


Newsletter



Autumn Term 2024 - No.8 - Friday 25th October 2024

 Upcoming Events	
28th Oct - 1st Nov - Half Term SCL Holiday Club	
1st Nov	Year R and Year 3 Application Open
4th Nov	Inset Day
9th Nov	Firework Fiesta at WJS
w/c 11th Nov Friendship Week	
11th Nov	Odd Sock Day (to celebrate difference & diversity)
12th Nov	6:30pm - 7:30pm Prospective Parent Session (adults only)
13th Nov	9:10am Robin Class Assembly (parents invited)
15th Nov	7:00pm - 9:30pm WISPA/PAWS Quiz Night at WJS
w/c 18th Nov Road Safety Week	
21st Nov	9:30am - 10:30am Prospective Parent Session
<u>22nd Nov</u>	Time to Shine (Non Uniform Road Safety Day)
<u>22nd Nov</u>	2:40pm - 3:10pm Open Session
<u>27th Nov</u>	WISPA Christmas Tree Decoration Competition
<u>3rd Dec</u>	WISPA Secret Santa
<u>5th Dec</u>	9:15am - Year R Christmas Performance
<u>6th Dec</u>	9:15am - Year R Christmas Performance

Dear Parents,

It hardly seems possible that we are at the end of the half term already (despite being eight weeks!) and that we are already at the halfway point of the **Autumn Term**...but we have certainly packed in plenty of wonderful experiences and made some marvellous memories.

This week we have kept ourselves very busy within and beyond the curriculum; the teachers have captured some of this week's highlights overleaf. In addition to this a team of Year 2 pupils were also very excited to represent WIS at an interschool multi-skills event with Mrs Wilson after school on Tuesday; there are further details and some photos overleaf but I must say how wonderful it is that our children have these extended curriculum opportunities and once again were great ambassadors for our school.

It was a pleasure to see so many of our Year 2 families at the WJS **Open Evening** on Wednesday evening which was a great success. Since then our Year 2 children have shared their excitement at the prospect of moving up to the juniors and it was a pleasure for our junior children and staff to welcome visitors for a tour. WJS teachers and pupils demonstrated our approach to teaching and learning and our Year 5 tour guides led prospective families around the site and shared their own experiences about what school life is like across Key Stage 2. Thank you so much for the exceptionally positive verbal and written feedback which of course, I always relish to hear!

I also wish to say thank you so much for your originality (there were some absolutely fabulous mad hair creations!) and support for our **WISPA Mufti and Mad Hair Day** today! There are literally boxes of donations for our Christmas Fair which is in the process of being planned by our amazing WISPA Team—thank you one and all!

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. Then on Wednesday morning, our Assessment and Progress Committee met to discuss our validated data from last term as well as share targets and strategic plans in terms of pupil attainment for the year ahead, which was all very positive.

Have a fantastic half term break; next half term is destined to be an especially busy festive filled one so be sure to recharge your batteries! Maybe you'll find five minutes with a cup of tea to look at the next **Action for Happiness Calendar** for November to support your well-being too?!

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 2025 open on Friday 1st November 2024.
- Please remember our school (and WJS!) is closed to pupils on Monday 4th November for staff training so we are looking forward to seeing all of the children back in school on **Tuesday 5th November 2024**.
- Please be aware that there is a **new school meals menu** starting after half term - see the attached email and our website for full details.

What have we been learning?

Reception

In Year R our classrooms have been illuminated by the Hindu Festival of Light (Diwali). We have sampled some traditional Indian food from across the country, made our own Diya lamps and lit these in a colourful ceremony which the whole of



Year R celebrated together. Linked to this learning, in PE we have perfected our Bhangra dance moves. We also wanted to say a huge thank you to Mrs Choday who visited us last week to share the Diwali story and some sweet treats. This really contributed to bringing the learning to life!



Mrs Wilson, Year R Class Teacher

Year 1

We have shared so many learning highlights in Year 1 where we have been learning all about the seasons and have talked about how the weather is different in each season. We have enjoyed an Autumn walk during which we looked for signs of Autumn on the school field and have painted some lovely pictures of Autumn trees.



In Maths we have continued working on our number bonds by learning to record these using a bar model to show the whole number and the 2 parts.



We have also had lots of fun this week in Music, playing the glockenspiels and singing.

Miss Brammer, Year 1 Team Leader and Class Teacher

Year 2

In Year 2 we have also been learning about seasons. We went outside and 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 fallen off the trees.



In Geography we have learned that the United Kingdom is surrounded by 4 different seas! We labelled maps with the countries and capital cities that make up the UK. In Science we conducted an exciting experiment to find out which materials are waterproof and which are absorbent. We used our observations and test results to write our own conclusions.

Mrs Goddard, Year 2 Class Teacher



WISPA NEWS...

Mad Hair Day

Thank you so much for all of your donations for our Christmas Fair. We had lots of fun today with mad hairstyles and our own clothes....



Quiz Night

15th November 2024

There is still time to book to join us for our first joint Quiz Night of the year for parents. If you fancy a fun-filled evening with friends to raise money across the federation, why not register a team by following the link:

[WISPA/PAWS Quiz Night Form](#)



Year 2 Multi-Skills Sporting Event

Ten excited, eager and energetic Year 2 children arrived at Calthorpe Park Secondary School on

Tuesday after school to participate in a multi-sports event. This was run by the PE staff at the school alongside students who were sports leaders. This team introduced a carousel of activities for the children to participate in which ranged from agility races, to throwing activities and most excitingly, included indoor kurling and boccia which the children loved! It was a fantastic event and the children gave it their all!

Mrs Wilson, Executive Deputy Headteacher



PARENT PAGES

Please remember to take a look at November's Parent Pages attached with this week's newsletter. This edition's theme is 'Parental Separation', sadly a situation some of our families have experienced so she has gathered a few wise words and some signposted support which we hope anyone in this situation will find useful. There are also some great 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

We certainly hope lots of our Westfields families will support this year's Firework Display which we host in collaboration with the Yateley Lions and Scouts. If you wish to take advantage of discounted pre-booked ticket prices, please purchase these via the link:

<https://bit.ly/yadlfw24>

Tickets have been very popular and numbers are limited so please make sure you don't miss out!



LET'S CELEBRATE...

As we arrive at the end of a very busy and successful half term during which our pupils have worked exceptionally hard we are excited to share this week's proud Star of the Week Award winners who were presented with certificates in our Celebration Assembly (and in class for Reception!) this afternoon (copies are on display in the entrance area). Congratulations to you all, what shining WIS stars!

Year R: Zac Fitzsimmons, Phoenix Sagoo and Sammy Boast

Year 1: Harrison Broadbent, Roman Cole and Zak Mytskiv

Year 2: Georgina Crowley, Jack Stevens and Layla Goble

Out of School Achievements

Once again we are delighted to share some more fantastic out of school achievements this week...

Well done to **Remi Thompson** who has achieved her Bronze Award in Rainbows. Congratulations to **Chayse Hickey** who has been graded and achieved his 'white and orange belt 3rd Sho in judo'.

Well done to **Freya Crafter** who was awarded a cup for her tap exam. Congratulations to **Frankie Pennington** who was awarded 'Man of the Match' at his football club.

Attendance Awards

This week's attendance winners are...

Robin Class

... with an almost perfect 99%.

Well done!

