



Headteacher's Message

It is with great sadness that I must inform you that Mrs Thorpe will be leaving our school on Friday 7th December. Mrs Thorpe has worked at our school for over 13 years in many roles and will be greatly missed. We wish her well in her new role of Medical Secretary and know that she will remain a friend of the school as part of our Governing Body.

The children have been working really hard this week, practising for the Christmas performance of 'It's a Baby!' If you have not yet requested tickets, please contact the school office as soon as possible, by calling on 01252 321426 or by emailing info@walsh-memorial.surrey.sch.uk. Please note that we only have tickets left for Tuesday's performance now.

Thank you to everyone who agreed to have boards up for one of our sponsors, Surrey and Hants. They should be delivered shortly.

Finally, thank you to the team of parents who ran our book fair. We were able to buy a number of lovely books with the commission we earned and the children are enjoying these books.

I hope the children enjoy Movie Night!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Cawson, Headteacher

Dogs

Please note that from January, dogs will not be permitted in the Junior School playground. Therefore if you bring your dog on the school run you will not be able to walk through their playground. Just to remind you that dogs are not permitted on our playground at any time.

Attendance Matters

Please remember to call in before 9.30am on the first day that your child is going to be absent from school. If you do not call in, the absence may be recorded as unauthorised. You do not need to call again on subsequent days, unless the illness spans a weekend.

If your child has a sickness/diarrhoea bug, they will need to stay off school until they have been completely clear for 48 hours, even if they seem well. This measure is put in place to prevent the infection spreading.

School Lunches

Week commencing 3 December we will be on **Week 3** of the new dinner menu.

Advent Books

We will be sending home Advent Books today for the children to complete and enjoy in the build up to the Christmas period.

We hope the children enjoy using them.

Mufti Day for Christmas Hampers



On **Friday 7th December**, children are welcome to come into school dressed in casual clothes – this is called Mufti Day.

In exchange, we would ask that everyone in school makes a donation towards our Christmas Hampers, which are raffled off at the end of our last Christmas performance on 13th December.

Suitable donations might be wine, chocolates, Christmas crackers, mince pies, sweets, biscuits or chutneys.

Please ask your child to take their donation to the school hall on 7th December and a member of our PTA will give them a sticker.

Thank you very much for your support.

Raffle Tickets

We have recently sent home raffle tickets for families to purchase.

The prizes will be a number of luxury Christmas hampers which will be put together by the PTA.

Raffle tickets need to be returned to school by **Friday 7th December** in order for the draw to take place at the end of the afternoon performance of 'It's a Baby!'.

Please return the tickets to the school office even if you do not wish to purchase any.

We need to raise £2,000 to pay for our new sound system which will be used for our school performances. We also plan to buy new costumes for our upcoming Christmas Performance of 'It's a Baby!', so the more raffle tickets we sell, the closer we will get to our target. Thank you for your support.

Movie Night Joining Instructions

Tonight it is our PTA Movie Night which starts at 5pm. If your child is joining us, please come to the school office at 5pm where you will be asked to sign your child in and let us know who will be collecting them.

Please note that if your child is under 5, they will need to be accompanied by an adult. It doesn't have to be a parent, you can nominate another parent to look after your child, if they are willing to do so.

Please could you send your child with a waterproof coat and, if possible, a small named torch as part of the evening will include a torch-lit treasure hunt.

If your child is attending Koosa first, please ensure that you notify Koosa that a member of our staff will be collecting your child from them. Please note that if your child is under 5 and attending Koosa, a nominated adult will still need to accompany them during Moving Night.

Collection will be at 6.30pm from the school office.

Christmas Craft Club

If your child is coming to Craft Club next week, please could they bring a named shoe box or similar sized box to school on the day of their club to put their creations in. The dates for each club are as follows:

Year R—Tuesday 4th December

Year One—Wednesday 5th December

Year Two—Thursday 6th December

Please wait at the main door at the front of the school at 4.15pm when you come to collect your child.

If you are helping out at one of the events, please come to reception and sign in at 2.45pm on the day your child attends.

Thank you!

Unfortunately Craft Club is full.

Christmas Cards

Our Christmas card post-boxes will be out on Monday 3rd December for children to post cards to their friends. There is one for each year group and they will be situated outside the classrooms.

Please ensure that each envelope has the child's full name on it (or the initial of surname) and the class.

If your child has written a card to all of the children in a class, please ask them to hand the cards to their Teaching Assistant rather than putting them in the post-box.

Church Service

On **Monday 17th December** we will be walking to St Peter's Church for a Christmas Service, leaving the school at approximately 1.30pm. If you are able to help with the walk, please let a member of the office staff know. Please note that you will not need to be DBS checked on this occasion as you will not be left alone with the children.

