



Headteacher's Message

Happy New Year to you all.

This academic year we are launching a new project with six schools in the locality. Today we are sending home a questionnaire which we hope will help us understand what needs to be developed next within our school. All staff, children, governors and parents are being asked similar questions.

We are using a tool called the Index to Inclusion and hope that the questionnaire, which looks at every aspect of school life, will really generate questions for us to use to develop our school improvement plan. It is a collaborative self-review that assumes that schools have much of the knowledge they need to develop their settings. The Index is designed to refine knowledge and encourage its further development.

Thank you very much for your support in answering this long questionnaire. Please can we have all responses back by as soon as possible but Friday 20th January at the latest. If you wish to discuss any aspects or concerns, please put your name on the form and we will get in touch with you.

I look forward to sharing the outcomes and the challenges that the new toolkit has highlighted with you.

Have a nice weekend
Mrs Cawson, Headteacher

Year One Milestones Trip

This week we have sent a letter home in book bags regarding our upcoming trip to Milestones. If your child would like a school provided packed lunch, please ensure that the form is returned to school before 16th January. Thank you.

IMPORTANT!

Year 2 Parents

We would like to remind you that we are an Infant School and our Year 2 parents will need to apply for a place at a Junior School for September 2017.

If you pay your council tax to Surrey County Council, please go to:
www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions to apply on-line.

If you pay your council tax to Hampshire County Council please go to:
www.hants.gov.uk/admissions, even if you are applying for a Surrey school.

You will need to do this **before 15th January 2017.**

Year One Winter Day

On **12th January** children in Year One will be celebrating Winter Days. Therefore, we would ask parents to send their child into school dressed in winter colours on this day. These could be shades of blue, grey or white, or any colour that you believe represents winter. Your child may even want to wear something sparkly to represent the frost!

This is a non-school uniform day for Year One children who would like to dress in winter colours.

School Lunches

Week commencing **9th January** we will be on **Week 1** of the dinner menu.

Please note that there is a permanent menu change to Week 3. The green option will now be vegetable ravioli with tomato sauce.

Used Uniform Request

We would be grateful for any uniform donations for our PTA to sell at future events. Book bags, PE bags, sweatshirts, cardigans and PE kits would be gratefully received. Even if they are looking a little worn, we can use them as spares. Please pop them into the school office. Thank you in advance.

Reminders for the Spring Term

Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school with comfortable fitting trainers or plimsolls. Navy tracksuit bottoms are also permitted for the winter period.



DBS Checked Volunteers

If you have a DBS check with the school please can you ensure that you have signed in within the last 3 months to keep your check valid, if you have not already done so.

If you do not sign in every term then unfortunately your DBS check will become invalid and we will need to redo it if you would like to help out in the future. Thank you.

Misplaced your Newsletter?

Did you know that we post a copy of our newsletter on our website?

www.walsh-memorial.surrey.sch.uk

Attendance

We would like to remind parents about the importance of calling the school before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent from school.

If you do not call in or give a valid reason why your child is absent then we may have to record the absence as unauthorised.

PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting will be on 12th January at 7.30pm in the school staff room.

If you would like to come along and join us, please ring the buzzer on the staff entrance and someone will come and let you in.

It would be lovely to see some old and new faces as we will start planning for the Spring and Summer terms.

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time last term to help to make our events so successful. We could not have done it without you.

Thank You!

Public Health England Epidemiology Programme

Our Community Dentist was due to come into school this week to look at the teeth of groups of five year old children attending mainstream schools. The objective of the programme is to help them to plan for better dental services in the future.

There will be no treatment provided, it will simply be a quick and painless examination of the child's teeth. All children will still need to visit their own dentist regularly.

In order to do these they have given us a random selection of names of children that they would like to be included in the study and forms were sent home with these children. Unfortunately we did not have all the forms back so we have had to postpone the visit. We will send another form home in the book bags of children that were selected next week, if you receive one please could you return it to the school office by return, even if you do not give your consent for your child to take part in the study. Thank you.

Milk Bottle Tops

We would be grateful for donations of milk bottle tops which will be donated to a charity. All tops must be 'milk only' in any colour but they must not include foil inserts or stickers. They will be sent onto a company who makes them into welly boots and sells them to make money for Air Ambulances.

Please ask your child to leave the bottle tops in the basket next to the staff entrance. Thank you for your support.

Ready to Learn Everyday (Part Two)

In our last newsletter we talked about the benefits of giving praise to your children to encourage them to exhibit the correct behaviour and attitude.

This week we will be going into more detail about rewarding your children and how this can help them in their learning and development.

- ◆ The reward of parental attention and approval can mean far more to a child than material goods—an enthusiastic ‘well done’ and a hug have a very quick brightening effect on a youngster’s mood.
- ◆ Like adults, children have their stresses and worries. Saying ‘well done’ in passing is not the same as making a point of focusing on them for a few seconds and making sure they really understand how you have been impressed with their achievements. Make sure your child knows their efforts have been appreciated—even for small things. Busy adults often forget how hard simple things can be when you are learning. No matter how small the task and how clumsily the early efforts might appear, from tying shoe-laces to reading basic phrases for the first time or just showing kindness to someone, give your child plenty of praise for their efforts.
- ◆ It is really important to praise the effort more than the achievement. The skill or behaviour does not have to be perfect, especially if a child has worked really hard at something. Say what it is you liked about your child’s attitude rather than just the level of skill they displayed. Make sure your child knows that it is not perfection that pleases you but the way they have gone about tackling something that has impressed you.
- ◆ Again, be enthusiastic. We often think that children just ‘know’ we are proud of them and do not need to be told. You may be surprised at how your words really will have an effect on a child or adolescent’s sense of achievement and motivation, especially if you focus on their hard work and effort.
- ◆ As busy people we can often get wrapped up in our own duties and worries. Take a little time to notice and remark on those little things that children do to help themselves and others.



Parental Guidance

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
	Spring Term 1	
12th January	PTA Meeting in the school staff room	7.30pm
15th January	Deadline for Junior School applications for all Year 2 children	
1st February	Year One Trip to the Milestones Museum	9.15am-3.00pm
7th February	Maths Workshop (no pre-school children please)	9.00am-10.00am
10th February	Ruby Class Cake Sale	3.-00pm
10th February	Wear Red for British Red Cross Day and the Coop (more details to follow)	
10th February	Last day of Half Term	3.00pm
	Spring Term 2	
20th February	Inset Day—school closed to children	
21st February	Return to school	8.45am
8th March	World Book Day—children are welcome to dress up as book characters (more details to follow)	
9th March	Late Parent's Evening (more details to follow)	
20th March	Early Parent's Evening (more details to follow)	
24th March	Mothering Sunday Assembly (more details to follow)	9.00am-10.00am
30th March	Diamond Class Cake Sale	3.00pm
31st March	Last day of term	1.15pm finish
	Summer Term	
18th April	Start of Summer Term	8.45am

2016/2017 Inset Days (School closed to children)

20th February 2017

5th June 2017

21st July 2017