

Walpole Cross Keys Primary School

Weekly Newsletter – 10th November 2023



On Wednesday morning our year 1 pupils went on a **village walk** to take photos for their English write up. It was lovely to see so many parents/carers on Wednesday during our **parent consultations**. If you were unable to attend for any reason but you would like a meeting please speak with the office.

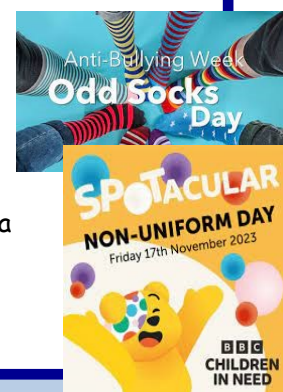
Yesterday our **cross country finalists** went to Lynnsport to compete in their races, they all did really well representing the school. Well done everyone. In the afternoon the NHS **flu immunisation** team visited and those children with consent had their immunisations.

Thank you to everyone who supported our PTA events last week, we raised **£117**. Our next PTA event has changed to a disco taking place after school on **Tuesday 19th December**, details will follow.

Next week > We are raising awareness for anti-bullying week with an **odd socks day** on Monday. All you need to do is wear odd socks, it is a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique. On Friday we will be raising money for **children in need** with a non uniform ***spotty theme*** day, donations can be made on ParentPay. Thank you for your support.

As always, we would like to ensure that your **experience** at Walpole Cross Keys Primary is a **positive** one. If you have any concerns, in the first instance please telephone, email the school office or speak with the class teacher.

Best Wishes
Ms J. Borley
Executive Head Teacher



Next week ...

Monday

- Odd Socks Day *no donations required*
- All yrs gymnastics *wear PE kits, no hot dinners - school or home packed lunch only*

Tuesday

- Music lessons *remember instruments*

Wednesday

- Remembrance rehearsal & performance
- Lunchtime games club

Thursday

- Yrs R, 1, 4, 5 & 6 PE day *wear PE kits*
- Starter band practice @ St Clements High *pick up 5pm from high school*
- All yrs football club 3:15pm-4:15pm *bookings only*

Friday

- Non uniform day spotty theme for Children in Need *donations on ParentPay*
- Choir club 12:30pm
- PTA tuck shop 3:15pm in playground

STARS: Gabrielle yrR, Chase yr2 & Star yr6
KINDNESS: Brody yr1, Ivy O yr3 & Grace yr6
HANDWRITING: Amelia yrR, Edward yr2 & Alan yr6
PHSE: Amelia & Gabrielle yrR, Josie & Rosie M yr4, Eli yr5, Aaron, Star, Bluebell, Grace & Harry yr6
GOLDEN BROOM: Class 2
THANK YOU: Mable yr1, Chase yr2 & Lilley yr4



Attendance

Reception: 84.13%

Year 1: 97.22%

Year 2: 88.89%

Year 3: 93.65%

Year 4: 100%

Year 5: 100%

Year 6: 93.65%

Whole school: 93.88%

Attendance bear winners: Class 3



Please check following pages for future diary dates.

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- ✓ Yr1 zoolab 22/11: Final instalment on ParentPay by 20th November.
- ✓ Yrs5&6 tag rugby 27/11: Consent on ParentPay by 13th November.
- ✓ Yr1 True's Yard 29/11: Final instalment on ParentPay by 20th November.
- ✓ All years Dick Whittington 13/12: Second instalment on ParentPay by 30th November.
- ✓ Young voices 16/1: Payments must be made in full by Friday 5th January.

Diary Dates

Please be aware that dates are for guidance only and are subject to change

Thursday 23rd November	Yr1 zoolab workshop @ West Lynn *final instalment by 20th November*
	Class 1 learning with parents launch @ 3pm *class 1 parents/carers invited*
Monday 27th November	Yrs5&6 tag rugby (selected pupils) *consent by 13th November*
Wednesday 29th November	Yr1 True's Yard visit *final instalment by 20th November*
Friday 1st December	Yr6 midsummer nights dream @ Guildhall *letter to follow*
Thursday 7th December	Christmas jumper day & rudolph run *details to follow*
Tuesday 12th December	Nativity performance @ 9:30am *details to follow*
Wednesday 13th December	Dick Whittington @ King's Lynn Corn Exchange *2nd instalment by 30th November*
Thursday 14th December	School nurse visiting YrR&6
	Christmas lunch *details to follow*
	Nativity performance @ 2:20pm *details to follow*
Tuesday 19th December	PTA disco *details to follow*
Thursday 21st December to Wednesday 3rd January	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK

Jephson hall Christmas party is Sunday 3rd December 2pm -4.30pm, free party for children 11 years & under who either live in Walpole X Keys, attend Walpole X keys Primary school or Ladybirds pre-school. Disco, food & gift from santa. Please let me know if you would like your child to attend. Messenger or 07917294571

Attention Class 1 Parents/Carers

We are launching a brand new home-work platform for class 1 this year and would love to tell you all about it!

