



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I would like to start this newsletter with a huge thank you to Roger and Rosaleen Brown for donating the new cross that has recently been installed at the front of the school.

We were hoping to fix our wooden cross that broke during the summer holidays, but unfortunately that was not possible so Mr and Mrs Brown arranged for CV37 Welding to make our new cross.



WEAR SPOTS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED



We traditionally raise money for Children in Need by wearing spots.

On Friday 18th November, children will be able to come to school dressed in their own clothes for a minimum donation of £1 made payable via Parent Pay. It would be great if part of the clothing worn had spots. Children who do PE still need to wear appropriate sports clothing..



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REMEMBRANCE

This week our assemblies have focused on Remembrance. The children have been learning about the tradition of wearing the poppy and the reason why we remember.



At our school Remembrance Service today staff and children observed a two minute silence.

On Wednesday, Oak class made their annual visit to the church to lay their wreath at the memorial and then have a short period of reflection. Their behaviour, as always, was outstanding.



Thank you to everyone who has purchased Royal British Legion merchandise through the school. We will let you know the final total in the near future.

11th November 2022

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK and ODD SOCKS DAY

Next week the children will be participating in Anti-Bullying Week. This year the theme is Reach Out and children will be completing work in their PSHE lesson linked to this. They will revisit what bullying is and consider how they can reach out to offer support to their peers.

Odd Socks day forms part of Anti-Bullying Week and takes place on Monday. We are encouraging everyone to get involved again this year and to wear odd socks to school on that day to show our commitment to Anti-Bullying at Wootton. There is no cost involved.



SCAN ME

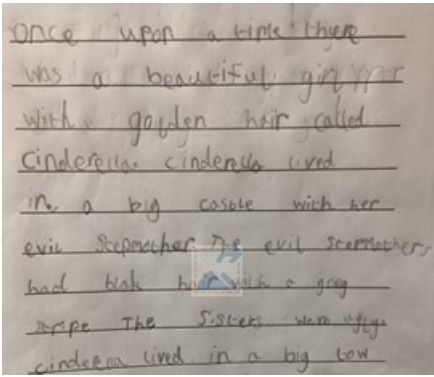




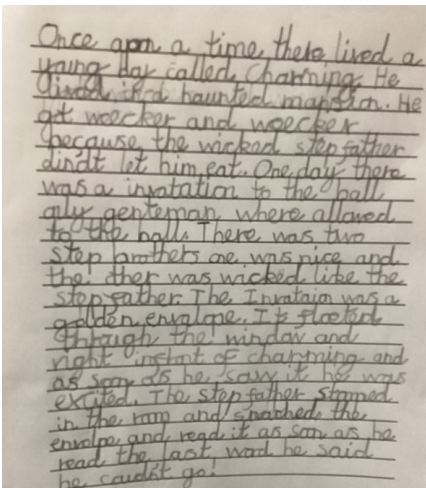
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NEWS FROM WILLOW

The children in Willow have been working very hard on improving their writing skills this term and the progress and work completed has been outstanding. They have written some wonderful pieces retelling the story of Cinderella.



Year 1 writing



Year 2

STARS OF THE WEEK

Friday 4th November

Theme: Writing

Well done to: Freddie, Ann-Marie, Tia, Ayra, Sophie, Alana, Evan, Oliver and Henry

Friday 11th November

Theme: Helpfulness

Congratulations to: Spencer, Arnon, Emme, Jack, olivia and Sycamore class.

In celebration assembly today we congratulated Elliot in Year 6 who became our first millionaire reader of the year.

PLAY TIMES

The teachers have been working with some of the Year 6 play leaders to think of how to improve play times. We have decided to introduce Play Zones. During each play time the outdoor area will be divided into six zones. Each zone will have a designated activity that children can complete.

Here are some of the activities are:

Skipping, Dance, Drawing, Reading, Ball Games, Circus Skills, Hoops, Skittles, Racket and Ball Games, Traditional Games Eg. Elastic/ Cat's Cradle, Parachute Games, Role-Play (dressing up), Lego and Chalks.

In addition the outdoor gym and walking track will be available to use in each session



Children will be able to select which zone they play in as long as the maximum number does not exceed 10. They will be free to move between zones during the play times.

We have been trialing the new system this week and the response so far has been very positive.

FOWS FIREWORK BAKE OFF

COMPETITION

A huge thank you to all the children and parents who took part in our recent bake-off competition and to everyone who bought cakes. £50 was raised.

We were so impressed with the ingenious decorations that we decided everyone who entered should get a small prize. Overall winners were Oscar and Bethany.

We are very grateful to FOWS who have paid for the coach transport for all the visits that have taken place this term. They have also purchased some new reading scheme books for Oak class.

SNACKS AND PACKED LUNCHES

As a school we are promoting healthy eating. We would be grateful if chocolate and sweets are not included in the packed lunches brought to school. We have children with nut allergies so please do not send in any products with nuts in.



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CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

One of the school's annual traditions is to decorate the school Christmas tree with home made decorations. This year we are encouraging everyone to get involved and make a decoration from everyday materials found in the home: newspaper, paper plates, lolly sticks, wool etc. Please bring your decoration into school by Thursday 1st December. There will be prizes for each entry. Below are some of those created last year.



