



# Whaddon Wheatsheaf Newsletter

(Number 11.)

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## Welcome to the eleventh edition of the Whaddon Wheatsheaf.

15th March 2024

### Red nose day

Thank you all, for your generous donations, this year. So far, we have raised an amazing £62!

### Lunch orders for May 16<sup>th</sup>

We have our next school census on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Whereas this may sound a long time away, parents have to book school meals two weeks in advance and Easter falls right in the middle! We want to remind you to book a school lunch for that day. If you are automatically eligible for free school meals- Hedgehogs and Squirrels, or if you are eligible in Badgers and Foxes, please book a school meal for this day. The more school meals that are booked on census day the more funding towards meals, the school receives.

### Governor visits

The children gave a warm Whaddon School welcome to the new link governors who were all eager to get to know the school and the children, this week. Visits to classrooms and conversations with subject leaders enabled the governors to see the impact of our new curriculum and the provision we plan for our children. The children got to know the governors and learn about the role of governors in our school and the reports from the governors were very positive.

**We have a vacancy for a foundation governor. Should you be interested, please email the school office for a form. A current or historic link to a church is necessary, but you do not have to attend a church regularly to apply.**

### Forest school

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

After school on a Friday 3.10-4.00pm. **This will start from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March. If you can't make a session, please let the office know, as soon as you can. You can book as and when you require the sessions.**

### Police visit

We were very excited to welcome two members of Thames Valley Police (and their patrol car) on the morning of **6<sup>th</sup> March**. We took lots of pictures for the website and encouraged the children to ask lots of thoughtful questions. The children and the officers had a wonderful time!

### World Book Day

Thank you to all those who donated books for the book sale on the 7<sup>th</sup> March. The sale raised £65! The money raised will be put towards our non-fiction library books for our new library.

### Red Nose Day

Children were encouraged to wear red and donate £1 for comic relief charities in the UK and around the world helping the most disadvantaged children have access to resources and health care that will improve their lives and outcomes.

### Non uniform day (FOWS)

Children are being offered a **non-uniform day**, on the **18<sup>th</sup> March**. The donation will be a chocolate egg, of any description. These delicious donations will be gathered together in hampers for a raffle, which will take place at the end of the term. This has deliberately been arranged on a Monday, so as to avoid PE and forest school events. Reminders will go out via Parentmail, but to avoid upset on the day, please set a reminder on your phone.

## Homework

Homework can be found on the class pages and more information can be found there for specific activities. We do ask that reading is completed at least 5 times per week, TTRS and SPag.com platforms are engaged with, as frequently as possible.

Please can the year 4 children, in Badgers class use TTRS as much as possible, from now on, to prepare them for the times table check, in June.

This is not just good for practice and recall but it is very similar to the format of the actual times table check format.



## Distinctive Christian Vision



As a Church of England school, it is important to us that our Distinctive Christian Vision supports our aspirations and enables us to shape and guide all areas of our decision making. This included our policies accurately reflecting the lived experiences of our stakeholders. The biblical reference, we feel, best suits the school we are and the school we wish to become; enabling all of our all of our stakeholders to shine and flourish is **“You are the light of the world, let your light shine.” Matthew 5:14-16**

Our next step in the development of our Christian Vision is to develop our Vision statement. A draft of this will be shared with you soon, for your comments and thoughts. This is a collaborative piece of work and all ideas are welcome.

## 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...

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.

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...

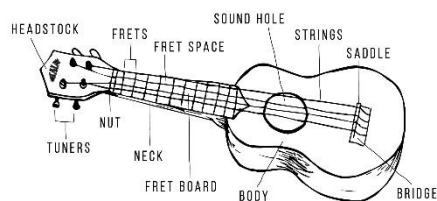
**After Easter, please note the change of PE day for Badgers and Foxes classes.**

Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit, which should be suitable for the weather, when learning outdoors.

<b>Hedgehogs</b>	<b>Tuesdays</b>
<b>Squirrels</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Badgers</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>Foxes</b>	<b>Friday</b>

## 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.**





## Website / dates for your diary...

### March

15<sup>th</sup> March Red nose day- wear red bring £1

18<sup>th</sup> March Non-uniform day FOWS donation of a chocolate Easter egg

22<sup>nd</sup> March celebration assembly- last of the term

26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Easter celebration at St. Mary's Church (08.50-9.20am)

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

28<sup>th</sup> March INSET day, school closed to pupils

15<sup>th</sup> April First day of the new summer term!



Thank you for the book donations on world book day!

Thank you to all our forest school volunteers

Thank you to our 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!

Reece

Keiran

Harper C

Mari

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.

Viola

Indy

Isla

Arwen