



Wallace Fields Infant School & Nursery



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 9th February 2024



This week has marked children's mental health week where we kickstarted the week with a mindfulness workshop where children learnt practise strategies for staying mindful and having a positive mindset. Miss Amos delivered our mental health assembly where the children discussed 'My Voice Matters' which is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. This week was also Safer Internet Day. Children explored how to keep safe online through story telling. Children corrected the behaviour of characters to let them know how to stay safe online.

This week our wonderful Epsom College students came to drop off 'random acts of kindness' for the children of Wallace Fields Infant School and Nursery. The students had knitted handmade worry worms for children to find around the school. We work closely with Epsom College as a service provider and welcome Epsom College students into the school each week who volunteer to listen to children read, help children in the classrooms and support with gardening around the school. Their support is much appreciated.

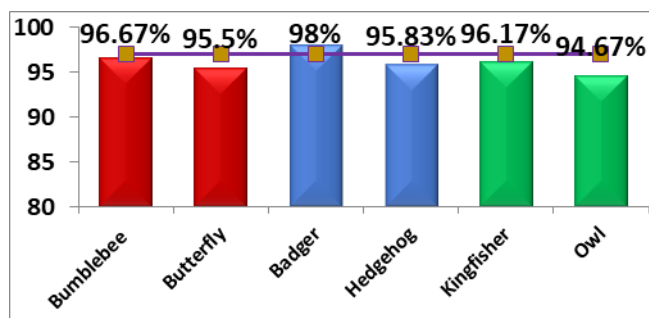
We hope you have a restful half term break, keep up with the reading at home and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday the 20th February following our INSET day on Monday the 19th.

Mrs Muir – Headteacher

WFIS Attendance

Please make sure your child attends school regularly
WFIS Attendance (%) Fortnight Ending 02.02.24

Overall School Attendance: 98%



Class Attendance Trophy

Congratulations to
our Class Attendance
Trophy winner
Badger Class for
having the best
attendance over the
last two weeks. Keep
up the great work!





Nursery

This week Big Stars have been learning about Lunar New Year. During group time they have been exploring using ink to copy some number symbols. In discovery time they have been making lanterns, mark making in glitter, using chop sticks in the role play area and practicing their cutting skills to make a dragon.



Reception

This week the children have embarked on a literary adventure through the pages of the story 'Whatever Next!' written the amazing author Jill Murphy. This story has enabled the children to contemplate travelling to the moon and explore the different sights and sounds they may encounter. Butterfly Class have enthusiastically embraced the story and have been able to retell the main sequence of the events using story props. The children have participated in various activities to enhance their learning experience, promoting language development, creativity, and social skills. They have designed and decorated their own spaceships, using counting and making repeated patterns with moon rocks! To celebrate their journey to the moon, our special 'Whatever Next Day!' allowed the children to develop their imagination and love of reading.





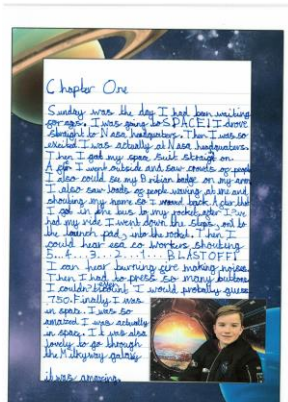
Year One

This week in Badger Class we worked really hard during our 'Mental Health Awareness Week' activities. We created a 'What Matters to Me' poster and explored lots of different ways that we can improve our wellbeing. We looked at what is important to us and why these things matter. We created some wonderful posters!



Year Two

Over the past two weeks, Year Two have been imagining they are astronauts blasting off on a space adventure to the International Space Station. The children have been immersed in real footage of astronauts setting off on their adventure, what life is like on the ISS and finally descending on the worst rollercoaster ride back to Earth. The children each wrote their three-part stories and were then split into groups of three. Within these groups, each child then published a chapter: one about launching, one about life on the ISS and one on the descent. The children put their chapters together to form their own published "Journey to Space" stories for our book corners!





Staff Spotlight Kirstie Smith



I started working at WFIS almost 11 years ago! I started in KidsQuest as a playworker and became a one-to-one for a child in nursery soon after. I knew immediately that I had found my passion, enabling children to grow. I did School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) and trained to teach at WFIS in Year 2. Once becoming a qualified teacher, I taught in Reception for three years.



I came out of Reception to cover all year groups and was given the opportunity to train to be a SENCO, as SEND has always been my passion.

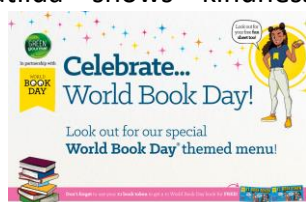
The element of my role I enjoy the most is supporting children and their families on their individual journeys and being able to witness the pupils' growth, development over the course of their learning journey with us. I have also had the pleasure to work with lots of lovely pupils and their families over the last 11 years, some of whom I still hear from today.

