



Whaddon C of E School newsletter number 8

22nd November 2024

Super stars and golden tickets

Congratulations to those children who shone brightly, this week and were awarded star certificates and golden tickets. By living our values and upholding our vision, your hard work has made our school a better place. Congratulations to those pupils who have achieved success outside of school.

Lunch time trial

Next week, we are trialling having all of the children in the hall for one sitting, as the numbers of pupils are fewer than previously. The children know about this trial and the teachers have all had a chance to see the table plans and they are happy with them. We are trialling lunch times in this way, so that we have staff available to run a lunch club, should this way of having lunch be the plan going forward. If this way of having lunch is not desirable, we will of course revert back to the original way of doing things.

Peter Pan week

From Monday 25th November, we will be having a focus week on the story of Peter Pan. This is so the children can familiarise themselves with the characters and storyline, ahead of our visit to the pantomime. On Monday afternoon, we will be watching the Disney animation of Peter Pan. If you do not want your child to watch this film, please contact the office by **Monday 11.00am**. A room with alternative activities and a staff member will be available for those pupils who will not be watching the film.

Noro-virus

There has been an increase in reported Noro-virus cases, which is typical for this time of the year. Please can you remind your child about the importance of handwashing after using the toilet and before eating. This message is reinforced, at school and will help keep everyone safe and well. If your child vomits or has diarrhoea they must remain off until their symptoms have ceased for at least two days after the last incident of illness. More details about illness and children being off sick, can be found on our school website.

Collecting children for appointments

If you have the need to collect your child early, for appointments, please can you let the office know, so there is no delay in preparing your child to go to the appointment with you.

Also, should you only be able to attend an appointment, during school hours, please ensure that your child is brought back to attend school for the remainder of the school day. Any appointments that are taken in the morning and the child does not attend in the afternoon, without good reason, will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

Nativity

We are prepped and ready to rehearse our nativity for the Hedgehogs and Squirrels children. Parts have been allocated and costume requests will follow shortly. Please let the office know, if your child will not be taking part in the evening performance on **12th December**, so another person can fill in, if required. If your child has been sent home with lines, please help them practice them.

The nativity will be performed in our Jubilee Hall and parents will be admitted at **4.40pm**. Please bring your child to the Jubilee Hall for this time, so that costumes can be organised in time for the performance. Please park safely and conscientiously.

If you would like to attend the nativity, please let Mrs Ellis, in the office, know how many seats you will require, so that we can ensure enough seats are available.

There will be no charge for attending this performance, however, we are grateful for and appreciate donations- to help us cover the cost of holding the nativity in the Jubilee Hall. We chose this venue to enable as many people to attend, that wish to. A donations box will be at the back of the hall on the night.

Roles and costumes will be shared early next week. As per previous nativities, we ask that the children come in their clothing that will go underneath their costumes and we will have the costumes and props at the hall.

Royal British Leigon fund raising

Thank you for the generous donations for poppy accessories, this year. Your kindness has meant we have raised £57.27 for the Royal British Leigon. Thank you so much!

Christingle

In a change to our original plans, the school Christingle will take place in our school hall. This is a school collective worship event.

Panto forms and packed lunches

Please ensure Mrs Ellis has the completed and signed consent and health forms for the panto trip. Without these, we cannot take your child with us. All children need to have a packed lunch for that day, as we will be eating earlier than usual to get to the theatre on time. Please do not pack items which contain nuts.

Clothing

For Hedgehogs and Squirrels classes, please can a complete change of named clothing be sent into school in a separate, named bag to ensure full access to outdoor learning and keep the children dry and warm in case of muddy puddles. In the same vein, please can forest school kit be kept in school all week.

For Badgers and Foxes, please can parents ensure that the children have wellies or a change of socks and shoes available to them. Please ensure all items brought into school are named in permanent marker; biro washes away making it hard for us to ensure all items get to the correct person.

Forest School club

Spaces are available for forest school club with our wonderful forest school leader Jack. Please book your child in, using the link on the Green Planet Forest School link under our school name. This club is open to all pupil and runs from 3.00pm-4.00pm every Friday.

Sports festival participation

Royal Latin School are offering **Squirrels** children the opportunity to participate in a multi- sports event on either **18th or 19th** November. The event will take place at the RLS from **4pm- 5.30pm**. The team needs 8 pupils to participate as a team.

If you would like your child to participate, please let the office know which date suits you best and we can put a team forward. Parents will need to transport their children, but I will be present as a member of staff. Parents are encouraged to go off site for a coffee, as the hall can't contain that number of adults.

