



Wallands Community Primary School

Monthly Newsletter

Friday 5th October 2018

Included in this month's issue:

- Attendance Matters
- Partnership Update
- ParentPay/ParentMail
- Governors News
- Wallandsfest
- FoW News
- Foundation Stage News
- Autumn Term Topics
- Diary Dates

Message from Mrs Collis



I can't believe that we have already been back at school for four weeks, the children have all settled into their new classes and have all enjoyed starting their new topics. It was great to welcome so many of you to the recent 'Meet the Teacher' meetings, remember that information about each year group, including their home learning tasks and spellings can be found on the website. It has been great to see children making a real effort and looking so smart in their uniforms. Thanks so much to parents/carers for your support with this as well as for ensuring that children have the new sports uniform.

The school development priorities for the year can be found on the website, and we are pleased to be involved in a number of exciting projects this year which support our foci. A number of KS2 staff will have the opportunity to attend East Sussex training on grammar and the use of rich texts to develop writing, this programme will run over the next two years. We will also benefit from some in school coaching from a Maths Leader from a local Maths Hub school over the next term, this will enable us to continue our focus on maths from last year.

The new school values are becoming well embedded. In the reception area each year group have taken one of the values and created fantastic displays to demonstrate the value, thanks to a number of parents who came in and worked with children to produce the words of the values to go up in the main hall. You will also have noticed the values that have gone up in the KS2 bottom playground, we will focus on the KS1 playground next.

On the two recent INSET days Tom Bennett, behaviour advisor to the DfE, worked with all the staff on embedding effective behaviour expectations and routines. The training enabled us to return to our Behaviour Policy and ensure consistency of approach across the school.

You will have noticed all the work that has started in the woodchip area. It is exciting to see the area being cleared and the slide being repaired, the new woodchip area has now been marked out and the woodchips will be in place soon. As part of the work the parallel bars in the infant playground will be replaced and some missing climbing frame parts will be replaced. Work will continue until half term and hopefully the area will be ready to use once we return. East Sussex have agreed to resurface the infant playground and we are just waiting to hear when this will take place.

Thank you to parents/carers in KS1 for your support with the morning arrangements. When the bell goes at 8.50 a.m. children have been coming into the building by themselves through the doors near their classrooms. At this time of the day parents should not enter the building, as we need to ensure we provide a secure and safe environment for the children.

We would like to remind parents and carers who drop off and pick their children up from school in cars to please refrain from bringing your car onto the school site and parking on the school drive or in the car park. There is not enough room for this to be done safely and it causes great difficulties with getting the taxis which drop Language Unit children onto the site. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Attendance Matters

A letter about attendance has already been sent to parents/carers and it would be great if we could keep everyone's attendance figure as close to 100% as possible. A few missed sessions has a serious impact on your child's attendance figure. If your child falls below 95% we will be getting in contact with parents as we really don't want anyone to reach 90%, as this is when the government now class the child as a persistent absentee. If you are having any difficulty in getting your child to school, please let us know and we will see what we can do to help. If your child requires time off school for any reason, please complete an 'withdrawal from learning' request form from the office. Medical and dental appointments are best made outside school hours where possible.

Partnership Update

We have now been working with Priory School since March and a number of Priory staff have been working with staff at Wallands. The Priory Fundraiser has been working alongside a team from Wallands to submit applications for a number of bids in relation to the Grounds Project. Tony Smith, the Priory Headteacher regularly visits Wallands, and is involved in Governors meetings, strategic meetings and visits into classrooms. Two Specialist Leaders of Education (SLEs) are providing in class coaching, focusing on our school development priorities. The Caretaker from Priory has also provided some help with the hall displays. On a weekly basis the Priory Behaviour Support Worker works with a number of children using the Thrive approach. The Thrive Approach is a way of working with children, which supports social and emotional development and provides a targeted approach for children to engage them with their learning.

Our next INSET day is Tuesday 6th November and we will join with Priory and other Lewes school for a shared INSET. We will start the day altogether at Priory School and spend time looking at how the Lewes schools are currently working together and explore future partnership working opportunities across the Lewes cluster of schools.