My most memorable moment was teaching in Reception where we were studying the story 'Supertato' and we created an immersive environment of storytelling. We searched all around the school to rescue the class puppet from the Evil Pea. It was joyful to witness the children's excitement and still today children who are now in secondary school still mention that day when we meet.



World Book Day Thursday 7th March

This year for World Book Day we welcome all children to come dressed as a character that displays one of our school values; Kindness, Friendship, Respect, Reflection, Effort, Determination and Good Manners. For example, Miss Honey from Matilda shows kindness throughout the story.



Reading for Pleasure

We are so proud to see our 'Reading for Pleasure' culture coming through the children. The children naturally chose to read in their play time. There is free access to books for all children, but it was lovely to see children bringing in books from home to enjoy and share with others!



Worry Worms from Epsom College

We would like to say a big thank you to the Year 8 knitters from Epsom College who very kindly hid knitted worry worms around the school for the children to find during Childrens Mental Health Week. Mrs Muir explained carefully to each class that not every child will find a worry worm but that there will be another opportunity in March when the knitters will return. There was much excitement as the worry worms were found. We hope the children who were lucky enough to discover them were able to use them to help put into practice some of the skills they learned during the Mindfulness Superheroes workshops they took part in on Monday.



Behaviour Policy

Last term we launched our new behaviour policy. This involves our new 'Golden Rules'. Miss Kelly (Deputy Headteacher) led a workshop to inform parents of our new principles and the research behind the policy. Please click here to read our new policy.

[Behaviour Policy](#)

Golden Tickets

Congratulations to our Golden Ticket winners!



Well done to **Bea C, Kenny Z, Aaliya DC, Ingrid M, Arthur D, Theo C, Naomi N, Millie W, Sophia T, Jacob R, Barnaby R and Wilfred R** who won a golden ticket for their efforts and achievements!

Keep up the great work everyone!



Young Artists' Summer Show

We are excited to invite all children from Reception to Year 2 to submit artwork for the Young Artists' Summer Show 2024. All children who submit a piece of artwork will receive a special certificate but only six pieces of art can be chosen to submit to the Summer Show. There is no theme to the exhibition this year, and the artwork can use any medium, e.g. painting, collage, 3D sculpture, photograph or a combination. Please can each submission include a short statement to accompany the work. This statement should add context to the work and often helps the judges understand the work better. Wherever possible, the statement should be written by the artist themselves (Year 1 and 2) and should attempt to include information about why they created the work and what it means to them. Please could all artwork be brought into school by **11th March 2014**. Here are some examples of artwork from last year's exhibition to give you some inspiration interesting descriptions to get you started.



Blackbird on a branch
Georgia, Age 8

I did this piece because on the day I saw a blackbird on a branch and I also wanted to practice drawing birds.



Popped out of my head
Charlotte, Age 9

I made an Easter hat from things I had at home. The hat structure which is mostly covered up is made of paper-mâché and the hat is made of twigs from our garden. The egg is also of paper-mâché using a balloon and a bowl as a model.



Map of Vanuatu
Daniel, Age 10

I really like maps and geography. A while ago I created an imaginary country called 'Vanuatu'. I drew lots of maps of this country and changed it as I got new ideas. This map is of the main island of 'Vanuatu'. I got my inspiration from looking at real maps but I used my own style.



Useful Upcoming Dates

Mon 12th – 16th Feb	Half Term
Mon 19th Feb	INSET Day – School & Nursery Closed
Fri 1st Mar	PTA Pop-up Café
Mon 4th Mar	Space Dome – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
Thu 7th March	World Book Day - Theme for 2024, Character that displays a school value. Further details to follow.
Fri 8th Mar	PTA Mother's Day Shop
Mon 11th Mar	Young Artist Summer Show artwork deadline.
Fri 22nd Mar	PTA Easter Disco – Details TBC
Mon 25th Mar	Epsom & Ewell School's Music Festival – dress rehearsal (selected Y2s)
Tue 26th Mar	Epsom & Ewell School's Music Festival @ Epsom Playhouse (selected Y2s)
Wed 27th Mar	Epsom & Ewell School's Music Festival @ Epsom Playhouse (selected Y2s)
Thu 28th Mar	End of term 13:15 Infants, 15:30 Nursery and 16:30 KidsQuest
Mon 15th Apr	Summer Term begins – children to wear Summer Uniform
Thu 25th Apr	PTA Circus (tickets on sale 21 st March)
Fri 17th May	PTA Race Night
Fri 14th Jun	PTA Father's Day Shop – Details TBC
Fri 14th Jun	PTA Quiz Night (tickets on sale 29 th April)
Sun 30th Jun	PTA Summer Fair

You can now subscribe to our school calendar via our website. Please [click here](#) to view our calendar, and click 'Subscribe' to sync the calendar with your own device.

Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Attendance

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authorisation for five or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), they will be liable to receive a Penalty Notice. Currently the amount payable under a Penalty Notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the Penalty Notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that Penalty Notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents/carers and two children will receive four Penalty Notices.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

[Attendance Policy](#)

[Working Together to Improve School Attendance \(slides\)](#)



Advice Line

Families with children from birth to 19 years old can call our Surrey-wide 0-19 Advice Line on **01883 340 922**. The Advice Line is available from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays) and provides support on all aspects of child health, development and parenting.

Book of Brilliance

Please see below information about the Book of Brilliance.

Book of Brilliance

Dear parents,

Here is my Book of Brilliance. It is sent home at the beginning of each half term with 6 different activities related to our topic. The activities are optional but children do always love completing them! Children do not have to complete all 6, they can do as many as they want to. You could take photos to stick in, drawings, writing or make models.

Please send this book back in the last week before the half term holiday. We will then share our books with each other and see all the wonderful things that we have been doing. Please note these books are not marked by the teachers but teachers will be involved in celebrating the children's work.

Thank you!

Surrey Local Offer

The Local Offer [website](#) is for children and young people with additional needs, their families and the practitioners who help them. On it you will find helpful information and the details of support services in your area.

For further information about how the school supports your child with SEND please visit the inclusion section on our [website](#).



Safeguarding - Online Safety

The NSPCC has created a new Keeping Children Safe Online workshop which provides parents/carers with information about how to support their child in their online world. The 40-minute pre-recorded presentation covers topics such as online bullying, mental health, and social media, as well as signposting to resources and organisations for help and support. Please click [here](#) to access this information.

The UK Safer Internet Centre have also created a page with Top Tips on how to make a difference, managing influence and navigating change online. Please click [here](#) to access this information.



FAMILY LEARNING



Free Courses for parents and carers

Surrey Family Learning offer **FREE** courses and workshops to help you create a better family life.

Do you want to help your child or teenager to improve their behaviour, development and learning?

Book onto one of our tailored courses today to begin supporting you and your family. Find more information at:

 surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning



...or scan here

Courses available

- **Parenting** Help understand your children and teenagers' behaviour, anxiety and mental health.
- **English as an Additional Language** Support for you and your child with English and how education in England works.
- **Maths** Learn about methods used in schools today.
- **Literacy** Learn about how English is taught in schools today.
- **Cookery** Be inspired and cook healthy family dishes together.



0427P

The Circus is coming to town!

To make this event a success we need your help. So we are releasing volunteer slots on 27th February. If you sign up to a task we will send you a priority booking link on 12th March to ensure you get your tickets to the big top!



Easter Disco for the children!

We are so excited to be able to hold an Easter Disco for the children on Friday 22 March, with Silly Steve from DNA Kids Parties! Tickets on sale at 10am on Friday 23 February at www.pta-events.co.uk/wfispta. First come first served.

Please note there will be two sessions, one for Nursery and Reception, and a second session for Years 1 and 2. Each Nursery/Reception child must be accompanied by a responsible adult. You may nominate another parent as the responsible adult (up to 3 children per adult). Years 1 and 2 may be dropped off and collected via their classrooms. Please identify the responsible adult, along with any allergies and medical needs, when you book your child's place.



Comedy Night is back at Wallace Fields Junior School!

Our friends at Wallace Fields Junior School PTA have brought back their legendary comedy night and have kindly invited us to join them. Get your tickets before they sell out!



Special Person Shop in school for Mother's Day!

We are holding a Special Person Shop in school hours on Friday 8 March. We will have lots of lovely gifts for your children to select and bring home for the special person in their lives.

If you would like your child to take part, simply pay in advance online at pta-events.co.uk/wfispta

WFIS PTA Special Person Shop for Mother's Day Friday 8 March



PTA MEETING THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY

Thank you to everyone who attended the PTA committee meeting last week. We are delighted to report that the PTA has approved funding of approximately £2,500 on improving the children's learning experiences in school. We have also voted to co-opt a new member of the PTA Committee; we are very happy to announce that Ali Fitzgerald has joined us as Secretary. Lots of exciting plans are in the pipeline for the remainder of the year, including the Easter children's discos, the Circus, Race Night and Quiz Night. Do have a look at the [minutes](#) for further information. If you have any queries, comments, ideas for events or would like to get involved, always feel free to contact us on wfispta@gmail.com.



KidsQuest



NEWSLETTER

Dear KidsQuest Parents and Carers,

Friday 9th February 2024

This week in KidsQuest we have been learning all about Luna New Year. The children created a lovely dragon together and enjoyed a sensory tuff tray activity.

Wishing you all a wonderful Half Term.

With very best wishes,

Ms Bowyer and Miss Kelly and the KidsQuest Team.

