

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME BACK

WOW, WHAT AN IMPACT!

The children wasted no time in getting back to 'business as usual' as the new class topics got underway this week:

- Reception Dinosaurs
- Year 1 Pirates
- Year 2 Roll Up, Roll Up
- Year 3 How Humans Work
- Year 4 Different Places, Similar Lives
- Year 5 Mission to Mars
- Year 6 Technology and Inventions



Year 6 began their Technology and Inventions topic by working in a team to design and create a rollercoaster prototype to pitch to a local theme park. They were given a budget for their resources and they needed to consider how many people would be able to ride and at what cost. Will the teams persuade the theme park that their design is both exciting and cost effective?



Roll Up, Roll Up - it is all about the circus in Year 2 with lots of colourful characters helping to launch their topic.



Who stole the treasure?



Found it!

The children in Year 1 arrived at school to find a large, treasure-filled chest outside their classroom. During the course of the morning, however, it went missing; it had been stolen by naughty pirates! The children were tasked with completing some challenges in the small hall to earn clues to find the treasure. Eventually, Mr Murphy found the final clue which led the children to the Shipwreck where they found the treasure. They are still on the lookout for the naughty pirates, so be sure to let Year 1 know if you see them.



Year 3 met a skeleton who helped them learn about the body. They drew around their friend's body and discussed with their team where they thought the organs went. They then turned the classroom into a restaurant after they had discussed what makes a balanced meal. In the style of TripAdvisor, the class gave the restaurant a review of 5 stars!



Money, Money, Money

In common with schools across the country, the financial situation for Wray Common has changed significantly recently and is likely to become more challenging over coming years.

Why?

1. A significant real-terms reduction in core funding from government—expected to be about £160,000 over a 4-year period.
2. A significant reduction in the number of parents registering their entitlement to Free School Meals and hence the school missing out on £8,000 Pupil Premium funding per child who isn't registered who could be. For example, this academic year, we will receive £25,000 less than we did last year.
3. A reduction in school size due the probability of no more "bulge/additional" classes - for example a net hit of £40,000 next year and £80,000 the following year compared to this year.
While we have no intention of reversing our trend of continued improvement and strong performance, it's clearly going to be rather more difficult moving forward.

How can you help?

1. **Swimming:** Our PE and Sports provision is outstanding at Wray Common. Part of this is our high quality and frequent teaching of swimming on site. However, despite parents contributing to the cost of sessions, and the school hiring out the pool, our ongoing running of the pool and lessons is a net cost to the school which we can't sustain. There are 4 options: 1. close the pool down totally, 2. just hire the pool, 3. increase the contribution of £1 per session from parents. Option 4, clearly our preferred one, is for all parents to actually make the requested contribution to allow us to keep our pool utilised by the children. While obviously the majority of parents are making the contribution, a significant minority aren't, which leaves us with an unsustainable deficit. So our request—nothing new—please make the fair, reasonable and impactful contribution of £1 per session to allow us to maintain our swimming provision.
2. **School fund:** Last year, funding through the School Fund allowed us to let every child access the Life Bus and organise one-off events such as an author visit last term (Paul Geraghty). We are hugely grateful for these contributions. Our request, again nothing new, is for everyone to make this contribution, as a significant minority currently haven't. We are not suggesting an increase to expected contribution, we are just requesting that everyone pays it. (please see letter attached)

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium Funding: If you think you may possibly meet the criteria (see attached letter), please contact the school office ASAP. If the estimated 25 families who are entitled to register actually did, we would receive an additional £40,000 next year and the funding of £1,320 per each new child will continue for the rest of the time they are with us at Wray Common—it's the gift that keeps on giving! If in doubt, please contact the office now or on Monday!

3. **Friends:** It's not through luck or chance that the school receives about £23,000 every year from the Friends. You as parents are hugely supportive and appreciative of events organised—quite simply, we don't get to spend this money if you don't engage—and you have - thanks! For example, our beach zone would not exist without this funding; our children would have significantly reduced access to books without this funding; our younger children would not have use of the new climbing bars; our whole school summer topic would simply not be so memorable or impactful without this funding. The engine that drives all of this funding (and in the process, engages us all in beautiful community events) is a small group of parents—the Friends. Their quality, commitment and passion for the school community is to be greatly admired, respected and applauded. Again, nothing new, our request is to continue supporting Friends events. Also, get directly involved in the Friends if you possibly can - it is not through luck or chance that the engine is working; it needs people and The Friends are currently significantly in need of people!