Foundation Stage News – Kim Hart, Foundation Stage Leader

We have been so pleased with how children new to Reception and Nursery have settled into school life. Both Reception and Nursery have been getting to know their environment, making new friends and learning routines. We have been focussing on school values. The children have responded well to learning about the kindness dolphin, the 'have a go' monkey and the cooperation bee. We will be covering the remaining two values of pride and aspiration over the next few weeks.

Our Harbour project has developed over the last few years and we look forward to continuing this way of working. The Harbour project grew from an East Sussex initiative to develop practice across Reception and Nursery. Our current Reception children who attended Wallands Nursery benefitted from this way of working and starting in Reception was made much easier for them as they knew the staff and the environment already. Children have already enjoyed their first Harbour session.

As the season changes we will be discovering the signs of Autumn. We have an exciting week of Autumn activities planned for the week beginning 15th October, on Wednesday 17th we will have a Harbour Autumn morning with activities across the Nursery and Reception.

Storytelling and creative activities are at the core of our practice to raise attainment across the curriculum. We are lucky to have been selected to participate in a new East Sussex course, which will extend teachers knowledge in these areas.

Governors News – Noah Curthoys, Chair of Governors

We had the first Governing Board of the year last week - this set an initial budget for the school and confirmed a small but healthy surplus every year for the next three years, which is a big improvement and will help us to invest in the school. We also looked at how our partnerships with other schools might develop further, at the standards of teaching and achievement of our children this last year and our preparations for Ofsted when that comes around - all of which we come back to with parents over the coming months.

The Board also said goodbye to several governors who are stepping down with the new school year - particular thanks to Natalie Swallow who had stayed for an additional year, to Helen Perris who has served as Vice Chair this last year and to Ruth O’Keeffe and Karen Sandford who have both had a very long association with the school. Noah Curthoys was re-elected as Chair and will be joined by two new Vice Chairs - Al Read and Holly Aquilina, and we will be advertising shortly for a new parent governor role. The next governors meeting will be on Thursday 29th November.

Instrumental teaching stays with the Music Service

On the 14th September the Lead Member for Education, Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability welcomed the decision not to close the small group and instrumental teaching service provided by the East Sussex Music Service and agreed the recommendation to proceed with further exploration of an option to provide longer-term financial sustainability.

Autumn Term Topics

Our autumn term topics are well underway now...

Year 1 is learning about parties and celebrations. They have been reading the story *Boa’s Bad Birthday* by Jeanne Willis, writing party invitations and now they are busy planning their own party!

Year 2 is learning about The Great Fire of London. They have also been exploring traditional stories, which are inspiring them to write their own.

Year 3 is busy exploring Ancient Egypt. They are reading *Secrets of the Sun King* by Emma Carroll, which is all about the discovery of Tutankhamen’s Tomb. The children are fascinated and have written impressive newspaper reports.

Year 4 is finding out about life in the Stone Age. They are reading *Stone Age boy* by Sitosha Kitamura. This has inspired them to produce some amazing descriptive writing this week.

Year 5 is learning about Space. They are really enjoying finding out about the solar system. They are reading the classic book – *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes, which is inspiring them to write some wonderful stories.

Year 6 has been captivated by learning about the outbreak of World War 2. They are reading *Goodnight Mr Tom* by Michelle Magorian, which is helping them to imagine what it must have been like to be evacuated during the war.

Friends of Wallands News – Hannah Sheridan-Olliver, Chair of FoW

We are so pleased to see work beginning on the Grounds Project. It has been amazing working with the school to raise funds; donate funds and get it started. FoW will continue to support the school towards grant applications and fundraising events for future ground project phases, as well raising funds for other needs at Wallands.

Spooky Cinema Night presenting Coco 2nd November - further details to follow.

There is a new fundraising scheme in place called 50/50 club- £1 entry each month for an allocated number... a draw will happen on the first working day of each month. The prize will be 50% of the membership. The remaining 50% goes to Friends of Wallands to help fund equipment, resources and opportunities for pupils. The more numbers you buy each month the more chances of winning. July and December are bonus months... sign up for a year's allocated number - it is open to EVERYONE (over 16) so friends and family outside of Wallands can enter. To enter just fill in the form (available at reception in the file boxes) or email friendsofwallands5050@gmail.com for a form. Payment options are on the form.

