



Please note that school finishes today at 3.00pm and children return to school on **Tuesday 31st October** at 8.45am as we have an Inset Day on Monday 30th October.

Headteacher's Message

Thank you very much to all the staff who put on Storytime for our Year R children last Friday, we had some lovely feedback and it is definitely something we would like to do again in the future.

A big thank you to all the parents who have encouraged their child to come into school by themselves over the past two weeks.

Becoming independent and confident is a very important step in a child's developmental progress. We appreciate that there are often letters or homework that need to be handed in, but you can always remind your child to hand them in as you kiss them goodbye or put the items in their hand and ask them to hand them in. More often than not the items will find their way to the office!

We hope that this good work will continue after the holiday and we will continue to give the children plenty of praise when they come in by themselves.

Have a nice half term break.
Mrs Cawson, Headteacher

Class Reps

We are delighted to announce our Class Reps for the upcoming year:

Silver: Mrs Boxall (mother of Ruby)

Gold: Mrs Barbet (mother of Madaline)

Diamond: Mrs Lamont (mother of Nia)

Ruby: Mrs Whitelaw (mother of Olivia)

Sapphire: Mrs Dillon (mother of Florence)

Emerald: Mrs Munro (mother of Jamie) and Mrs Farrell (mother of Liam)

Thank you very much to these parents for volunteering.

Newsletter

Our next edition will be issued on **3rd November**. Copies of our newsletter can be found on our website: www.walsh-memorial.surrey.sch.uk or in the school reception area.

Half Term Reading Challenge

Our half term reading challenge this year is for you to take a picture of your child reading in an unusual place over the half term break. Please send it into school on the first day back and there will be prizes for the best ones.

Recorders—Year Two

Year Two recorder lessons will start immediately after the half term break. If your child is bringing a recorder from home, please can you ensure that it is clearly labelled and send it in to school on the first day back. Thank you.

Open Morning—Save the Date!

On Tuesday 21st November we will be having an English Open Morning at school from 9-10am. This will take place in your child's classroom so unfortunately we are unable to accommodate pre-school children, as it is a learning lesson.

P.E. Kits

P.E. kits will be sent home today ready to be washed over the holidays. Please could you ensure that your child comes to school with their clean, named P.E. kit on the first day back after the holiday as P.E. lessons commence straight away.

Please also ensure that your child's P.E. kit contains comfortably fitting plimsolls or trainers as P.E. will continue to take place outside during milder weather.

School Lunches

Week commencing 30th October we will be on **Week 1** of the new dinner menu.

Parent Interviews

On Monday 6th November (early slots) and on Wednesday 15th November (evening slots) you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their progress.

Sign up sheets will be put out in the playground on Tuesday 31st October for you to make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

If you are not dropping your child off at school that morning and you would like to make an appointment, please call the school after 10am on 31st October on 01252 321426 or come to the office where the sign up sheets will be available.

Year One Autumn Day

On **Thursday 2nd November**, our Year One children will be celebrating Autumn Day. On this day they are welcome to come into school dressed in coloured clothes that they believe best represent autumn, such as reds, oranges and browns.

No Halloween costumes please and children should wear clothes that are suitable for a normal school day. If your child does not want to wear autumnal clothing, please could they wear their normal school uniform. Thank you.

Walsh Junior Breakfast Club

After October half term Breakfast Club will be open from 7.30am until 21st December. This is a trial to see how popular the earlier start will be for parents. The cost will remain at £3.50.

Scooters and Bikes

We do understand how tempting it is to scoot or cycle across our playground—we really do!

However, because we care very much about the safety of everyone that uses our playground we would ask if you could all help by ensuring that all scooters and bicycles are dismantled and pushed rather than ridden across our playground before and after school.

Please could parents of juniors, infants and younger siblings remind their children and help us to enforce it, so that it is fair and safe for all!

Please also ensure that your children do not scoot near the staff cars as we have had a number of cars scraped at scooter height recently.

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.

The bottle tops can be left inside school next to the staff entrance. Thank you for your support.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Chelsea Football Club (External provider)

Fee paying club—club full. Block 2 starts after half term and runs on 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th November and 4th January.

C&S Multi Sports (External Provider)

Fee paying club with team games and sports. Spaces are available and forms can be found in reception. Every week from Wednesday from until Wednesday 29th November from 3-4pm.

Year One Sports Club (free by year group invitation)

Mrs Brett's Sports Club will start up for Year Two after half term on Thursdays from 3-4pm from

Puzzle Club (free by class invitation)

Emerald Class Puzzle Club will start up after half term. A letter will be sent home to children in Emerald Class when we return to school.

This club is on class rotation for Year One and Two. After Christmas it will be the turn of Diamond Class—a letter will be sent home nearer the time.

