

# Newsletter



Autumn Term 2025 - No.8 - Thursday 23rd October 2025

| <br><b>Upcoming Events</b> |   |
|---|---|
| 24th Oct  | Inset Day   |
| 27th - 31st Oct - Half Term SCL Holiday Club  |   |
| 3rd Nov   | Inset Day   |
| 7th Nov   | 9:00am - 10:00am<br>Chit-Chat, Tea and Cake<br>(All Welcome)  |
| 8th Nov   | Gates open at 5:30pm<br>Fireworks at WJS  |
| w/c 10th Nov  | Friendship Week   |
| 10th Nov  | Odd Sock Day  |
| 12th Nov  | 6:30pm - 7:30pm<br>Prospective Parent Session<br>(adults only)                                      |
| 13th Nov  | Bag2School Drop Off   |
| 13th Nov  | 7:15pm - 8:15pm<br>WISPA Committee Meeting  |
| w/c 17th Nov  | Road Safety Week  |
| 19th Nov  | 9:10am<br>Owl Class Assembly<br>(parents invited)   |
| 20th Nov  | 9:30am - 10:30am<br>Prospective Parent Session  |
| 21st Nov  | Time to Shine<br>(Non Uniform Road Safety Day)  |
| 21st Nov  | 2:40pm - 3:10pm<br>Open Session<br>(opportunity for parents to visit classrooms with their own chn) |
| 25th Nov  | Flu Immunisations   |
| 26th Nov  | WISPA Christmas Tree Decorating Competition<br>(details to follow)                                  |

Dear Parents,

How did we get to the **end of the first half term** already? It has been a long one (made up of almost eight weeks!) and we have certainly packed in so many exciting and valuable experiences. Classes have kept themselves very busy and the teachers have captured some of this week's learning highlights in each year group overleaf. With just four days this week we have also ended the half term with a flurry of celebrations including Diwali and Robin Class Assembly which were definitely super highlights!

It was such a pleasure to see so many of our Year 2 families at our **WJS Open Evening** on Wednesday evening which was another success. There was definitely an air of excitement and familiarity from our Year 2 children who have subsequently shared their excitement at the prospect of moving up to the juniors next September. As is now expected, our Year 5 tour guides expertly led prospective families around the site and shared their own experiences about what school life is like across Key Stage 2. In each of our learning spaces, equally enthusiastic junior pupils and staff welcomed visitors and shared our approach to teaching and learning across the curriculum. I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who joined us and for the exceptionally positive verbal and written feedback which of course, I always love to hear!

This week in terms of **governance**, on Tuesday morning our Finance and Personnel Committee met to review our delegated budgets at both schools, following this the Pay Committee also met and reviewed our performance management process for our teaching staff. Similarly, on Wednesday morning, our Assessment and Progress Committee met to discuss our validated data from last academic year as well as share targets and strategic plans in terms of pupil attainment for the year ahead, which was all very positive from Year R through to Year 6.

As next week sees the start of November, we have attached the next **Action for Happiness Calendar**: New Ways November for your reference. We hope it will provide a welcome reminder about well-being as we face the darker evenings and chillier temperatures!

Have a fantastic **half term break**; I hope all of our families who are joining in the Legoland fun tomorrow have a wonderful time. Over the break also be sure to rest and recharge as next half term is certainly destined to be a very busy festive filled one! Be sure to stay safe.

Kind regards,



Miss Jo Redman, Executive Headteacher



### A few reminders...

- Applications for Year R and Year 3 places for September 2026 open on Saturday 1st November 2025.
- Please remember our school (and WJS!) is closed to pupils tomorrow and on Monday 3rd November for staff training so we are looking forward to seeing all of the children back in school on **Tuesday 4th November 2025**.

# What have we been learning?



## Reception

In Year R our classrooms have been beautifully illuminated by the festival of light (Diwali). We have made and sampled our own special Diwali treats and have made Diya lamps which we lit in a colourful ceremony that the year group celebrated together with a special visit from Mrs Choday who spoke to us about why Diwali is celebrated and how she celebrates within her family. She also brought us some sweet treats to aid our celebration; she was amazed at how the children have immersed themselves into learning about cultural celebrations! We have also celebrated by making our own Rangoli patterns and colourful crafts.

Miss Phillimore, Year R Class Teacher

## Year 1

In Year 1 we have had a busy and enjoyable end to our first half term in Key Stage 1 but time has definitely been flying by! This week's highlight was definitely our Autumn walk, where we were lucky to have a dry, sunny day to explore our field and search for different signs of Autumn.

After this in our classrooms, we enjoyed writing about all we had found on our adventure. In Maths, we have been exploring number bonds to 6 and representing these in different ways on tens frames, as number sentences and as part-part-whole models!

