



Headteacher's Message

Thank you very much to everyone who has completed and returned their Index to Inclusion questionnaire. If you have not yet returned your questionnaire and you would like us to consider your views, please return the form on Monday 23rd January.

If there are any aspects of schooling that you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher in the first instance.

They have made very interesting reading and over the forthcoming weeks, we will start to share some of our findings from the Index to Inclusion questionnaire with you, which we hope you will find useful and informative.

Have a nice weekend
Mrs Cawson, Headteacher

Maths Open Morning

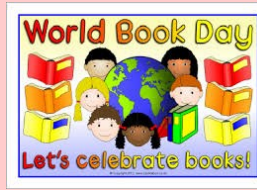
On **Tuesday 7th February**, all parents are invited to a Maths Open Morning at 9.05am. The session will last approximately one hour and it will be an opportunity for you to see a Maths lesson being taught in your child's class.

As this will be a working lesson we are unable to admit pre-school children to this session.

If you would like to attend, please wait in the school hall after dropping your child off and we will call you when your child's class is ready.

Play Dough Club

Just to remind Year One parents that there is no Play Dough Club next Thursday (26th January). The last session is on 2nd February.



World Book Day

On **Thursday 2nd March** Usborne Books will be coming into school and children will be able to buy books with any money they have saved in the book saving scheme.

If your child would like to save some money in the book saving scheme, please put it in an envelope with their name, class, and the amount on and ask them to hand it in to the school office.

On this day children are welcome to come to school dressed up as their favourite book character.

Take a look at www.bookaid.org/worldbookday for some ideas. This is a non-school uniform day for children that would like to dress up.

School Lunches

Week commencing **23rd January** we will be on **Week 3** of the dinner menu.

If your child brings a packed lunch to school please ensure that it is a healthy, balanced lunch and it does not contain any nuts, sweets, chocolate (including Nutella) or fruit juice.

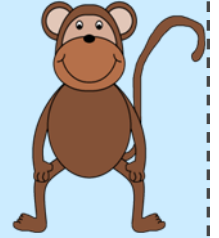
Please can you let Mrs Tinkler in the school office know, as soon as possible, if there are any changes to your child's special diet request form since last term.

Weekly Newsletter



Walsh Memorial Infant School PTA presents

The Monkey Puzzle



A Pantomime written by Enid Hughes and performed by The Mytchett Playmakers - including Parents and past pupils! All profits will support the school.

Special Price tickets for

Thursday 26th January 2017

From 7pm

At the Mytchett Centre, GU16 6AA

Please pick up a copy of the ticket order form at the office if you would like to attend. Tickets need to be ordered by Monday 23rd January.



Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. If you have any that you would like to donate to the school, please ask your child to hand them in at the office.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Who is collecting your child?

Hanging up outside each class room there is a 'going home book' where parents can write in the name of a person their child is going home with that afternoon.

If you have an arrangement with another parent, family member or friend who you are happy to collect your child at anytime (if you are not there), please write their name in the *back* of the going home book. That way you do not need to call the school to notify us of the change of arrangements.

Midday Supervisor Role

We have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor. The hours are 11.55am-1.10pm, Monday to Friday. This is a permanent role.

If you are interested please ask for an application form at the school office.

Year One Milestones Trip

We have recently sent a letter home to Year One parents about our upcoming trip to Milestones on Wednesday 1st February. If you have not returned the permission form, please can you do so before Wednesday 25th January.

Unfortunately it is now too late to order a school packed lunch, so please can you send your child in with a home packed lunch on this day, if you have not already returned your permission slip for the trip.

Pupil Premium

Please let Mrs Tinkler know in the school office if there are any changes to your eligibility criteria for pupil premium for those that currently qualify.

Why is reading so important?

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those that do not, but they also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

In fact, there is evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

What difference could I make as a parent?

The short answer is: a lot! Parents are by far the most important educators in a child's life and it is never too young for a child to start, even if you are reading with your child for a few minutes a day.

Before they are born, babies learn to recognise their parent's voices. Reading to your baby from the time they are born gives them the comfort of your voice and increases their exposure to language.

Building vocabulary and understanding

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out print. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a rich and wide vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read. It is important for them to understand how stories work as well. Even if your child does not understand every word, they will hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard.

As children start to learn to read at school, you can play an important role in helping to keep them interested in books, finding out what interests them and helping them to find books that will be engaging and fun for them. Give time to helping them to practise reading the books they bring home from school.



Parental Guidance

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
	Spring Term 1	
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 Co-op (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
24th February	PTA Movie Night (more details to follow)	5.30pm-7.00pm
2nd March	World Book Day—children are welcome to dress up as book characters	
9th March	Late Parent's Evening (more details to follow)	
20th March	Early Parent's Evening (more details to follow)	
23rd March	Year Two Trip to Legoland— late return to school	9.15am-4.00pm
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 1	
18th April	Start of Summer Term	8.45am
	Summer Term 2	
17th July	Year Two Leavers Assembly (more details to follow)	1.30pm-2.30pm

2016/2017 Inset Days (School closed to children)

20th February 2017

5th June 2017

21st July 2017