



WORPLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

11th September 2020

Worple Newsletter

Enjoy, Learn, Grow

Head Teacher's Update

Dear Parents,

It has been an absolute pleasure welcoming the children back into school this week, there has been a really 'joyful buzz' across the school all week. We have continued to work hard across the week to ensure that the children feel settled and are beginning to adapt to life back at school, and the children have responded very well. They have adapted quickly to the enhanced school hygiene procedures and we would be grateful if you were able to reinforce these back at home as well, particularly the regular handwashing after coming in from outside.

Thank you for your support with the playground arrangements. It is not easy trying to get KS1 out of school in 10 minutes, and we do ask for your continued support in making the after-school systems work. If you are waiting for a KS2 child after school and you have already collected from KS1, can we ask that you do wait in the upper school playground until 3.10pm and not in the lower school playground - this will help us to avoid overcrowding in the lower school playground. I know that we have all missed talking to each other after school in the playground, but can I also ask that you move away from the lower school playground after collection to provide more space for other parents collecting. We all need to work together to make sure that as a community we are keeping as safe as can be.

I have no doubt that by 3.30pm on Friday, there will be some blurry eyes and some emotional children, as well as many tired parents and teachers. We will all need the weekend to recuperate!! I know as parents we all want to get our children out and about especially if the weather is good, but please do make time to ensure that the children rest and have some down time before we restart again on Monday.

They have been away from school for a long time and it is important that we all work together to build their resilience, and ours more gradually.

With best wishes,

Marais Leenders

Executive Head teacher

Morning Snacks

Our new timetable means that KS2 children do not break for lunch until 12.45. UKS2 classes do not begin eating lunch until 1.05pm. By this time everybody is very hungry and ready for lunch! Please encourage your children to eat a substantial breakfast and **bring a healthy snack** to eat at playtime. This can be fresh fruit or vegetables such as an apple or some carrot sticks; or dried fruit like raisins or apricots. As we currently have children in school with **severe nut and dairy allergies**, do not send any food products other than those specified. Thank you for your support with this. If your child is in EYFS or KS1, a healthy snack will be provided for you child as part of the Government's fruit and vegetable scheme.

Tea with the Teacher

Over the next two weeks we will be holding our annual 'Tea with the Teacher' events. These will provide you with an opportunity to understand more about the curriculum and your child's learning journey this year. The sessions will be held virtually on Zoom and a link will be sent to you via ParentMail the day before. Please note these events will run at the later time of 3:45pm this year, enabling more of you to be able to attend we hope. Please see dates listed below:

Nursery – Wednesday 23rd September

Reception – Tuesday 22nd September

Year 1 – Monday 14th September

Year 2 – Tuesday 15th September

Year 3 – Wednesday 16th September

Year 4 – Thursday 17th September

Year 5 – Friday 18th September

Year 6 – Monday 21st September

Homework and Reading

In line with our new Covid-19 risk assessment we have had to change the way send reading books and homework home. Reading books will be sent home on a Monday and should be returned on a Friday. They will then be left in a decontamination box ready to be used again the following week. Please ensure that your child has read their book/s

by the Friday and where applicable your child's reading diary is signed.

All homework will now be set on your child's **Google Classroom**. Homework will be set on a Friday and should be returned/submitted the following week on Wednesday. More information regarding homework will be shared in the Tea with the Teacher meetings.

Packed Lunches

A reminder that it is expected that all EYFS and KS1 children have school lunches. Your child should only be bringing a packed lunch to school if this has been agreed with the school in advance. There was a lot of food wastage this week caused by parents sending their child in with a packed and not liaising with the school office in advance. If your child has specific dietary requirements, please ensure you inform the office so that we can cater for your child's needs.

Pastoral Hour

We were delighted to launch our 'Pastoral Hour' this week. This is a facility available to all our families and will be run by our pastoral manager, Mrs. Carlie Pennington. Mrs Pennington will be available every morning by telephone or email through the school office. This is an hour for you communicate anything you wish your child's class teacher to know or to talk through any concerns that you may have. Mrs Pennington will also be able to offer additional support, links to external professionals, or just be there is reassurance.