Mrs Williams, Year 1 Class Teacher

## Year 2

What a fabulous last week it has been in Year 2. We have been learning about seasons and went outside where we used our senses to investigate if we could see, hear and even smell signs



of Autumn. We noticed that lots of the leaves on the trees are beginning to change colour and some have already fallen off! In Science we had great fun being scientists when conducting our experiment! Although we predicted only plastic would be waterproof, we also came to the conclusion that foil and shiny paper are also waterproof! In Art the children have enjoyed creating their own portraits in the style of Picasso using charcoal.

Mrs Anderson, Year 2 Class Teacher

## WISPA NEWS...

Thank you to all who came to our joint Quiz Night at WJS. We are delighted to share that we raised a super **£262** which will be shared across WISPA and PAWS. Congratulations to the Fab Four Team who were the evening's winners!

Please be aware we have arranged a **Bag2School** drop off for **13th November** so please keep hold of any unwanted items until then to help us raise money for our school. Items required include unwanted clothing, paired shoes, handbags, hats, scarves, ties, socks and belts. Any contributions from family, friends or neighbours will also be gratefully received. This is a super fundraiser and it will save you a trip to the charity shop!



## Robin Class Assembly Success...

On Wednesday morning, Robin Class confidently shared some learning highlights and proudest achievements in their Class Assembly. The children shared lots of their recent learning including magical potions in a cauldron and circus themed dancing. Expressive and loud voices and some very impressive dance moves entertained us all, well done Robins, you were fantastic!

## PARENT PAGES

Please remember to take a look at November's Parent Pages attached with this week's newsletter. This edition's theme is 'The Friendship Rollercoaster'. We all recognise that sometimes friendships can be complex for pupils (and parents!) so our Family Support Worker has gathered a few wise words and signposted support which we hope our families will find useful. There are also some links for local family fun for the break and beyond alongside some quick reference family support helplines and apps... so why not take five minutes to take a look?



## Firework Fun at WJS

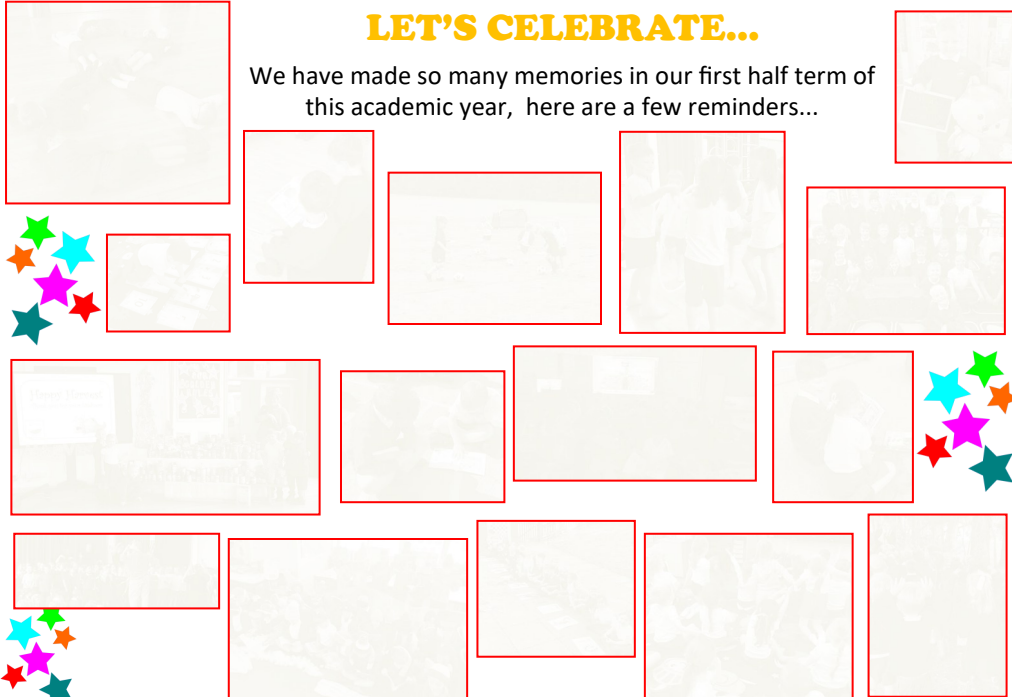
Please remember we hope to welcome lots of you to our Fireworks display at WJS and that if you wish to take advantage of discounted pre-booked ticket prices, please purchase these via the link:

[Fireworks 2025 - Yateley and District Lions](#)






## LET'S CELEBRATE...

We have made so many memories in our first half term of this academic year, here are a few reminders...



## Attendance Awards

This week's attendance winners are...

 Hedgehog Class,  
 Rabbit Class  
and  
 Owl Class

... all with an almost perfect 99%

Well done to you all!