Thank you for your continued support!

FRIENDS' COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Friends' committee meeting is on Thursday 11th January at 7:00 p.m. in the Small Hall. Everyone is welcome, so please come along and join us to find out about forthcoming Friends' events.



RANGERS REPORT

Happy New Year from us at Rangers and welcome back! We've heard all about the children's exciting Christmas stories and presents they received! In the next few weeks we will be introducing our new theme for the half term - inspirational characters. This will include lots of fun-filled activities for the children to participate in! Don't forget that our bookings for February half term have now gone live and we hope to see you there! www.CampGlide.co.uk

MATHS PASSPORT EVENT

Tues 30th January Years 4, 5 and 6

Thurs 1st February Years 2 and 3

Friday 2nd February Reception and Year 1

All parents and carers are invited in to school to participate with their child on the above days to participate in a Maths Passport Event. Join us with your child and let us support you in getting the best use of our maths passport system. We are arranging this in response to our 2016/17 Parent/Carer Questionnaire. All sessions will run from 8:50 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.



HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Please take note of the following workshops running at WELCARE - bookings are now being taken.

HENRY - Health Exercise Nutrition for the Really Young. This is for parents and carers of children 5 and under, giving parents confidence with their child's eating, being more active, encouraging children away from screens and TV and seeing your child eat more fruit and vegetables. Tuesdays 23rd January - 20th March 12:45 - 2:45pm at WELCARE.

FIRST AID - for mums, dads and carers of children and young babies who want to know more about first aid and learn key skills.

Wednesday 7th February 10-11:30am (no crèche, non-mobile babies welcome) and Tuesday 27th March 1-2:20pm (with Crèche).

There is a small fee for both of the above. Please see flyers in the school entrance, contact Welcare direct or see me, Miss Forward (HSLW), contactable through the school office.

SCHOOL SWIMMING

A reminder that school swimming starts again on Monday. The timetable remains the same as last term, with the exception of 2E who now will be swimming on Tuesdays between 1:00 and 2:00 and 6C who will be swimming on Thursdays between 1:00 until 2:00 p.m. This change will remain in place for the rest of the swimming block. Some catch-up sessions for classes who missed out due to the pool closure last half term have been scheduled for after half term and these will be shared with you nearer the time. If you are able to help poolside this half term, please let the class teachers know; your help is always gratefully received.



KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

Here is a reminder about the school's expectations re: school uniform and personal appearance. You will find an updated policy attached with this newsletter.

The key points are:

Standard Uniform

- White school polo shirt or school shirt (school shirt to be tucked in)
- Wray Common tie (optional)
- Red school jumper/cardigan
- Grey school trousers/skirt/pinafore dress, grey school shorts, red school gingham dress
- White/grey/black/red tights or socks (socks not above knee)
- Black flat shoes (no trainers, no logos)

Hair, face and jewellery

- Shoulder-length hair or longer to be tied back with white/red/grey/black plain, simple hair band or clip
- No extreme or 'trendy' hairstyles
- Natural hair colour
- Earrings are highly discouraged - if essential, one pair of small studs only; earrings must be removed by child for PE - they are not allowed to miss PE
- A watch is allowed to be worn, but must be removed for PE
- Apart from earrings and a watch, no other jewellery is allowed
- No make-up or nail varnish (child or parents will be expected to remove)

PE Kit

- White t-shirt, red PE shorts, white socks, black plimsolls and/or trainers, drawstring bag
- Black or grey tracksuit bottoms allowed outside during particularly cold spells

Swimming Kit

- One-piece swimming costume, towel, swimming cap, drawstring bag



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please find below a list of dates for your diary for this term.