OPEN AFTERNOON

Yesterday, we held our second Open Afternoon for prospective parents. A huge well done to the children from Sycamore class who did another wonderful job as school guides. They really impressed the visitors with their enthusiasm and knowledge.

If you know of anyone who has a child starting school in September 2023 please ask them to contact the school office to arrange a time to visit.



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EARLES CHRISTMAS WINDOW COLOURING COMPETITION

Earles are keen for the children at Wootton to get involved in their colouring competition. Each child has brought home a sheet to colour and return to school. Entries need to be returned by 30th November.

ONLINE SAFETY

Our Internet safety Guide for this newsletter looks at Google Chrome Books. A reminder that internetmatters.org is a useful web site offering advice to parents about child friendly games.



WINTER COATS

Could I politely ask all parents to ensure their child wears a coat to school. We go outside for morning break and lunch and there have been a number of children who have had to borrow from our school stock as they have forgotten their own coat.

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance target is 96% and last week it was pleasing to exceed this, with 96.2% Oak class were the winners of our Attendance Cup with 98.1%

A reminder that we are unable to authorise requests for leave of absence for a family holiday.

DATES for the next half-term

- 14/11/22—Odd Socks Day and Anti-bullying Week
- 15/11/22—Sycamore Class visit to Oak Room, Wootton Hall
- 17/11/22—Dog's Trust assembly and KS 2 workshop
- 18/11/22—Children in Need. Wear Spots / Non-Uniform Day
- 18/11/22—Vision Testing
- 25/11/22—Flu vaccination
- 25/11/22—Chestnut Class Assembly at 2.40pm
- 1/12/22—Governors Meeting
- 2/12/22—FOWS Christmas Break the Rules
- 6/12/22—KS 1 Christmas Play at 2.30pm
- 7/12/22—KS 1 Christmas Play at 2.30pm
- 9/12/22—KS 1 visit to Birmingham Rep to see Nativity! The Musical.
- 13/12/22—Oak class visit to Hatton
- 14/12/22—Celebration assembly at 2.40pm
- 15/12/22—Christmas Service at St Peter's Church led by Oak and Willow. Christmas Lunch
- 16/12/22—FOWS Afternoon Tea with Santa.
- End of term
- 4/01/23—Children return to school



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GOOGLE CHROMEBOOK

Google Chromebooks were first introduced in 2011 as a budget-friendly alternative to Windows laptops. They have a cloud-based desktop operating system created by Google that performs internet-based tasks simply and quickly. Although primarily optimised for Google apps – such as Gmail and Google Drive – newer devices also support Android apps and offer a range of parental controls via the Google Family Link tool. Nonetheless, whilst these tools are comprehensive, there are some limitations which means there are a number of risks trusted adults should be aware of.

SETTING UP

SET UP FAMILY LINK

To do this, first install the "Google Family Link" app onto your smartphone to set up an account for your child. If you're setting up a new account, it's important you follow the setup process and sign in with your parent account, as this has access to special privileges. Once this is done, you can add your child's account to the Chromebook.

DISABLE GUEST MODE

If "Guest mode" or the ability to add new users is available, your child may be able to bypass the Chromebook's parental controls. To disable this, sign into the Chromebook with your parent account, head to "Settings > Manage other people" and turn on "Restrict sign-in to the following users" – from there, you'll be able to turn off the "guest browsing" feature.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

In your child's account, head to "Settings > People > Parental controls set up" to begin the process. This will confirm the child's account you want to enable parental controls for and will list the devices that can be protected. You'll then be asked to enter the email and password, before being prompted to ask your child to confirm the supervision via their password.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE, ALL THE TIME

As "internet-first" devices, Google Chromebooks are reliant on a Wi-Fi connection, with only limited support for offline tasks. This means your child has access to the internet at all times, with an enduring risk of being exposed to online harm, particularly as Family Link is only able to block most inappropriate content. Even if your child isn't searching for inappropriate websites and information, there's always the chance that they might see something that could upset them.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like most technology, laptops are addictive in nature, and you might find your child spending too long staring at their Chromebook – particularly given its support for Android apps, such as games and social media platforms. This could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks.

BEWARE OF MALWARE

Although Google's Chrome OS features a number of built-in security measures, that doesn't fully eliminate the risk of malware, which can be downloaded onto the machine via phishing emails or from downloading malware-laced content. This should be a particular concern if your child is taking their laptop into school, as the malware could find itself entering the school's network and infecting other pupils' laptops.

Advice for Parents & Carers

There are a number of safety features that you can enable to keep your child safe while using Google Chromebook:

- 1 Disable guest mode and control who can sign into your child's Chromebook
- 2 Restrict or block access to apps from the Chrome Web Store and the Google Play Store
- 3 Disable Incognito Mode so you can always track what sites your child has been on.
- 4 Manage the websites your children can visit on Chrome
- 5 Limit your child's ability to grant permissions to websites
- 6 Check Family Link to ensure the Chrome browser default is set to block sexually explicit and violent sites from being shown to children
- 7 Set bedtimes, screen-time limits, and lock devices when not in use

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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