



Wallands Community Primary School

Monthly Newsletter

Friday 7th December 2018

Included in this month's issue:

- Staffing Update
- Reception News
- FOW News
- Parent Forum
- KS1 & 2 News
- ParentPay
- Nursery News
- FoW News

Message from Mrs Collis



Christmas has definitely arrived at Wallands and children are busy practicing ready for performances next week and the week after, and we are looking forward to welcoming parents/carers to these events. We have the Christmas Fayre tomorrow and the School Christmas Lunch next Friday, so there are many exciting things happening. On behalf of all the staff at Wallands I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the holidays and we look forward to seeing you all back on 3rd January.

Parent Survey

Thank you to all the parents/carers who completed the recent survey at the parent consultation evenings, and for your ongoing support. I have included some headlines from the survey and the full survey data will be added to the website for your information.

- 94% of parents/carers strongly agree or agree that their child feels happy at school.
- 91% of parents/carers strongly agree/agree that their child is making good progress at school.
- 95% of parents/carers strongly agree/agree that they would recommend Wallands to another parent.

Some of the comments on the survey included; 'Very warm and supportive community and relaxed environment that enhances the learning process', 'Absolutely fantastic teachers who really care about our children and their learning', 'The support, encouragement and understanding the children show one another', 'The warm, welcoming atmosphere and desire to support all of the children, all the time.'

The survey has also outlined some areas for us to consider, and we will include information about these in forthcoming newsletters.

Staffing Update

We would like to welcome Jo Taylor who joins us as a teaching assistant in Year 5 with Mr Palmer.

Nic Perry will be leaving Wallands in February. He has worked at the school since September 2000 in the Language Unit and has over the years worked with and supported a huge number of children and parents, many of whom he is still in touch with today.

As well as his role in the Language Unit he has been very involved in the wider life of the school, leading on PE for a number of years and maintaining support for PE and sports, in particular the netball club and the District Sports. Nic led the Rights Respecting work for the school and currently is working with School Council. We thank Nic for his hard work and will all miss him but from all of us we wish him the very best for the future.

Parent Forum

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the Parents' Forum meetings on Wednesday. It was great to see so many of you, and to share positive news about the progress that is being made in the first two terms of the year in attainment, new teaching initiatives, cross school partnerships, staff development and training, our new values and their impact on behaviour and the work that has been completed on the grounds.

It was also great to have the opportunity for parents and governors to have an open and honest discussion about the proposed Lewes Multi Academy Trust (MAT), and the wider challenges resulting from reduced central government funding for schools and the local council. Moreover, why we are exploring ways in which schools can support each other.

Some of the key points discussed:

- The Lewes MAT is one of a number of options that we are evaluating - including remaining as we are as an independent school under Local Authority (LA) control, joining a Cooperative or Federation of LA schools, or joining an existing MAT.
- As we want to be able to understand more about the Lewes MAT proposal, we have agreed to join the Research Group. However, we have not made any decisions about joining a MAT and are not under any pressure to do so.
- While responsibility for making decisions about school strategy sits with the Board of Governors - the governors and leadership are accountable to the whole school community and we are committed to sharing information and consulting with staff, parents and the wider community in an open and transparent way - we welcome suggestions about ways in which we can do that more effectively.
- Many good questions were raised at both sessions and we are in the process of collating these and we will bring them with us to the Research Group to answer and will share feedback as soon as possible.

During the Parent Forum the Local Authority Core Offer consultation was mentioned. East Sussex County Council is asking for people's views on its 'core offer', the package of services it thinks are the minimum residents of East Sussex should be entitled to expect, even in difficult financial times. The core offer is designed to plan how East Sussex responds to reducing funding and growing demand for services. It includes the council's commitment to provide value-for-money services in the areas where it can continue to operate and to work with partners and communities to find alternative ways of meeting some of the county's needs. It includes proposed cuts to services for schools and for pupils vulnerable to poor outcomes, including those with special educational needs. As well as services for the whole population, including libraries, highways and public health.

More information about the core offer, as well as a link to participate in the consultation will run until 26th December, can be found at [eastsussex.gov.uk/core offer](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/coreoffer).

These are unprecedented times in terms of the challenges being faced by Wallands and all schools, so it was really reassuring to see the strength of feeling and commitment from so many parents and a special thank you to parents who offered practical suggestions of support - please keep them coming. We are a community school and the leadership and governors are committed to being open and transparent because we are strongest when we work together.