Choir Club

Choir Club will start up for Year One and Year Two on Tuesday 7th November and will run up to and including 5th December from 3.00-3.45pm.

If you have returned your child's form you will automatically be allocated a place, however, please let us know if your child no longer wishes to attend.

Year One Trip to the Fast Museum

A trip to the Fast Museum has been booked for 9th November. A letter has been sent home to parents.

We do need more parent helpers for Ruby Class (the afternoon session), so if you are able to help and you have had a DBS check done with the school please let Mrs Thorn know. Thank you.

Harvest Festival Collection

We received some further donations after announcing our collection figure for Christian Aid and our revised figure is £236.01. Thank you very much for all your generous donations.

Learning to Spell—Part 2

Spelling is active not passive

Copying words supplied by an adult may improve hand-eye co-ordination but does not foster good spelling strategies. Children need to feel safe to take risks with their spellings. You can help by:

- Remembering that inventive spelling is a normal phase in a child's development
- Encouraging children to have a go

Spelling is a visual skill

Children need to help to get into the habit of 'looking with intent' and observing skills. You can help by:

- Pointing out the print that is all around you
- Taking an interest in words and phrases as you read together, commenting on similarities and difference, word families, prefixes and suffixes (e.g. unhappy, helpless)
- Encouraging children to take a mental photo of a word, noting its shape and length, and to hold the image in their mind
- Suggesting the write down a word to see if it looks right,

The visual memory can be trained

You can help by:

- Encouraging children to be 'proof-readers' and look for misspellings when they have finished writing
- Looking together at words that the child has not nearly right and learning the correct pattern. The look-say-cover-write– check routine usually works well:
 1. Look at the word and say it
 2. Cover the word or fold the paper back
 3. Write the word from memory
 4. Uncover the word and see if you are right
 5. If incorrect, repeat the process

Motor skills can support spelling

A fast flowing joined-up hand is also an important aid to good spelling. You can help by:

- Practising common English letter strings (e.g. ing, tion, all) which will help to 'get them into the hand' automatically.

ing, ing, ing tion, tion, tion

A general purpose for writing improves spelling

Children need to be told that correct spelling is necessary so that other people will be able to read what they have written, You can help by:

- Encouraging them to write to people who will want to know their news
- Building up their image of themselves as spellers by praising near misses
- Encouraging them to use dictionaries and spell-checkers
- Encouraging them to take pride in what they do by showing pleasure in their achievements.

Supporting your child at home



Walsh Memorial Infant School Christmas Shopping Evening

Thursday 16th November from 6.30-8.30pm

We will have on offer a wide variety of stalls including:

- Christmas decorations*
 - Jewellery stores*
 - Books*
 - Stocking fillers*
 - Beauty products and treatments*
 - Crafts, cards and wrapping paper*
- Plus many, many more!*

Come and join the fun! Everyone is welcome - bring family, friends and neighbours. Get ahead of the game and kick-start your Christmas Shopping!

There will be a craft table to keep children entertained so parents can shop in peace!

If you are interested in hosting a table please email

walshinfantspta@gmail.com



Walsh Memorial C of E Infant School,
Ash Street, Ash. GU12 6LT



Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
	Autumn Term 2	
30th October	INSET Day—School closed to children	
31st October	First day of Autumn Term 2	
31st October	Flu Vaccinations (for children with signed consent forms)	
2nd November	Year One Autumn Day	
2nd November	PTA Meeting (school staff room) - all welcome	7.30pm
3rd November	Year Two Cake Sale	3.00pm
6th November	Parent Interviews—Early slots	
9th November	Year One trip to the Fast Museum	
15th November	Parent Interviews—Late slots	
16th November	PTA Christmas Shopping Evening	
21st November	English Open Morning (more information to follow, all year groups)	9-10am
21st November	Visiting Theatre in school (children only)	
5th December	Christmas Craft Club (more details to follow)	3pm
7th December	PTA Christmas Movie Night (more details to follow)	5pm
11th December	Christmas Production Dress Rehearsal (Grandparents only—more information to follow)	9.15am
12th December	Christmas Production for parents with pre-school children (more information will follow)	9.15am
13th December	Christmas Production—adults only (more information will follow)	9.15am
14th December	Christmas Production followed by Raffle—adults only (more information will follow)	1.30pm
18th December	Christmas Church Service (all year groups). More information to follow	2.00pm-3.00pm
20th December	School Christmas Dinner (details to follow)	
23rd January	Maths Open Morning (more information to follow, all year groups)	9-10am
24th April	Other Curriculum Subject Open Morning ((more information to follow, all year groups)	9-10am

2017/2018 Inset Days (School closed to children)

30/10/2017, 04/06/2018, 23/07/2018

One further date to be determined.