

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

WRAY COMMON WRITERS

LETTERS FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE

Year 6 have embraced their WW2 topic this half term and have written some amazing recounts of the Blitz. In the first part of her recount, Beth in 6Br has very cleverly used 6Br's words of the week and also phrases that she has 'magpied' from their class text 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll.



*Idling home from hazardous town with rubble burying London second by second, I eagerly ran home: half of the city had collapsed as a result of constant bombings, **bombarding** the remains of London. I was looking forward to getting home because it was a **treacherous** journey. Paranoid, I kept looking up repeatedly for **formidable** planes; a river of shattered glass spread across the floor, concealing the path.*

The dreaded air raid siren sounded as loud as a plane taking off and echoed in the vastness, making my ears ring; it gave me frostbite worthy shivers, warning me of the deadly situation I was in. I froze to the spot, blinking occasionally. I clutched my stomach as a familiar dread grew in the pit of it. A sea of hectic people swarmed the manic streets, ignorantly. My eyes twitched in shock of knowing that I could die any minute. I was a warrior fighting the unbearable journey. I was not ready for it.

I swallowed and hesitated to breathe as smoke filled my lungs. Bombs crashed down to the floor and exploded in every direction. My head spun around frantically when I heard the deafening sound of an explosion. I'd never felt so disorientated. The cold stone of the pavement was harsh against my face as the manic citizens of London bombarded the shelters whilst the planes circulated the people threateningly. Trying to piece together what had happened, I noticed that my memory felt as fragmented as my surroundings. The noise of screaming was hugely distracting, but I could just see a fireman tackling ferocious fires. Once I'd stood up, my heart sank.



THE WILD WOOD

Year 5's class text at the moment is The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame and earlier this week, the children ventured into our outdoor area to help inspire them with their writing. They explored the surroundings, using their senses to identify sights, sounds and smells just as Mole and Ratty would have done as they journeyed into the depths of the Wild Wood to find Badger.



CROCODILE EXPERT

The topic this half term in Year 1 is The Enormous Crocodile, and on Monday, the children were visited by Inga, a Crocodile Expert, who told them some interesting facts about the Nile Crocodile. They found out that the Nile crocodile can grow up to 20 feet in length which is the equivalent of five Mrs Mesures! They can also live to the great old age of 80.



MORE FANTASTIC WRITERS

Not to be outdone, the children in Year 4 have also been writing this week, and funnily enough, their stories are based around a lighthouse, but not in a wartime setting. Their inspiration was a video about a lighthouse keeper and their remit was to write a story to include tension. The first extract is the opening to Gracie's story where she sets the scene, brilliantly.

The grey, misty clouds that blew around in the beautiful night sky, surrounded the pale, shining moon. Down below, a wonderful lighthouse, with a golden, blinding light, stood on the brim of a wave shaped cliff.



This second extract demonstrates James' ability to include tension in his writing.

Out of nowhere, a deafening, unusual noise came from above. The man flashed pallid. He was frozen with fear, blank to know what to do and he didn't blink. Every muscle in his body was tense. His heart pounded like never before. The villagers questioned each other. Meanwhile, the man was still frozen, knowing something was not right ...



Wow, James - this is real edge of your seat stuff! We can't wait to find out what happens next!

UP PERISCOPE!

Year 6 have been using their knowledge of how light travels, to create their own periscopes using only cardboard and mirrors. A periscope works by using two mirrors to bounce light from one place to another. A typical periscope uses two mirrors placed at 45 degree angles to the direction a person wishes to see. The light bounces from one to the other and then out to the persons eye. Periscopes are extremely useful devices, especially on submarines. Clever Science!



RANGERS REPORT

This week at Rangers we made scrumptious pizzas using our secret recipe! We had a great time making them and they tasted even better than they looked. Thank you, Mrs Young, for letting us use your kitchen. Don't forget that bookings for next term go live on 12th December. Make sure you book early to avoid disappointment.



S.E.S. WATER TALK

One member of the education team from South East Surrey Water came to school this week to speak to our Year 5 children as part of their 'Go With the Flow' topic. They learnt about the water cycle, where our water comes from, water treatment, how much water we each use, why we need to save water and how this can be achieved. They now feel prepared to tackle some fieldwork in Aylmerton next week.



CHOIR TO SING AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

Tomorrow, 38 members of our school choir will be performing at the St. Matthew's Church Christmas Fayre, Redhill. They will be singing some songs from their Christmas repertoire as well as some old favourites. If you fancy a bit of Christmas shopping, while being entertained by our excellent choir, please go along. The Christmas Fayre is on between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. with our choir performing at 11:30 a.m.

SCHOOL FUND AND SWIMMING CONTRIBUTIONS

As is usual at this time of year, we request a contribution of £22 to our School Fund and we are very grateful to those of you who have already contributed for this year. Last year, we were able to provide the educationally enriching Life Bus for all children to access, as well as organise one-off events such as the hugely successful author visit from Paul Geraghty during Book Week. Please help us to continue with these curriculum enhancing activities by making your contribution via Tucasi.

Swimming

You may remember in January this year (Newsletter No.16 05 January 2018 - [click here](#) to view), we appealed to you all to help us cope with the challenging financial situation we were facing along with all schools. Unfortunately, last academic year, we received significantly fewer payments for swimming than we were hoping for, which means that we may have to seriously consider the extent of our swimming provision next year. Please show us how much you value our lovely swimming pool and the provision of quality swimming lessons for our children, by paying the requested amount of £16 (only £1 per session) which continues to represent extremely good value for money. Again, please help us to continue teaching this essential life skill to all our children. Thank you.

THE FRIENDS' CHRISTMAS FAIR

This annual festive event will take place on Friday 7th Dec from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Stalls will include teaching staff selling Christmas items made by the children in school, along with a cake sale, chocolate tombola, bottle tombola and book stall. A reminder that Friday 30th November and Friday 7th December will be mufti days for us to collect items for the chocolate and bottle tombolas and also the book stall. We are asking for donations of cakes on the morning of the 7th along with any other items. We need volunteers to help on these mornings from 08:30. On the day, we will need helpers to set up from approximately 3:00 p.m. as well as people to run the stalls during the event. If you can give us an hour of your time, please contact Sophie Swann on 07802 584173 or leave your name with the school office.



Raffle Tickets - please keep selling your raffle tickets. Don't forget, more books are available to collect from the school office.



COMMUNITY MATTERS

- Santander currently have vacancies for part time customer service advisor roles which might be of interest to parents/carers who are restricted to school hours. Please [click here](#) for more information.
- *Sisters n Sport* are currently running a Black Friday offer on their netball classes for girls. Please [click here](#) to find out more.



POPPY APPEAL 2018

A very big thank you to everyone that supported the Poppy Appeal this year. Your generous support raised a magnificent **£419.98**.



FLU IMMUNISATION REMINDER

The nasal flu immunisation programme will be taking place next Thursday, 29th November for all children in **Reception to Year 4** inclusive. If you haven't already done so, please can you complete and return the consent form to the school office, even if you **do not** want your child to have the immunisation. A reminder that the immunisation team will be returning on Friday 7th December, to administer the vaccine to our Year 5 children.



DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

- Mon 26th Indoor Athletics Event at Dunottar (invited Year 5 and 6 children only)
N.B. children to arrive at school at 8:15 a.m. for a prompt departure at 8:30 a.m.
- Tues 27th 5B and 5TE swimming (normal times apply)
- Wed 28th Year 5 Residential Trip to Aylmerton (arrive at school 07:30)
- Thurs 29th Year 2 Sparkfish Christmas Journey (during school time)
Nasal Flu Immunisation Programme
Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Fri 30th Year 5 arrive home from Aylmerton (approx. 17:00 see website for ETA)



AYLMERTON

The Year 5 trip to Aylmerton has finally arrived and hopefully all the children are excited and looking forward to the adventure. Please be reminded that the children need to be in school on Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. ready for a prompt departure time of 8:00 a.m. Don't forget a packed lunch and your thermals!!



COMFY, COSY CORNER

Mr Burgess and 6B would love to improve their reading area. If you have an old, small sofa, or anything else that would be comfortable to curl up on to read, then please let Mr. Burgess know.