If you have further questions/comments please email office@wallandscp.e-sussex.sch.uk or chair@wallandscp.e-sussex.sch.uk

Nursery News

This term we have had great fun planting bulbs and learning about Diwali. We made Rangoli patterns with chalks and even made some tasty sweets to eat and share with our friends. We read the story 'Can't you sleep little bear' and made a dark cave, where we explored using torches and spy pens. We even made shadow puppets to use with our Big Whiteboard. We have been having great fun and loved our Christmas decoration day with lots of parents coming to help.



Reception News – Kim Hart – EYFS Leader

On the 5th December, reception and nursery held a successful Harbour event. During the morning, the children had the opportunity to make several different decorations. These involved using number, fine motor, writing and of course their creative skills. Many thanks to all the parents who came to help us.



Key Stage 1 News – Kim Hart (KS1 Leader)

Year 2 have been working really hard on their takeaway task. Many children made gingerbread at home to share with their family.

Year 2LH have been focusing on their Act of kindness advent calendar. This is an advent calendar with a difference. Everyday instead of eating a piece of chocolate the children have been carrying out an act of kindness. This could be:

- Saying something nice to someone.
- Holding the door open.
- Writing a thank you message to someone.

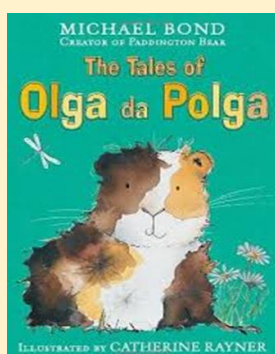


Year 1 have been studying the book Olga Da Polga. They have read the book and written their own stories. Below are some quotes from the children.

"I liked learning about guinea pigs."

"I didn't like when she got covered in rubbish!"

"We don't know if it is a happy or sad ending, because we haven't finished it yet."



Key Stage 2 News – Fiona Large (KS2 Leader)

KS2 classes have been busy over the last few weeks preparing for the Christmas shows; they are really looking forward to performing for you. In addition to the festivities, Year 6 have been on a trip to Newhaven Fort to learn more about World War 2 and Year 3 have been to Brighton Museum to explore the Ancient Egyptian collection.

The children across KS2 have been working hard on improving their writing and each child has their own writing target. It has been great to see the children taking responsibility for showing that they have met their targets. Finally, Friends of Wallands have provided funding for new books for class libraries this term. The children have really appreciated some new books to choose.

Thank-you to FoW for new books

This term Friends of Wallands have kindly provided funding for new books. This has included new books for class book corners as well some class sets to support learning in English. Here are some lovely year 4 children enjoying using some encyclopaedias about the human body. The children have produced some super writing!



Mayor's Christmas Lunch Party

12 children from Wallands were invited to attend the Mayor's Christmas lunch, they were fantastic representatives of the school, and enjoyed a special lunch and some Christmas party games.



Children in Need Week 2018

We had another fantastic week of fundraising! This year we held a Pudsey competition, with winning posters from: Herbie (Nursery); Thorsten (2LH); Max (4DG); Matthew (4EM); Thomas (6KG/LD) and Reece (LU). A special well done to them – their posters can still be seen in our Reception area until the end of term. We also held a cake sale, filled Pudsey Bears with silver coins and had a spotty day! The total raised this year was £467.59, a big thank you to all your support with this.

Anti-Bullying Week 2018

Anti-Bullying Week was launched with an assembly about this year's theme: 'Choose Respect'. This was followed up by linked lessons in class. As some of you are aware, we worked with Parent and children groups to review our Anti-bullying policy in the summer and it was launched at the beginning of this year. More work will carry on to embed this in school, with further lessons as part of our PSHE curriculum. If you would like a copy of the policy it is available on our website: www.wallandsschool.org (just click on the 'information' tab).

Severe weather

After the surprise snow recently, I thought it might be timely to remind everyone what the arrangements are in the event of severe weather. Should we need to need to close the school due to extreme weather, you will be able to find this information out by looking on the school website: <http://wallandsschool.org/>

There will be an announcement posted as soon as possible after the decision to close the school has been made. In addition a list of school closures will be posted on the East Sussex County Council website: <https://apps.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosures/> East Sussex radio stations will use this list to broadcast closures.

Maths Update – Kate Foster and Simon Gunningham (Maths Leaders)

Over the last year or so there have been many changes in the way that Maths is taught at Wallands. We have moved to more of a 'mastery approach' where children learn through a process of practical activities, pictorial representations and then abstract calculations. The school 'Calculations Policy' is available on the school website and gives an outline about how we teach the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

In line with the National Curriculum, we have been ensuring that children have more opportunity in school to use their Maths knowledge for problem solving and reasoning. You can help with this at home by 'talking maths' with your children. By this, we mean, by asking them to use maths to work things out in everyday life, such as working out times, using money and measuring distances, weights and measures. The more that children make the links between the maths they learn at school and real life, the better!

