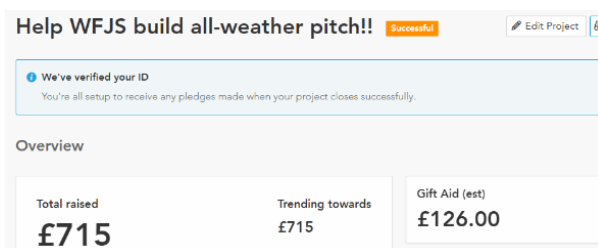
Progress on All Weather Pitch Fundraising

The latest Crowdfunder for the 2 football matches raised a STAGGERING £715 + £126. This was in addition to the cash raised on entry, mentioned in last term's newsletter.

Additionally, the Carol singing in the park raised £84 and the Park Café donated an additional £50 as a thank you.

The current Crowdfunder has closed though we will be launching our next Sporting Fundraiser for the Spring Term - so watch this space!

Our dream of an all weather pitch is getting closer! Thanks for all your support!



General Reminders and News

Spaces in Code Camp Club

**Wallace Fields Juniors
Spring 2024**

Get creative after school!

Returning to your school after Christmas



Coding
Years 3 - 6

Brand new content!

Calling all budding game designers! Our highly-rated Coding after-school club allows older children to create and publish their own unique games using our custom platform, Code Camp World. We have made Code Camp World as accessible as possible, meaning that children can focus on the fun aspects of coding whilst developing problem-solving and creativity skills.

Book now - limited spaces available!

Years 3&4: <https://my.codecamp.co.uk/course/695>
Years 5&6: <https://my.codecamp.co.uk/course/696>

hello@codecamp.co.uk
www.codecamp.co.uk


4.9 stars on reviews.io



Other Club News

You will have signed up for clubs for the spring term by now. Any questions please contact the club leader directly. For more information about the clubs and the contact details for the club leaders please click here¹³.

There are still some spaces in clubs for example 3 spaces in Cooking club, French club, Art club and Tennis club.

¹³<https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/clubs>

There is a long list for Lego club so Ms White is considering setting one up on a Thursday after school. Nothing is confirmed but if you would like to express interest in a Thursday after school Lego club then please email swhitelegoclub@yahoo.com¹⁴

There were **no clubs** in the first week of term week commencing **2nd January 2024**. **Most clubs start next week (week commencing 8th January 2024)** though please check your club letters to ensure the start dates for this term.

Gardening Club will not start until February 2024.

You might want to book into the wraparound care provider JAG for the sessions the clubs are not running. For more information click here.¹⁵



Library Book Donations Wanted - Are you having a sort out?

You may find that books are in some of those presents under the tree - so time to have a book clear-out of the books that have been enjoyed. We are looking for good quality books for 7 to 11 year olds to be donated to the class book corners and library.

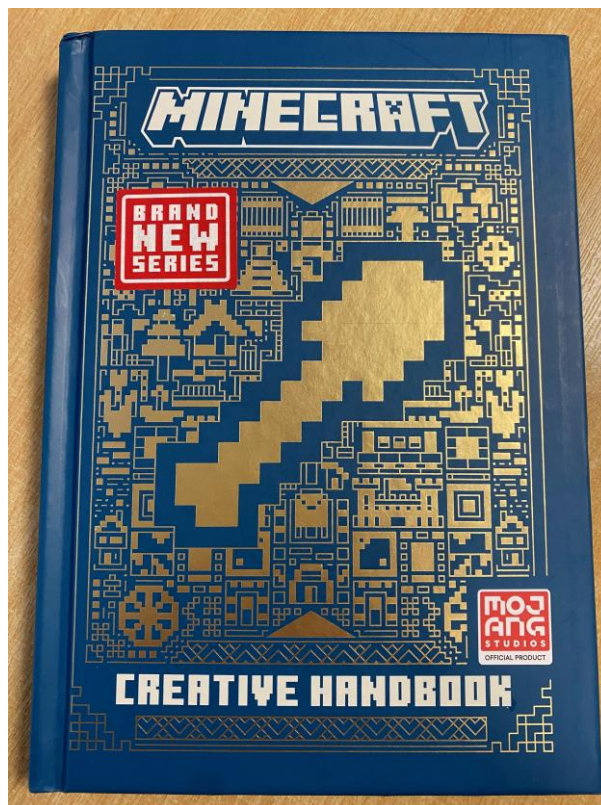
If your child receives duplicate copies of books at Christmas then perhaps you could donate them to the school library?

Please bring them in at the start of next term. **Thank you!**

¹⁴<mailto:swhitelegoclub@yahoo.com>

¹⁵<https://wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk/parents/wrap-around>

Book Found



This book was found in the returned books box in the school library but it is not a school library book. Did your child bring it to school in error? If it belongs to your child, please let the School Office or Librarian know and we will return it to their owner.

French Homework

French Linguascope practice (optional) for this week:

- Year 3: Linguascope Elementary/Ecoutez-moi (Listen to me)
- Year 4: new topic next week
- Year 5: Linguascope Beginner/Moi et ma famille /Les vêtements 1 & 2
- Year 6: New topic next week

Merci bien!

Absence Line

If your child is going to be absent for any reason please call and leave a message on our absence line **0208 393 0350** before 9am for every day that they are absent.