4th December, The Royal Latin School are hosting a mixed football tournament for Foxes class. **4.00pm-5.30pm** at the RLS. A team of 8 will be required.

More dates/events to come!

Forest School

Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellies that can be kept in school. Without them, children **won't** be able to participate in outdoor activities, in wet weather. When the children choose to work outside, it is essential that they have a complete change of clothing to keep them comfortable, if they get wet or muddy. Please ensure all kit and spares are **named**, so we can reunite errant clothing with their owners, easily. Practicing dressing and undressing would be a great way for the children to gain independence and we appreciate the support from home in this area.

School lunches

Please ensure that school meals are ordered, by the deadline, to ensure your child has the lunches you require in the coming weeks. There is a Wisepay link on our school website home page.

Communication

Our website is a good source of information and gives you details about your child's learning, when you ask "What have you done today in school?" and they give the age old answer of "Nothing!"

There are also details of homework and vocabulary for the units they are learning- this is a work in progress. By sharing the key unit vocabulary in this way, parents can go through this with their children, so that they have a good understanding of the vocabulary meaning, ahead of their learning.

School open days

We have a wide selection of open days available to parents with children who will be school aged, in September 2025. A copy of the open day poster can be found on our website and bookings can be made through the school office. There is also a F.A.Q sheet to help answer some of the questions parents may have about their child joining Whaddon School. Please spread the word among your friends and any toddler groups or pre-schools you know of.

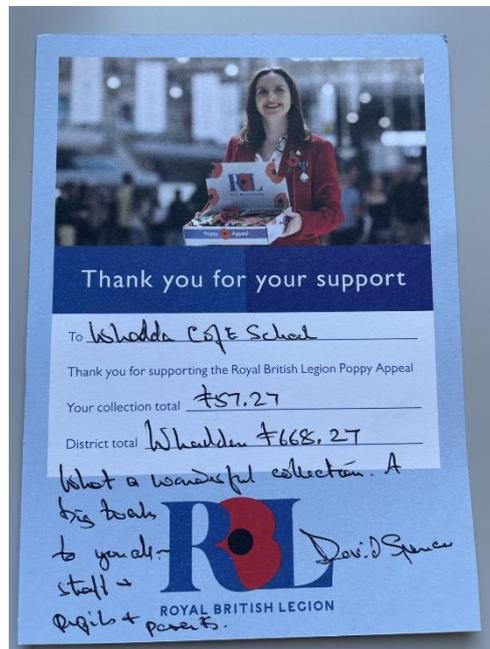
Boxes and cardboard

Mrs Ellis has requested any cardboard boxes that are not needed, to help her organise some resources. The boxes need to be able to hold files and paper.

Mrs Hall has also requested any large pieces of corrugated cardboard for our nativity props and backdrop designs.

Key dates for your diary (additions have been made)

- 25th November Peter Pan week Movie afternoon
- 26th November Year 6 height and weight checks, NHS nurse team
- 6th December Children decorate the village Christmas tree with their decorations
- 7th December Village Christmas tree lights "switch on" Jubilee Hall
- 12th December instrumental concert with Mr. Dunham 08.40am school hall
- 12th December Nativity Jubilee Hall 5.00-6.00pm
- 13th December Christmas Fayer School hall 1.45-2.45pm FOWS
- 17th December Whole School visit to the theatre Panto 11.45-16.00pm
- 18th December Christmas jumper day
- 18th December Christmas lunch FOWS
- 19th December Carols in the courtyard 2.15pm
- 20th December Christmas movie morning
- 20th December NO FOREST SCHOOL- alternative activities are planned.



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Children in Need 2024

I woke up early, bright and sunny,
Ready for a day full of fun and raising money.
Arrived at school, and was put straight to work,
With a smile and a laugh, and no time to shirk.
Chunks of pineapple, juicy and sweet,
To blend into smoothies, and other special treats.
Helping children make food was a joyous delight,
Throughout our classrooms, we worked with great might.
We stirred, we mixed, with giggles and glee,
Crafting new recipes, each one unique.
From smoothies to crackers, so yummy to eat,
Each child's creation, a wonderful feat.
Laughter and cheer rang out during play,
Giggles and joy on this special day.
Teachers and children, working as one,
Inclusion for all, and we had such fun!
This small, village school, so special and true,
Every person included, just like me and you.
No matter what individual needs there may be,
Every child is a part of our school family.
Another day full of fun, learning and play,
Making wonderful memories that forever will stay,

I'm thankful to be part of this wonderful sight,
Where everyone's included and our hearts are light.

Kim Clarke