We would be very grateful for offers of help on the morning of 17th December to prepare Christingles. Please could you let the school office know if you are able to help. Thank you.

Save the Children

On **19th December**, children are welcome to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper or Christmas colours, in exchange for a small donation which will be sent to Save the Children.

Whilst it is not one of our nominated charities, it will be nice to dress up and get the children in the Christmas spirit after all their hard work on the Christmas performances and raise a little for charity at the same time. Participation is purely optional.

Letters to Santa

Just to let you know that Santa's Elves have now delivered the Post Box to school and children are welcome to use this to post their letters to Father Christmas and his helpers.

Please remember to include their full name, class and your address, as Santa will be sending his personalised responses to the children concerned.

Year Two Bake Sale

The Year Two Bake Sale is on **Monday 3rd December**. Please could Year Two parents bring in cakes for us to sell. Donations could include cup cakes, Chocolate Brownies, Rocky Road or anything that the children would like to buy! We always sell out, so all donations are gratefully received!

All proceeds go directly to the two classes for them to buy new games and puzzles for Golden Time and Wet Play.

Please can you bring your bakes in on the morning of 3rd and leave them by the staff entrance.

If you are able to help on the day please let the school office know.



Menu Change

Please note that there is a change to the menu on Thursday 20th December; we will be serving a beef burger with fries and a selection of puddings.

Please note that we will automatically order a meal for your child if your child has school meals and we obviously will take into account any special diets. If your child would normally have a packed lunch on this day and they would like a school dinner, please let the school office know. The normal menu will resume after Christmas.

Choir Club

Please note that Choir Club has now finished for this term and it will start up again in January. We will let you know the start date in due course.

Learning Zone

Please take a look at our Learning Zone on our website, where you will find links to interactive phonics and maths games online. You can access the page by going to our website, then clicking on the Learning tab, then the Learning Zone.

Please be aware of internet safety when using on-line websites.

We will be adding a new link shortly, which will cover information shared in our Parent Workshops.

RM EasiMaths Challenge

We will be continuing the challenge throughout December and we hope that many more children will use RM EasiMaths for 20 minutes every week.

Year R children have now been sent log on details for this learning programme..

This programme is very engaging and fun to use and it encourages even the most reluctant mathematician to have a go! It fully supports everything that your child is being taught at school and helps them to commit problem solving skills to their long term memory.

Using a ruler challenge!

We would like to set all children a challenge to draw a picture using straight lines only, with a ruler, and to send it into school before **Monday 3rd December**. Each of the winning entries will receive a small prize in our Celebration Assembly. If your child received their ruler in October it is a great opportunity for them to practice using it!

The picture could be anything that interests them and with the Christmas season around the corner, they may wish to draw something festive or they may wish to do a colorful pattern using straight lines.

We hope that this will encourage children to have a go at using a ruler and develop their confidence in using it.

Things to do at home!

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
Autumn Term 1		
30th November	PTA Movie Night	5.00pm-6.30pm
3rd December	Year Two Cake Sale	2.45pm
4th December	Craft Club (Year R)	3.00pm-4.15pm
5th December	Craft Club (Year One)	3.00pm-4.15pm
6th December	Craft Club (Year Two)	3.00pm-4.15pm
7th December	Mufti Day for Raffle Donations	
10th December	Dress Rehearsal of Christmas Performance for Grandparents only - this event is full.	9.15am
11th December	Christmas Performance for parents with pre-school children	9.15am
12th December	Christmas Performance—adults only—this event is full	9.15am
13th December	Christmas Performance—adults only with raffle draw—this event is full	1.30pm
17th December	Christingle makers needed!	9.00am
17th December	Christmas Church Service—please collect your child from St Peter's Church at 3pm.	1.30pm-3.00pm
19th December	School Christmas Dinner	
19th December	Wear a Christmas Jumper for Save the Children	
20th December	End of term	1.15pm finish
23rd December	Carol Service at St Peter's Church	3pm
24th December	Christingle and Nativity Service at St Peter's Church—children welcome to dress up as Angels, Kings or Shepherds	3pm
Spring Term 1		
7th January	Return to school	8.45am
15th January	Deadline for receipt of reception and Year 3 applications for September 2019.	
16th January	PTA Meeting—all welcome	7.30pm
1st April 2019	Year Two Trip to Legoland	4pm return

2018/2019 Inset Days (School closed to children)

Friday 4th January 2019

Monday 25th February

Monday 3rd June

Christmas Holidays 2018

Please note that we break up a day later than the Surrey published dates for the Christmas break. We break up on 20th, not 19th December, but this means that children do not come back to school until Monday 7th January.