Christmas Fayre: - Date proposed for 8th December... we have a great sub-committee already however we are looking for co-ordinators for the following areas – Crafts, Cafe and Christmas Tree selling. Please contact Hannah on 07971410019 or email friendsofwallands@gmail.com

It's with sadness that our wonderful Treasurer of 3 years is standing down at the AGM elections in January. Aziz would like to start the handover to the new Treasurer prior to January. There is no requirement for you to be an accountant or bookkeeper, so if anyone would be interested in taking on this role, please do contact me as soon as possible to discuss.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone, the committee and I, whole heartedly appreciate all your continued help and support.

Wallandsfest

Wallandsfest took place on 15th and 16th September and was really well attended as always. The final amount raised is to be confirmed however it is looking like it will be over £3000, which is incredible news. Thank you so much to everyone who helped to make the event such a success, with a special thank you to Caroline Croft and the team who made it all happen!



Here is some feedback from some of the families who attended:

- ❖ *'Our first Wallandsfest and it lived up to its reputation, was brilliant, lots of fun, music, craftiness, footie, water fun and dancing. Massive thank you.'*
- ❖ *'It was a truly amazing weekend, not having been able to come before. Just wonderful. To give the kids a chance to run wild and free all together and to have such fun was a real gift. And time for grownups to catch their breath and enjoy company too. A huge thank you.'*
- ❖ *'It took me 6 years to finally make it to Wallandsfest and enjoyed every minute. Its such unique thing, to have this at our school.'*
- ❖ *'It was brilliant - thank you so much!'*

Introducing ParentPay – Cashless Payment System



After Christmas we will be implementing a new cashless payment system called ParentPay. Some of you may already be familiar with this system if you have a child at secondary school. To help facilitate this implementation, Chartwells will **no longer** be accepting **pre-payments for dinner after half term**. Cash will need to be brought in on our daily basis up until Christmas.

More information can be found at: <https://www.parentpay.com/parents/> or please contact the school office.



Improving School Communications with ParentMail

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do, making sure you receive the correct information about school news, activities and things that really matter is something we care about. So if you have not already done so, registering with ParentMail is very easy. If you haven't received a registration email from ParentMail then please contact Mrs Peck in the school office.

Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smart phone, we would highly recommend you download the ParentMail App for the best user experience. To do this, simply search for "ParentMail" in your App store.

If you need any additional information, please visit: www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/ or please contact the school office.

School Photos on Wednesday

- If you have a sibling outside of the school and wish to have a 'family' photo taken, please arrive at the school **between 8:15am and 8:50am**.
- Don't forgot to look smart and practice your smile for Wednesday!

Dates for your Diary

| AUTUMN TERM 2018 | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--|
| October 2018 | | |
| Monday | 8 | Flu Vaccination Consent Form Deadline (R, Y1 - 5) |
| Wednesday | 10 | Whole School Photos |
| Thursday | 11 | Reception and Y6 Nurses Visit |
| Thursday | 18 | Year 6 Class Sharing assembly (6JC and 6KG/LD) at (9.00am in Main Hall) |
| | 18 | Parent Forum (6pm) |
| Monday - Friday | 22 – 26 | Half Term |
| Tuesday | 30 | Year 1 Trip |
| | 30 | Parent Consultations (3.20-5.00pm) |
| Wednesday | 31 | Year 6 Secondary School Application Deadline |
| November 2018 | | |
| Thursday | 1 | Parent Consultations (3.20-7.00pm) |
| Friday | 2 | FOW Spooky Cinema Night presenting Coco |
| Tuesday | 6 | Inset Day – School closed to pupils |
| Tuesday | 20 | Reception (2019 Intake) Open Morning (9:15am) Nursery (2019 Intake) Open Morning (9:15am) |
| Wednesday | 21 | Reception (2019 Intake) Open Morning (9:15am) Nursery (2019 Intake) Open Morning (9:15am) |
| Monday | 26 | Flu Vaccinations (R, Y1 - 5) |
| Tuesday | 27 | Reception (2019 Intake) Open Afternoon (2pm) Nursery (2019 Intake) Open Afternoon (2pm) |
| Thursday | 29 | Governors Meeting |
| December 2018 | | |
| Wednesday | 5 | Parent Forum (9am) |
| Saturday | 8 | FoW Christmas Fayre |
| Tuesday | 11 | Nursery Christmas Singalong (11am) |
| | 11 | Reception/Year 1/Year 2 Christmas Performance (2pm) |
| Wednesday | 12 | Reception/Year 1/Year 2 Christmas Performance (9:30am) |
| Thursday | 13 | Year 3/4 Christmas performance (2pm and 7pm) |
| Friday | 14 | School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumpers |
| Tuesday | 18 | Year 5/6 Christmas performance (2pm and 7pm) |
| Wednesday | 19 | End of Term |
| January 2019 | | |
| Thursday | 3 | Term Starts |

Deadline Reminders for next week....