Please come to the meeting at school on **Thursday 23rd November at 3pm** where we will inform you of the new platform.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Week 3

Monday

Tuesday

STREET FEAST
WEDNESDAY

Thursday

Friday

Main Meal

Italian Meatballs in a Rich Tomato Sauce served with Penne Pasta, Peas & Sweetcorn
(G) (W) (MK) (SO) (MU)

Tasty Beef & Cheese Burrito served with Whole Grain Rice, Tomato & Cucumber Salsa
(G) (W) (MK)

Homemade Wholemeal Meat Pizza served with Herb Sautéed Potato and Seasonal Vegetables or Fresh Salad
(G) (W) (E) (SO) (MK)

Roast Chicken served with Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Cabbage, Stuffing Ball and Gravy
(G) (W)

Fish Fingers served with Chips, Garden Peas or Baked Beans
(G) (W) (F)

Meat Free

Vegan Meatballs in a Rich Tomato Sauce served with Penne Pasta, Peas & Sweetcorn
(G) (W) (MK) (SO) (MU)

Tasty Quorn Mince & Cheese Burrito served with Whole Grain Rice, Tomato & Cucumber Salsa
(G) (W) (B) (E) (MK)

Homemade Wholemeal Margherita Pizza served with Herb Sautéed Potato and Baked Beans or Fresh Salad
(G) (W) (E) (SO) (MK)

Roast Broccoli, Cauliflower & Lentil Bake served with Crusty Bread
(G) (W) (MK)

Vegetable Nuggets served with Chips, Garden Peas or Baked Beans
(G) (W)

Pasta and Jackets

Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings served with Fresh Salad
(MK) (F) (E)

Pasta Twists with Homemade Tomato and Vegetable Sauce served with Fresh Salad and Chunky Bread
(G) (W) (MK) (SO) (MU)

Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings served with Fresh Salad
(MK) (F) (E)

Pasta Twists with Cheddar Cheese Sauce served with Fresh Salad and Chunky Bread
(G) (W) (MK) (SO) (MU)

Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings served with Fresh Salad
(MK) (F) (E)

Lunchtime Lunchbox

Cheese Sandwich Tortilla Chips Salad Sticks Choose one of our Fabulous Desserts
(G) (W) (B) (SO) (MK) (SE)

Ham Sandwich Pizza Finger Salad Sticks Choose one of our Fabulous Desserts
(G) (W) (B) (E) (MK) (SO) (SE)

Tuna Mayo Sandwich Tortilla Chips Salad Sticks Choose one of our Fabulous Desserts
(G) (W) (B) (F) (E) (SO) (SE)

Ham Sandwich Cheese Straw Salad Sticks Choose one of our Fabulous Desserts
(G) (W) (B) (E) (MK) (SO) (SE)

Cheese Sandwich Tortilla Chips Salad Sticks Choose one of our Fabulous Desserts
(G) (W) (B) (SO) (MK) (SE)

Desserts

Chocolate Brownie Fresh Fruit Pot
(G) (W) (E)

Strawberry Muffin Fresh Fruit Pot
(G) (W) (E) (MK)

Apple & Berry Crumble Fresh Fruit Pot
(G) (W)

Vanilla Crunch Fresh Fruit Pot
(G) (W) (E) (MK)

St Clements Shortbread Fresh Fruit Pot
(G) (W)

Making lunchtime the **highlight** of your day



Allergen Key: Barley (B), Celery (C), Egg (E), Fish (F), Gluten (G), Lupin (L), Milk (MK), Mustard (MU), Sesame Seeds (SE), Soya (SO), Sulphites (SU), Wheat (W)

If your child would like any school lunches please order for the week using **ParentPay**, the deadline for orders is midnight on Sunday. If you miss the deadline please email the office by 9am on Monday with your child's choices for the week.
Thank you

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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