We have also started a focus on learning number facts in Key Stage 1 and times tables from Year 2 to Year 6. All children have been issued with a login and password for TT Rockstars, which is a website that encourages the speedy re-call of times table facts. TT Rockstars is particularly good as it encourages the children to learn division facts alongside the multiplication from the beginning. If you do not have login information, ask your child's teacher. We also have a subscription to 'Mymaths', which helps with maths learning. It covers national curriculum objectives by year group. Every child has been issued with login information and teachers have set activities that can be completed independently. If you are having any problems, contact your child's teacher.

Remember, everyone can do maths! Thank you for your help and support.

'Reverse' Advent calendar for the Food Bank at Landport

Just a reminder that we are collecting contributions for our 'reverse' advent calendar, as we have for the last two years. The idea is that instead of getting a picture or chocolate each day in Advent, we make food donations until Friday 14th December and all donations will go to the Food Bank at Landport. Donations can be any non-perishable food and they especially need tinned vegetables and meat at the moment but anything from pasta and rice to biscuits and cereal or tins of fish, or tea, coffee, sugar, or toiletries and baby food are welcomed and much appreciated.

There will be boxes in the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds and in the reception area for your donations.

Update on ParentPay – Cashless Payment System



Next week you will be receiving your ParentPay Activation Letter. Please activate your account as soon as possible so any issues can be addressed prior to the end of term. You will then be able to order and pay for school dinners online in the New Year.

Improving School Communications with ParentMail



For the next Parents Evening in February, you will be able to book on-line via ParentMail. If you are **not** currently receiving emails from the school, please contact the school office with your email details.

Sports News – Kylie Gibney – PE Leader

Recently, Miss Gibney and Mr Burgess held trials for any interested children to try out for the Lewes Primary School Cross Country Competition. The first five boys and girls from Year 5 and 6 were then invited to participate in the competition on Tuesday 13th November. The children competed against pupils from all Primary Schools within the Lewes cluster and tackled the 2.5km course. The girls went first and recorded very impressive results. Esme ran an incredible race to finish first, having led from start to finish. However, even more admirably, she then without hesitation ran back down the final stretch of the course to offer support and encouragement to her teammates in a remarkable act of sportsmanship. For this reason, she will be the first recipient of the Wallands Sportsperson of the term certificate. Huge congratulations to Esme.

In the boys' race, our 10 runners produced a fantastic performance collectively to ensure that Wallands finished first in the team event, with Isaac leading the way to finish with a bronze medal.

After competing against approximately 80 children, the first over the line were invited to represent the cluster at The Partnership Finals in January.

The children that will represent us at this event are:

Esme (1), Jess (11), Sophie (12), Emily W (18 reserve), Isaac T (3), Theo (5), Jacob (6), Jack C (11), Caleb (13).

All of the children that participated were exceptional representatives of the school and should be immensely proud of what they achieved and how they conducted themselves.

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

Christmas greetings to all!

We have had a fairly busy November and have been putting funds raised by FoW to good use. Year 6 classrooms are going to be decorated, new outdoor notice boards have been ordered AND many sets of quality books have been ordered for both whole class reads and to develop book corners.

FoW are all about investing in our children's education and surroundings and we are focused on supporting these areas into 2019!

Design your own Christmas cards was launched this year! We had an overwhelming response to this!

With over 200 orders (that is about half the children at the school) it was a great response to this new venture. If you missed it this year, do not worry! It will be back for Christmas 2019!

Final festive note!

Saturday 8th December 1pm-3.30pm sees our last event for 2018! Without volunteers/visitors/donators and much much more this event would not be possible... it's not too late to offer a half hour of your time on a stall or to bake some scrumptious cakes for the cafe or bake gingerbread biscuits to be decorated!!

Ok... one last note

An absolutely huge THANK YOU to everyone who donated/contributed to own clothes day donations on 30th November, your generosity was just breath taking! I cannot thank you enough for your ongoing support and belief in us. It is, at times just overwhelming and this is why I love what I do! This year we have a fundraising target of £1000 to raise money towards library books for the school.

In January we will be holding our AGM (Date to be confirmed)... if anyone is interested in becoming a committee member, then please do get in contact with me either on email friendsofwallands@gmail.com or come see me at the fair on Saturday.

School Angel

Shopping online = raising £ for Wallands School

Do not forget to use School Angel whilst doing your online Christmas & January Sale Shopping. We can all help fundraise for Wallands School by simply clicking on the logo of the retailer on our Wallands School Angel page before visiting your retailer of choice. Our school receives a portion of the profit the retailers normally make on your shopping. During the last five months, we have raised nearly £60 by using School Angel.