JANUARY 2018		Description	Time
Monday - Friday	08-12	School swimming re-starts (Years 1, 2, 4 and 6)	
Thursday	11	Reception Classes Dinosaur Workshop	During school time
		Friends' Committee Meeting (Small Hall)	7:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday	15-19	Wray Common school-led clubs start	3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Monday	15	Star Dome Astronomy visiting Year 5 in school	During school time
Wednesday	17	5B Class Assembly	2:45 p.m.
Thursday	18	5M Class Assembly	9:00 a.m.
		5W Class Assembly	2:45 p.m.
Tuesday	30	Maths Passport Event (parents/carers invited) Years 4, 5 and 6	8:50 a.m.
Wednesday	31	Gymnastics Competition at Donyngs	During school time (invited children only)
		2E Class Assembly	9:00 a.m.
		2M Class Assembly	2:30 p.m.
FEBRUARY 2018			
Thursday	01	Maths Passport Event (parents/carers invited) Years 2 and 3	8:50 a.m.
		2ML Class Assembly	2:30 p.m.
Friday	02	Maths Passport Event (parents/carers invited) Reception and Year 1	8:50 a.m.
Tuesday	06	Practice Cross Country Race Reigate Priory	After school (details to follow)
Friday	09	Celebration Medals Assembly	2:20 p.m. (invited parents/ carers only)
		School finishes for Half Term Holiday	Normal pick-up times apply
Monday - Friday	12-16	Half Term Holiday	
Monday	19	Return to school	Normal school times apply
Tuesday	20	New swimming block starts (Rec, Year 3 and Year 5)	Days and times tbc
		Reception heights/weights/vision check	During school time
		Quiz Competition at Wray Common	During school time (invited children only)
		Cross Country Race Reigate Priory	After school (details to follow)
Wednesday	21	Reception heights/weights/vision check	During school time
Thursday	22	Year 2 Multi-skills at St. Bede's	During school time (invited children only)
		Parent Volunteer Thank You—afternoon tea	2:15 p.m. (invitations to follow)
Saturday	24	Friends' Quiz Night	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	27	Hockey Quick Stix at RGS	During school times (invited children only)

MARCH 2018			
Thursday	01	World Book Day and Reading Workshop (parents/carers invited)	Details to follow
Monday	05	INSET DAY (no school for children)	
Tuesday	06	Netball Tournament Reigate Priory	p.m. (details to follow)
		Friends' Mother's Day Sale (children only)	During school time
Wednesday	07	Friends' Mother's Day Sale (children only)	During school time
		Friends' Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	08	Family Day Assemblies (parents/carers invited)	a.m. (details to follow)
		Wray Common Arts Soiree	6:00 p.m.
Monday	12	Football Tournament Earlswood School	Details to follow
Tuesday	13	Parent Consultations (booked time slots)	3:40 p.m. - 6:10 p.m.
Wednesday	14	Bikeability Level 1 Year 5 (Group 1)	Details to follow
Thursday	15	Parent Consultations (booked time slots)	4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
		Bikeability Level 1 Year 5 (Group 2)	Details to follow
Friday	16	Bikeability Level 1 Year 5 (Group 3)	Details to follow
Monday	19	Year 1 visit to Nower Wood	During school time
Tuesday	20	Sparkfish Easter Journey Year 5	During school time
Wednesday	21	Football Tournament Sandcross School	Details to follow
Thursday	22	1W Class Assembly	9:00 a.m.
		1VG Class Assembly	2:30 a.m.
		KS1 and KS2 Discos (Friends event)	Details to follow
Friday	23	Year 3 trip to RHS Wisley	During school time
Wednesday	28	Friends' Easter Trail	After School
Thursday	29	Last Day of Term	1:35 p.m. pick up KS1 1:40 p.m. pick up KS2
APRIL 2018			
	30 Mar- 15 Apr	Easter Holidays	
Monday	16	First Day of Summer Term	Normal school times apply

SCHOOL CLUBS

A reminder that school led clubs will begin w/c 15th January. Please return your child's permissions slips and payments before the start of their first session. Letters for externally run clubs are available from the school office. N.B. Musical Theatre for KS1 is now full, so any requests received from now on will go on a waiting list.

DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday 8th School swimming starts
 Thursday 11th Dinosaur Workshop
 Reception Classes (during school time)
 Friends' Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

DINOSAUR WORKSHOP

Please make sure that you return your permission slips and voluntary contributions by next Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. Thank you.