- Deadline for Flu Consent Forms is Monday.
- Reception and Year 6 Nurses Visit - If you do not want your child to take part, or if you have any questions, please contact the School Health Service directly (0300 123 4062) by Wednesday.

2018-2019 School Term and Holiday Dates

| | SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Monday | 3 10 17 24 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 | 3 10 17 24 31 |
| Tuesday | 4 11 18 25 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 | 4 11 18 25 |
| Wednesday | 5 12 19 26 | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 | 5 12 19 26 |
| Thursday | 6 13 20 27 | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 6 13 20 27 |
| Friday | 7 14 21 28 | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 7 14 21 28 |
| Saturday | 1 8 15 22 29 | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 | 1 8 15 22 29 |
| Sunday | 2 9 16 23 30 | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 | 2 9 16 23 30 |
| | JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH | APRIL |
| Monday | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 |
| Tuesday | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 |
| Wednesday | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 |
| Thursday | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 |
| Friday | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 |
| Saturday | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 |
| Sunday | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 |
| | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST |
| Monday | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 |
| Tuesday | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 |
| Wednesday | 1 8 15 22 29 | 5 12 19 26 | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 |
| Thursday | 2 9 16 23 30 | 6 13 20 27 | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 |
| Friday | 3 10 17 24 31 | 7 14 21 28 | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 |
| Saturday | 4 11 18 25 | 1 8 15 22 29 | 6 13 20 27 | 3 10 17 24 31 |
| Sunday | 5 12 19 26 | 2 9 16 23 30 | 7 14 21 28 | 4 11 18 25 |

| Inset Days 2018 -2019 | Bank and Public Holidays | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday 3 rd September | Christmas Day | Tuesday 25 December 2018 |
| Tuesday 4 th September | Boxing Day | Wednesday 26 December 2018 |
| Friday 21 st September | New Year's Day | Tuesday 1 January 2019 |
| Monday 24 th September | Good Friday | Friday 19 April 2019 |
| Tuesday 6 th November | Easter Monday | Monday 22 April 2019 |
| Friday 5 th April | May Day Bank Holiday | Monday 6 May 2019 |
| | Spring Bank Holiday | Monday 27 May 2019 |
| | Summer Bank Holiday | Monday 26 August 2019 |

| School Holidays 2018 - 2019 | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| October Break | Monday 22 October to Friday 26 October 2018 |
| Christmas Break | Thursday 20 December 2018 to Wednesday 2 January 2019 |
| February Break | Monday 18 February 2019 to Friday 22 February 2019 |
| Easter Break | Monday 8 April 2019 to Monday 22 April 2019 |
| May Break | Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019 |
| Summer Break | Wednesday 24 July 2019 |

Half-Term Holiday Club Information

Class of Their Own

Arts & Crafts, Games & Sports, Cooking & Construction and Much More!



**NEW
Holiday Club
in Lewes**

October Holiday Club 2018

Holiday Club for Primary School
Children Aged 4 -11

At Southover CE Primary School, Lewes

Monday 22nd Oct until Friday 26th Oct

www.classoftheirown.com 01273 733 337

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CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE COPIES OF THEIR FILMS TO TAKE HOME!

22ND TO 25TH OCTOBER 2018
AT LEWES NEW SCHOOL, TALBOT TERRACE, LEWES
9AM-3.30PM (OPTION OF 8.30 DROP OFF)
1 DAY: £45, 2 DAYS: £80, 3 DAYS: £115 4 DAYS: £140

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT PressPlayfilms.Co.uk/event/oct-halfterm
07977 593 857 | 01273 046 698 | lara@PressPlayfilms.Co.uk
Lara is a TV Producer with many years experience teaching film.
Lara has an up-to-date PBS/CRB check.