Happy Shopping! Please share this link with family and friends -

<https://www.schoolangel.org.uk/wallands-community-primary-school.html>

Please note, the amount of funds we have raised does not update immediately on the website, there is usually a few weeks delay.

Your shopping online has raised over £140 for Wallands School!

A huge thank you to all those who have been visiting School Angel before doing their online shopping recently. It really does work - in November alone you helped raise over £100, and our current total, since we started in the summer is £140.85!

We can all help fundraise for our school by simply clicking on the logo of the retailer on our Wallands School Angel page before visiting your retailer of choice. Our school receives a portion of the profit the retailers normally make on your shopping. So, do not forget to visit School Angel for any further online Christmas shopping and on into 2019.

Please share this link with family and friends - <https://www.schoolangel.org.uk/wallands-community-primary-school.html>

Dates for your Diary

AUTUMN TERM 2018		
December 2018		
Saturday	8	FoW Christmas Fayre 1pm-3:30pm
Sunday	9	Wallands Junior Choir performing at St Anne's Church (4pm)
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 Wear a Christmas Jumper with your uniform to raise awareness and all donations welcome.
Saturday	15	Wallands Junior Choir performing at Lewes Town Hall (7:30pm)
Tuesday	18	Year 5/6 Christmas performance (2pm and 7pm)
Wednesday	19	Last Day of Term
SPRING TERM 2019		
January 2019		
Thursday	3	Term 3 Starts
Tuesday	15	Reception Parents deadline for Primary School applications (2019)
February 2019		
Wednesday	13	Parent Forum – School Hall – (9am)
April 2019		
Thursday	4	Parent Forum – School Hall – (6:30pm)

Reminders

- **Come to the Christmas Fayre tomorrow! 1pm start.**
- **R, Y1 and Y2 Nativity costumes should now be in school.**
- **On Friday Christmas jumpers can be worn with school uniform.**
- **New Reception Parents 2019 Application deadline Tuesday 15th January.**



Dear Parents,

Minecraft After School Club Wallands County Primary Years 3/4

We are pleased to be able to offer **Minecraft** after school club running from 3:30-4:30 pm every **Tuesday** from **8th January** for 6 weeks until 12th February. The club is organised, administered and supported by Mi Little Pad Ltd, an external ICT provider who deliver Minecraft clubs across the whole of England and Wales.

As well as completing a range of exciting educational challenges, students will have the chance to work both individually and 'join the same world' to work in teams.

As an added bit of fun, students from the club will also take part in a weekly Minecraft competition where parents can vote for their favourites and points are won for the national leader board.

15 Devices with Minecraft on will be available for the children to use as well as a wifi router to facilitate team activities.

BOOK ONLINE

The club costs £3.99 per child per session and is paid for half termly in advance. All club places are reserved and paid for online. Just go to website www.milittlepad.com to book you child's place. Note... **Online sales close the day of the first session, places are limited and late payments may be more expensive.**

Any problems please contact us on 01273 491162 / 01273 488996 or admin@milittlepad.com

LEWES FIRE STATION

CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

DEC 6TH 3 - 7PM



**East Sussex
Fire & Rescue Service**

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY.
MEET SANTA, LOCAL
FIREFIGHTERS, RNLI,
AMBULANCE, LEARN ABOUT
WATER SAFETY & MORE**

MUSIC DIRECTOR: SEBASTIAN CHARLESWORTH
ACCOMPANIST: HOWARD BEACH

FEATURING THE CHOIR OF WALLANDS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEW SUSSEX SINGERS
INVITE YOU TO...

Sing Noël

CAROLS, MINGY PIES, MULLED WINE,
& SUBLIME CHRISTMAS CHORAL MUSIC!

SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER 4PM

ST ANNE'S CHURCH, HIGH STREET, LEWES BN7 1RJ

TICKETS

£12 on the door | £10 in advance online | £5 special rate for Wallands parents | Under 16s FREE

EAST SUSSEX COMMUNITY CHOIR

A Christmas Cracker

fundraising concert
for Dementia UK

Sir John Tomlinson Bass

Crispian Steele-Perkins Trumpet

Andrew Wilson Organ

Wallands School Choir Briony Lambert, Director

Nicholas Houghton Conductor

SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER 2018, 7.30PM LEWES TOWN HALL

Carols for Choir and Audience | Extracts from Handel Messiah
including Hallelujah Chorus & The Trumpet Shall Sound
Cecilia McDowall Christus Natus Est

Tickets £15, under 18s £5

Available from Lewes Town Hall (office), Lewes TIC
(Tel: 01273 483448) or on the door, subject to availability.



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