

# Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

## AN AYLMERTON ADVENTURE

With winter woollies, thermals and wellies packed, our Year 5 children set off last Wednesday morning to Aylmerton Outdoor Education Centre in Norfolk. They spent three days together enjoying team building activities, den building, piloting boats on the Broads and watching seals and their pups on Horsey Beach. Not only were the days jam packed with activities, but so were the evenings; a Twilight Safari Adventure on the first night and a magical story-telling session on the second. For some of the children, this was their first time away from home and what brilliant Wray Common citizens they were! The staff who accompanied the trip were extremely proud of the children; their resilience and positivity shone through and I think that they all had an experience they will never forget!



### SPIES LIKE US

Our Year 6 children have been up to some serious spy work this week in Science...

*"On Tuesday, Year 6 made periscopes for their 'Light' topic. The periscopes work by reflecting light at different angles, helping you to see round objects for corners. The light hits the object, reflects towards the mirror, which then reflects onto another mirror - at a different angle - and then into your eye. Luckily, using collaboration, both classes were able to get most of our periscopes working. Then we went on a covert mission around the school in an attempt to spy on the other classes without being seen. The periscopes were great at peeping into classrooms (but we might need to work on the stealth side of spying if we want to be more successful!)"* By Sophie 6C



Every child will experience negative behaviours in some way or other during their childhood, whether this is falling out with a friend, feeling excluded by being left out of a game, feeling hurt or upset by something someone has said. Whilst these are unwelcome experiences and present difficult emotions to deal with, these incidences do not, on their own and in isolation, constitute bullying. Bullying is defined as, "behaviour by an individual or group repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group. Bullying differs from teasing or falling out with friends in 3 main ways:



- There is a deliberate intention to hurt or humiliate
- There is a power imbalance that makes it hard for the victim to defend themselves
- It is usually persistent

At Wray Common we believe that every child has the right to be safe in school and enjoy their education without the threat of bullying behaviour. In order to achieve this, we have a multi-faceted approach.

### Positive Relationships

At the core of what we do, building positive relationships is the most important. Children trust the staff to listen to their worries and respond effectively. Last year 95% of children said that there was an adult at school who they could talk to if they were worried about something. If children are anxious about 'telling on someone,' each class has a worry box where children can leave a note (either anonymously or named) that can be addressed on a 1:1 basis.



### Values Led

Our Wray Common Values are immersed in everything we do. Whilst we utilise opportunities throughout our curriculum to teach children about these values, we as a community of adults and role models, demonstrate these values by leading our lives the way we do, so that children develop a positive habit of thought, interaction, behaviour and respect. A key vehicle for embedding these values is our weekly Values Assemblies.



### Restorative Approaches

Restorative Approaches aim to help children resolve conflict and make positive choices about their behaviour rather than learn to behave through fear of punishment. The 'unique selling point' of a restorative approach is that it offers schools an alternative way of thinking about addressing discipline and behavioural issues and offers a consistent framework for responding to these issues. Schools that work restoratively find that relationships are stronger and learning is more effective, and so there is less need to resort to sanctions and punishments to try to 'manage' behaviour.

### Consequences

As well as using restorative approaches, children know that there are consequences should they overstep the mark. These serve both as a deterrent and a consequence and range from missing a part or all of break or lunch playtime, phone calls home and meetings with parents, to suspension of positions of responsibility and privileges or being placed on teacher or senior report.



### Parental Engagement

A working partnership between parents/carers and school, with children's well-being at the heart, is crucial in fostering a trusting environment where children can be certain of wrap around support should they have any worries. Our open door policy ensures parents can raise any concerns they have and that they will be addressed in a timely and effective manner.

### A 'Telling' School

Our school has clear and well publicised systems to report bullying for the whole school community; staff, parents/carers and children alike. This includes the victims of bullying and those who have witnessed bullying behaviour (bystanders). We are against bullying at Wray Common so children are actively encouraged to tell if they witness or experience any form of unkindness. All children are encouraged to report incidents of bullying whether they are the recipient or an observer to their class teacher or any member of staff.



### PSHE Curriculum

Every year's PSHE curriculum has progressive units which focus on friendship, anti-bullying and online safety.

### Anti-Bullying Week

At Wray Common we dedicate a whole half term to an aspect of Anti Bullying, taking a different angle each year. This year, we are focussing on 'What Would We Do Here?' exploring how Wray Common citizens (both children and adults) proactively prevent bullying but also tackle it should it occur. We are revisiting the imagery of 'shining your light' - going out of your way to make people who might need a boost, feel happier. Alongside this, we address issues such as cyber bullying, peer pressure and examining why someone would choose to bully, through whole school and Key Stage assemblies.

### As Staff, What Do We Do?

Firstly and most importantly, we listen. All reported incidents will be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated. The school will, amongst other actions:

- interview all parties and inform relevant parents
  - implement an appropriate course of action which matches the age and maturity of those involved and the type of incident which has occurred.
  - refer to the Behaviour Policy and school sanctions.
- Follow up will take place, keeping in touch with the person who reported the situation, parents/carers and, most importantly, the victim. Support will be provided for both the victim and the bully.

## WRAY COMMON SCHOOL IS ALLERGY AWARE

"Figures from 2012 suggest at least 1 in 40 children in the UK are suffering from at least one serious allergy." - Natasha Allergy Research Foundation. With this scary statistic in mind, we take every step at Wray Common School to ensure the safety of your children whilst they are in our care. To protect children with allergies here are some of the steps we and Surrey Commercial Services take:

- On joining the school, parents are asked to advise us of any medical conditions, including allergies. This information is then kept on our database and will remain there throughout your child's time with us
- From this information, lanyards are created for any children with allergies or intolerances to wear in the lunch hall so that all staff are immediately aware
- All classrooms have lists of the medical and dietary requirements of the children in that class, so that this information can be quickly and easily accessed if necessary
- Wray Common School is a NUT free school
- All staff are aware of where children's medicines are kept, so that they can be quickly accessed in an emergency
- All office staff and most support staff are first aid trained

In addition to this, to help further protect your children we will now be asking that children must not consume food or drink brought in by others on school premises (this includes on the playground), unless express parental permission is granted. Thank you for helping us to keep your children safe.

# ALLERGY AWARENESS

## REIGATE SCHOOL DRAMA PERFORMANCE

Year 3 were treated to an outstanding performance of "Aladdin" this week performed by students from Reigate College. The children were hooked and got into the pantomime spirit with lots of 'he's behind you!' and waving to each character. There was even an actor that got a pie in the face! Year 3 were very inspired and loved this experience. "It wasn't like a normal play, it was very funny, they turned a lamp into a teapot!" Bella. "It was very clever, lots of people played more than one role. "This" and "That" were great fun!" Felix.



## YEAR 5 WATER TALK

Building on Year 5's river work at Aylmerton last week, SES water came in on Thursday to talk to the children about saving water. Did you know that taking just one minute less in the shower can save a four person home £120 per year? Each child was given a water workbook, the opportunity to join their "Flow Patrol Club" and a water timer to take home with them. Thank you SES Water, we look forward to learning how much water (and money!) Year 5 are now saving at home!



## YEAR 1 WORKSHOP REMINDER

On Tuesday "Crocodile Encounters" will be coming in to visit Year 1. If you have not done so already, please can you return your child's permission slip and payment to the school office on Monday. The letter can be found [here](#). Thank you.

## SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Could you help children within the Greensand Multi-Academy Trust succeed by becoming a school governor? It's a great way to get involved in the local community, learn how education really works from the inside, support pupils and teachers at a strategic level and bring skills and knowledge from your working life into the team. Whether you are a parent, carer or grandparent it may be you have just the skills we are looking for. Each school within the Trust works slightly differently but we really want to encourage parents to work in different schools across the Academy. Currently particular skills needed on the various governing bodies are listed below. However if you don't feel your skills fit exactly but are still interested, do still get in touch.

**Wray Common:** Finance, data analysis, education or human resources

**St John's:** Data analysis, education, health and safety, risk management

**Holmesdale:** Procurement, Project Management, links with local community, SEN Knowledge

**Dovers Green:** No vacancies

**Reigate School:** No vacancies



In the first instance please contact the clerk in this school for details: Catriona Sanderson [csanderson@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:csanderson@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk) You can then either be put in contact with another school, speak to a current governor about the role (with no obligation) or complete an application form.

## CAKE COMPETITION WINNERS

Thank you again to all those who gave so generously this morning to our cake stall, the scrumptious produce of which, will be available this evening for your tasting. The standard of cakes was extremely high this year, so the judging team found it difficult to chose this year's winner of the much coveted title of the "Best Cake". However, in the end they settled on these very deserving cakes, congratulations! To claim your rosette please come along to the Fayre this evening where they will be presented after the raffle draw.



## THE WAIT IS OVER... THE DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE IS FINALLY HERE!

Please join us 5 - 7 p.m. for some festive, family, fun! With many new festive stalls, including: a secret present room, a brand new grotto, bauble bobbing, delicious new café items, as well as Christmas carols and songs sung by the school choir, there really is something for everyone, so please do come along and support this fantastic event! We look forward to seeing you all later tonight!



## CAROL SERVICE AT ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December, the whole school will be walking down to St. Matthew's Church in Redhill for our annual Carol Service. For a safe journey to and from St Matthew's Church, we require some adult helpers to accompany the children. If you are able to help with the walk, please let the school office know asap. Helpers will be needed from 12:45 p.m. Thank you.

## CAROLS AROUND THE TREE

Please join us from 5:30 p.m. for mulled wine and mince pies, before the concert starts at 6:00 p.m on Monday 16th December. Letters for children to take part were sent home at the beginning of the week. In the letters we requested for the permission slips to be returned by Thursday but to help with our planning and rehearsals, if they could be returned by Monday 9th December it would be much appreciated. Thank you.



## CLUBS FOR THE NEW TERM

Thank you for returning your clubs letters so promptly, clubs have now been allocated and if your child has been given a place in their chosen club, you will have received notification via email earlier this week. Please note that in order to secure your child's place, payment and permission slips are required by Friday 20th December at the latest.

## SPRING TERM CLUB VACANCIES

There are spaces available in Year 5 and 6 after school Football Club on Monday evenings and Year 3-6 Dance on Thursday mornings. If you would like your child to take part in either of these clubs, please complete and return this [form](#) to the school office asap. In addition, we are now offering a new French club, run by Petit Ecole de Regiate on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 7:45 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. For further information please click [here](#).



## ADMISSIONS REMINDER

We have been asked by Surrey Admissions to remind you that the closing date for Reception and Junior applications for September 2020 entry is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The admissions team especially welcome online applications, but parents can also request a paper application form or seek impartial help in completing an application via the Surrey Schools & Childcare Service (0300 200 1004). Full information is available on Surrey's website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions)



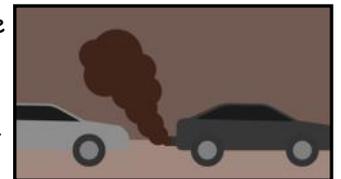
## COMMUNITY MATTERS

- The Redhill and Reigate Round Table will be taking to the streets again this year with Santa and his sleigh. To find out when he will be passing by you, please click [here](#).
- East Surrey Museum in Caterham will be holding children's activity days for pre-school children on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December, 10.30am - 4.00pm. The main activity on offer will be Christmas card making. All materials will be supplied. For further information, please click [here](#).



## CARING FOR OUR PLANET

It has been noted that since the weather has turned colder, some parents are sitting in their cars with their car engines idling. Not only is this bad for the environment in general, it is also unpleasant for passers-by who have to breathe in these cars' engine fumes. Please can we kindly request that you think of the environment and our children and refrain from keeping your engines running whilst waiting to drop off or collect your children. Thank you.



## DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

- Tues 10th Year 1 Crocodile Encounters Workshop (please return your payment and slips)
- Thurs 12th House Factor Finals





## WE'RE COUNTING DOWN TO CHRISTMAS

Day	Time	Notes
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	a.m.	Reception & Year 1 Nativity Dress Rehearsals
	1:45 p.m.	Whole School Carol Service (children and staff only) at St Matthew's Church. The children will be walking down from 1:00p.m. This is for ALL children (unless we have your slip returned withdrawing your child for religious reasons—in which case those children remain at school for their own activity). Warm coats, hats and gloves please! As we are walking down, we would be most grateful for any parents/carers who could walk with us, to and from the church. (Please let the office know if you can help).
	6:00 p.m.	Family Carols Around the Tree - join us from 5:30 p.m. for mulled wine and mince pies before the concert at 6:00 p.m. <b>Please park considerately and keep our local roads clear for emergency vehicles.</b>
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9:20 a.m.	Reception Nativity Performance in the Large Hall <i>Coffee will be available before the performance</i>
	2:10 p.m.	Year 1 Nativity Performance in the Large Hall Children will return to class to change after their performance in time to go home at normal pick-up time. <b>Please park considerately and keep our local roads clear for emergency vehicles.</b>
	p.m.	Year 4 Choir members to sing at Wray Common Residential and Nursing Home (during school time - normal pick-up time from school)
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9:20 a.m.	Year 1 Nativity Performance in the Large Hall <i>Coffee will be available before the performance</i>
	2:15 p.m.	Reception Nativity Performance in the Large Hall Children will return to class to change after their performance in time to go home at normal pick-up time. <b>Please park considerately and keep our local roads clear for emergency vehicles.</b>
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	From 11:30	School Christmas Lunch—for those children who normally have a school hot meal and for those who have paid for this special Christmas lunch. The staff will join the children for lunch promoting a festive, family atmosphere!
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Doors open	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM</b> Celebration Medals Assembly
	12:40 p.m.	
	1:35 p.m. 1:40 p.m.	End of Day for Reception, Year 1 and 2 End of Day for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6





FRIENDS OF WRAY COMMON

THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE IS TONIGHT AT 5:00 P.M. - SEE YOU THERE FOR LOTS OF FESTIVE FUN!!