Pastoral Hour will be available at the times below:

Monday 9am -10am

Tuesday 8:30am -9:30am

Wednesday 8:30am -9:30am

Thursday 8:30am -9:30am

Friday 8:30am -9:30am



Covid-19 Update

You will all have seen the announcements from the government this week reminding us to keep our distance and follow the rules on hygiene to prevent the spread of the virus. At school we are reminding the children of the importance of these key messages. Please reinforce them with your child at home.

As we enter the season of coughs and colds, many of you have been asking for some clarity about what to do if your child is displaying symptoms, we have put together a simple grid with updated guidance from the Government (please see attached document). We hope this will give parents some reassurance and resolve the confusion for you. As always, if you are unsure please call us.



Parental Contact

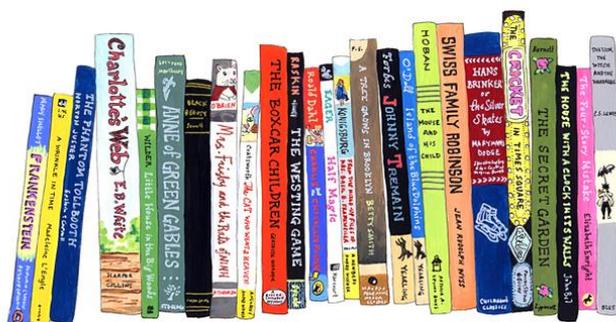
It is vital that we hold your up to date contact details at school. If you have changed your address, phone number or email address please inform the school office ASAP.



Reading Corner

Worple Book Amnesty

Since March our book stocks have become somewhat depleted. Next week there will be some large boxes in the playground under the shelter. **If you have any school reading books or library books at home, please return them** by putting them in these boxes. So get the children to check in cupboards, under beds, behind the sofa and let's get those books back to school!



Year 6 Secondary School Transfer

We will be holding a Year 6 Secondary School Transfer meeting on **Monday 28th September** at 6:30pm. The aim of the meeting is to give you all the information you will need to know to about the Secondary school transfer process including and ask any questions you may have. Due to Covid-19 we will be holding the meeting via Zoom. We will send out further information nearer the time.

What our parents said last year about our Secondary School Transfer Meeting:

"I found the meeting really helpful. I didn't realize how secondary school places were allocated and this really made us think about what schools we put down."

"I felt really reassured after the meeting. It was great to have someone from a secondary school in the meeting who could help answer my questions."

Class	Merits
Nursery	
Reception	
Year 1	All of Year 1. Welcome back! So lovely to see you all.
Year 2	All of Year 2, a brilliant start to the new year, lots of smiling and happy faces! Lovely to have you all back.
Year 3	All of Year 3, a super week, settling so well into KS2, well done everyone
Year 4	All of year 4, so lovely to have you all back at school, well done for settling back into Worplesdon so quickly and so enthusiastically.
Year 5	All of Year 5, a fantastic start to the year, welcome back, we missed you!
Year 6	All of Year 6, an excellent start to the year, a focussed, fun and full week of learning, it's been a real pleasure having you back in school.

Times Tables Rock Stars

Times Table Rock Stars will be back soon. Over the next couple of week classes will complete their times table baseline which is used to calculate each children's individual progress. In the meantime, you can still login and practice those tables!

Key Dates

	Academic Year 2020-21
W/C Monday 14 th September	Staggered start for EYFS children. Individual letters confirming your child's start date have been posted to you.
Monday 14 th September	Year 1 Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Tuesday 15 th September	Year 2 Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Wednesday 16 th September	Year 3 Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Thursday 17 th September	Year 4 Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Friday 18 th September	Year 5 Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Monday 21 st September	Year 6 Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Tuesday 22 nd September	Reception Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Wednesday 23 rd September	Nursery Tea with the Teacher at 3:45
Monday 28 th September	Year 6 Secondary School Transfer Meeting at 6:30am via Zoom
W/C Monday 12 th October	Parents Evenings