



Whaddon Wheatsheaf Newsletter

(Number 10.)

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Welcome to the tenth edition of the Whaddon Wheatsheaf.

1st March 2024

Road closure

The highways agency have let us know that Stock Lane, will be closed for work to be undertaken on 6th - 7th March 09.30-15.30pm. This will have an impact on drop off and pick up. Please factor this in to your daily routine.

Forest school

The children had a great session this week, planting black cherry trees in our forest school area. They worked hard in groups to dig the holes and plant the trees. Towards the end of the session, the temperature dropped and we had a brief flurry of snow. Some of the children became very cold, as they have insufficient insulation, in the form of inadequate layers, or woollen gloves, which soon became wet and caused the little hands to get very cold. Some of the jackets whereas showerproof, were not sufficient for the rain they experienced.

In order for all of the children to be able to fully participate in our forest school experience, we ask that their forest school **waterproof** clothing be kept in school. This will also enable full and spontaneous outdoor learning, all week round. Alongside this, the children also require a complete change of clothing in school, especially in light of the weather we have recently experienced. We don't want children to be damp and cold for the rest of the day, having had so much fun- so please ensure your child has a bag containing a complete change of clothes (including socks). **Please return forest school clothing to school.**

Homework club

Having received and reviewed parent and pupil feedback, we are offering a homework club, after school on a Friday 3.10-4.00pm. **This will start from Friday 1st March. If you can't make a session, please let the office know, as soon as you can.**

Height and weight check (Hedgehogs and Foxes)

The nursing team are visiting the school on 4th March to take the height and weight of the children in Hedgehogs and Foxes. A separate communication has gone out, via Parentmail regarding how to log into the portal to receive the results and to provide the nursing team with the relevant information they require and your permission. Please refer to the Parentmail, so you can gain access to the portal.

Police visit

We are very excited to welcome a member of Thames Valley Police (and their patrol car) in the morning of **6th March**. We will be taking lots of pictures for the website and encouraging the children to ask lots of thoughtful questions. Should you require us to make alternative arrangements for your child, during this visit, please contact the office for a discrete and confidential conversation.

World Book Day

This year, we are celebrating world book day on the **7th March** with a carousel of activities, in the morning, which are all book themed. Your child is welcome to dress up as a character from their favourite book. We appreciate that Marvel characters are from a graphic novel, but we would love to see as many literary characters as possible. Dressing up is **optional** and if your child does not want to join in with this part of world book day, they don't have to.

World book day books have been selected by the children and we have them ready for the children, on the day. We have decided to source the books early, as our experience has been that a variety of WBD books can become extremely limited, once the tokens are distributed. Thanks to WHSmith for helping us organise this, ensuring our children get the book they have chosen.

Mother's Day

Our celebration of Mothers and people like mothers to us will take place on **Friday 8th March at St. Mary's church**. This celebration will be part of our usual celebration collective worship. The children will be sharing their poems, writing and songs celebrating their mums and mum figures.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day, this year, will be acknowledged in a low key way, due to the other big events being observed in the half term. So that our children can support this charity event in a meaningful and manageable we propose that children donate £1 and wear something red. Red noses can be worn, but will be the responsibility of the child. Appropriate footwear should be worn for break and lunch time.

The correct PE clothing and forest school clothing, is an important consideration, on this day. Please ensure any red clothing is suitable for these activities.

Uniform

Should you require more uniform items, please head to our website and click on the uniform tab for our providers.

Friends of Whaddon School have notified parents of the pre-loved uniform sales that will be held this term, in their message above.



Please remember that our uniform **does not** include nail varnish or make up.

Jewellery, other than sleeper earrings, is not permitted, for health and safety reasons. Sleeper earrings (studs not hoops) must be covered with tape, for PE lessons. Please ensure that any post- Christmas party nails are removed for the school week.

Recycling

Hedgehogs class have been hugely industrious in their upcycling of packaging. We are grateful for any boxes, toilet roll tubes, containers that could be used. We politely request that boxes that have contained ingredients such as nuts not be brought in e.g. crunchy nut cereal or cereal bar boxes.