WELLBEING & SAFEGUARDING

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!



GET OUT AND ABOUT
If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL
When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX
Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE
Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES
Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY
As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME
Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT
Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND
Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK
Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS
When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY
Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert
Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.

DEVICE BOX

The National College

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

[@natonsafety](https://twitter.com/natonsafety) [/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety) [@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety) [@national_online_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.01.2023

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pupil in Epsom Panto



One of our pupils' was performing in a local pantomime. Amelia's dance school was in the Epsom pantomime at the Epsom Playhouse and here is a photo of her dressed in her munchkin costume. Well done to her and congratulations to all the cast in what was a wonderful show.

Struggling to stay warm this winter?

Come and join us for Warm Wednesdays

10am - 3:30pm Hot drinks & stay cosy
12 noon - 1:30pm Hot soup and roll
3:30 - 6pm Family after-school club with games, kid's entertainment & evening meal
 Plus! One-stop advice café every week. See over for details...

all completely. **FREE**

- Simply drop in, no booking required
- Wednesdays from 1st November to 13th March
- Epsom Methodist Church, Ashley Road, KT18 5AQ

Reminder for Parents with Year 2 Children

The closing date for Reception and Junior applications for September 2024 entry is **15th January 2024**.

SCC encourage online applications via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>, however parents can also request a paper application form or seek impartial help in completing an application via the Surrey Schools & Childcare Service (0300 200 1004, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm). Full information is available on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions¹⁶

Proposed Admission Arrangement Consultation for St Martin's

Both the Infant and the Junior Schools at St Martin's Epsom are consulting on their admission arrangements. Please click here¹⁷ to visit the consultation pages for the Infant and Juniors Schools for full details. The consultations will run until 3pm on 26 January 2024.

¹⁶<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions>

¹⁷<https://www.stmartinsepsom.school/page/?title=Consultation+on+Proposed+Admissions+Arrangements&pid=103>

Bourne Hall Museum Kids Club bringing history alive



Saturday 13 January 1pm to 2.30pm

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to travel back two thousand years in time, to when the whole known world was ruled by the mighty Roman Empire?

Have you ever wondered how their food tasted, the feel of wearing their clothes, what their language sounded like, and the look—and smell! of their buildings?

A visit from the Butser IX Legion will bring the Roman world alive for you. Find out what a Roman schoolchild had to learn, try on Roman armour, and if you are tough enough, undergo Roman army training: all orders in Latin – we will teach you!.

Cost £5 per child per session . Further information is available from David Brooks, Bourne Hall Museum, Spring Street, Ewell. Surrey, KT17 1UF. Tel 0208 394 1734, Email dbrooks@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Epsom Library
Digital Skills Session
Wednesday, 10th January, 10am-
Please book a 20 minute 1-to-1 session by contacting a member of Epsom or Ewell Library staff

Email: epsom.library@surreycc.gov.uk
Phone: 03456 009 009 (option 6)

We Can Help With:

- Email
- Searching safely
- Borrow Back
- E-Audiobooks
- E-Books
- NHS App
- Learn My Way
- Where to Learn More
- And much more!

BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON

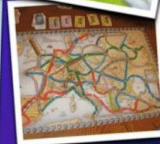
Saturday 13 January
2-5pm in Ewell Hall



All
Ages
Welcome

St Mary's Church plays board games!

*Come and join us 2-5pm in Ewell Hall.
Games of luck and skill, familiar games,
some new and unusual games, suitable
for young and old. Free tea & cake will be
served. No need to book – just turn up!*



St Mary's Ewell
www.stmarysewell.com

EWELL COMMUNITY HUB

COME ALONG AND JOIN US IN OUR LOCAL
FRIENDLY WARM FRIDAY HUB IN EWELL
VILLAGE.



St Mary's Ewell
www.stmarysewell.com



**ABBEEFIELD
Southern Oaks**

Free lunch, tea and coffee, companionship, free advice on budgeting, benefits, signposting for health needs, well-being, housing, book swap and lots more! ... in partnership with Abbeyfield Southern Oaks, St Mary's Church, Ewell & Epsom Rotary Club, Age Concern, Epsom Foodbank, EEBC, Good Company, CAB and others!

Drop in Times – No appointment necessary

Fridays 5, 12 and 19 January 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

Venue: Ewell Hall (7 London Rd, Ewell, KT17 2AY)

Contact: Jo Taylor 020 8394 0050

St. Mary's Parish Office 020 8393 2643

EPSOM & EWELL FOODBANK

Our local foodbank hopes to support around 550 households who find this time of year particularly difficult. Can you help with a donation? You can give via their website or directly into their bank account CAF Bank - Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, sort code 405240, account number 00034980.

Urgently needed: instant coffee, custard, instant mash, toilet rolls, mayonnaise, longline sponge puddings, ladies deodorant, shaving foam and dog food.

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked: Weetabix and cat food.

You can donate at St Mary's Church Ewell, Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose Epsom and Banstead, Asda Burgh Heath and Tesco Leatherhead, or directly to Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, (Behind West Ewell Primary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG. Open Monday to Friday 9am - 2pm excluding Bank Holidays.

You can sign up to the Foodbank newsletter on their website at www.epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk.

*** Please make sure all donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol ***