

Wheelwright Lane News

7th November 2023



Headteacher Message

A very warm welcome back to all our children and families. We hope that everyone had a wonderful half term! We have a busy 7 weeks ahead as we build towards Christmas. Please keep an eye on our weekly diary dates as we have lots of events happening which we hope our families can attend.

Remembrance Day



Our Monday assembly this week was all about the importance of Remembrance Day. The children watched a short video clip of Remembrance services across the country and we talked about the significance of the poppy. The children used some great vocabulary such as “sacrifice”, “Armistice Day” and “veterans” to name a few. St. Giles church will hold a service at the Cenotaph this Sunday. For more information visit the St. Giles Facebook page. Our House Captains will be selling poppies all week and donations will be given to the British Legion.



Wrap around facilities

Please remember that all children must be handed over to a member of staff at our wrap around facilities before leaving the school site. Parents must not drop their children off and leave the school site without ensuring they are safely handed over to an adult in the morning. Please also ensure that bookings are made in advance as we are very busy. Similarly, if you do not need your child's place please notify our wrap around team so that a place can be freed up for someone else. All bookings and cancellations can be made through our school gateway app which all parents have access to.

Holidays in school time

Please note that holidays are **not permitted** in school time. Although we appreciate the costs are significantly less this does have an impact on your child's learning. When children return after holidays they have missed large blocks of learning which can be difficult to catch up. This can lead to anxiety in children as they struggle to make up lost learning. We are noticing the impact that this is having on our children who are absent from school during term time both emotionally and academically. If holiday requests continue to rise we will consider becoming a school that fines – this is something that we have avoided historically. Please think twice before requesting holidays as they are unlikely to be authorised.



PA events

Our fantastic PA will be selling hot chocolate and cakes after school every Friday starting from 10th November. This is a new venture following on from the huge success of our summer lolly sales. We are proud of the work our PA have put in to building funds for our school. Please do come along and support them.

Parent Governor



We have an opening on our Governing Board for a parent governor. The Governing Body meet over the course of the year to discuss the strategic direction of the school, monitor learning and offer support and challenge to senior leaders. It does require some commitment to attending meetings but it can be an extremely rewarding. Our latest Ofsted inspection commented, “Governors are effective and well trained. They regularly monitor areas such as safeguarding practice to ensure it remains robust. They check that all pupils are learning equally well.” If you

would like to support the school and help contribute towards the successful running of our Good school please make enquiries at our school office

Parent workshops: Mathematics



We will be hosting parent workshops across school next week with a focus on supporting maths learning at home. Please take a look at our diary dates to see when to attend. Our workshops are a great way to find out more about how we teach mathematics in school. We have extremely knowledgeable maths leaders (Mrs Haughey and Mrs Crozier) who have developed a mastery approach to maths over the years. Our Ofsted inspection praised our maths curriculum; "In mathematics, pupils regularly practice their learning and use flashbacks which ensures that they build their knowledge over time. Pupils enjoy solving mathematical challenges, which really make them think, and apply their knowledge to solve problems". Please do attend our sessions to support your child with their learning.

Homework



Over the next half term, we are going to be reviewing our homework policy and practice. As part of this we would like to gain some feedback from our parents about homework. We value our parents' thoughts and know that, for some, homework can be a real battle. Please be as honest (but polite) as you can as this will really help us to shape our approach to homework. Please keep an eye out for a questionnaire which your child will be bringing home this week. The closing date for questionnaires to be returned will be Monday 13th November at 9:00am.

Attendance



Attendance Matters



We continue to aim for 96% - 100% attendance!

Last week our whole school attendance was 95%

Here is our class attendance breakdown:

Rec	98
Year 1	97.4
Year 2	94
Year 3	97.4
Year 4	98
Year 5	95
Year 6	96

Our attendance leads in school are:

Ms Rutherford – Head Teacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Harris – Deputy Head Teacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Rowe – Learning Mentor / Designated Safeguarding Lead.

If you have any queries around attendance please speak to one of the attendance team or check out our attendance information on our website <https://www.wheelwrightlane.warwickshire.sch.uk/attendance/>

Diary Dates:

Date	Year	Event Details
Monday 13 th November	Parents welcome	PA meeting in school 3:15pm. Welcome new members.
Monday 13 th November	Reception	3:15pm or 6pm Maths Workshop for parents
Tuesday 14 th November	Year 1, 2, 3	3:15pm or 6pm Maths Workshop for parents
Thursday 16 th November	Year 4,5,6	3:15pm or 6pm Maths Workshop for parents
Tuesday 21 st November	Nursery and Reception	Winter/Festive Production AM
Wednesday 22 nd November	Year 1 -Year 6	PA Winter Disco 4:45 – 5:45 year 1,2,3 6:00pm – 7:00pm – year 4,5,6
Friday 24 th November	All years	Non-Uniform Day Bring a bottle for our Christmas Raffle
Wednesday 29 th November	Parents Only	Online Safety Workshop for parents Link to be sent out via email
Monday 4 th December	Parent Invite only	RockSteady Concert Parents of pupils that attend RockSteady sessions. 9:15am
Tuesday 5 th December	Reception Only	Breakfast with Santa 8:00am drop off in the hall.
Wednesday 6 th December	Whole school	Christmas Dinner – Please order ahead.
Thursday 7 th December	Years 5 and 6	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Trip The Nutcracker @ Birmingham Hippodrome Late return TBC
Friday 8 th December	Whole school	Christmas Fair and Christmas Jumper Day 3:30 – 5:30pm
Tuesday 12 th December	Lower Phase Year 1,2,3	Christmas Play dress rehearsal Grandparent session 9:30am
Wednesday 13 th December	Lower Phase Year 1,2,3	Christmas performance Parent session 1:30pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Upper Phase 4,5,6	Upper Phase Carol Concert Parent session 4pm
Thursday 14 th December	Upper Phase 4,5,6	Upper Phase Carol Concert Parent session 4pm
Friday 15 th December	Lower Phase 1,2,3	Christmas performance Parent session 9:30am
Tuesday 19 th December	Nursery, Reception Year 1 and 2	Christmas Trip to Warwick Arts Centre The Gruffalo 1pm
Wednesday 20 th December	Year 3 and 4	Christmas Trip – The lion, the witch and the wardrobe Birmingham Rep 2:30pm



Best Wishes

Miss Rutherford

Headteacher.