Any jig saw puzzles that people no longer need would be gratefully received by the Foxes class, 300 pieces + please.

Absence

Please can parents let the office know, as early as possible- **no later than 08.30am**, if your child is unwell or going to be late in for any reason. This helps us with our safeguarding process, first thing in the morning and helps us complete our registers accurately, in a timely way.

Timings...

Getting to school on time really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	18 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	35 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	50 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	73 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	110 Lessons

You should not take holidays during term time.
Please be punctual to maintain attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

We would like to remind parents that registration is at **08.30am** and parents and children should be on the playground ready for collection by the adult at **08.25am**.

We have had repeat late arrivals from families and would like to remind parents that late arrivals are not only detrimental to their children, but the children already settled in class completing their phonics sessions. The gate will be shut at 08.35am and late arrivals will be buzzed

in and signed in by a member of staff, who will require a reason for the late arrival, in order for us to record this for the local authority, on SIMS.

Celebration/class assemblies...

We warmly welcome parents and family members to attend our celebration/class sharing collective worships on Friday mornings. We aim to notify you, if your child is receiving an award, by the Thursday before. The children will not know if you are able to attend or not.

Should your child have been awarded a certificate or medal, outside of school, please let us know, so that we can share this, as a school. Please ensure that the school office is notified, in advance of the assembly, to manage the timings of the worship.

The rota for each classes sharing assembly is available on the school website. These sometimes have to be changed, due to other events that arise, throughout the school year. We endeavour to communicate these to you, via Parentmail.

Hedgehogs class 23.02.24

Please note that Friday collective worships are starting earlier, to enable parents to share their child's certificate celebration without having to wait in the hall. The collective worship will start at 08.40am.

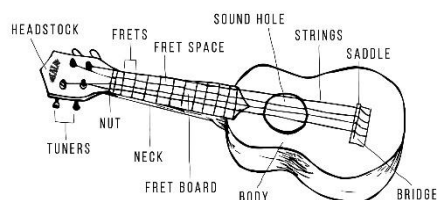
P.E days...

Sports4all are providing high quality P.E coaching to all of our children. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit, which should be suitable for the weather, when learning outdoors.

Hedgehogs	Tuesdays
Squirrels	Wednesday
Badgers	Friday
Foxes	Thursdays

Music lessons

PARTS OF THE UKULELE



Music lessons will continue with MK music co-operative guitar and ukulele, Wednesdays 11.30-12.30pm

Mr Dunham's music lessons Clarinet, flute and piano, will remain on Thursdays.

Information about payments will follow soon.

French club

French club is now being offered to children in Key Stage 1 and if parents are interested in their child attending, over Thursday lunch time, they should **contact Madame Lepelletier via the school office email address.**



Seesaw

Hedgehogs class have a new platform for school to share information about their children's learning, over the week. This is an exciting new way of us sharing information with parents and the feedback has already been positive.

Key Stage 2 Snacks

We are noticing that our older children are waning, towards the end of the morning and would like to ask that a snack be brought in to tide them over, until lunch time. This snack should be healthy e.g. veg, fruit, rice cakes or a cereal bar are suitable. Please ensure nothing brought in contains nuts.

Website / dates for your diary...



March

4th March Height and weight checks 11.30am Hedgehogs and Foxes

6th March Thames Valley Police visit -with patrol car

7th March 2024 World Book Day- more details to follow

8th March 2024 Mother's Day celebration St. Mary's church

22nd March celebration assembly- last of the term

26th March 2024 Easter celebration at St. Mary's Church

27th March Easter egg hunt children hunting in houses- coloured T-shirts for their house needed

28th March INSET day, school closed to pupils



Thank you for the bags for school donations.

Thank you to all our forest school volunteers and reading volunteers, Mrs Pit and Mr Attwater.



A big 'well done' to all of the children who were given a teacher award or a golden ticket this week!

Bernie

Hannah

William

Elodie

Henry H

James

Dhwani

Thank you to all of the children, awarded certificates, for all you have done to make our school a brilliant place to learn, for being such good role models and living our school values.