



Warden House Primary School

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Newsletter – Friday 15th December 2023

Headteachers' Message

Well, here we are at the end of Term 2 and the start of the Christmas Holiday. It really does only seem like five minutes ago that we were starting the school year back in September! It has definitely been another very busy term across the school with lots of exciting things going on.

From our Marlowe Theatre pantomime visit last week, Christmas nativity shows and concerts, choir visits and Christmas lunch, there has certainly been lots to keep us busy – on top of our usual learning in class!

As we head towards the new year, there are lots of exciting things planned. We are looking forward to finally starting the work on our enhanced wellbeing garden, as well as redeveloping the area where 'The Deck' used to be and getting on with the repairs to the roof of the old Year 6 building.



On behalf of our staff team, I would like to thank you all for your kind Christmas wishes and gifts sent in over the past few days. I know that they are very much appreciated.

I wish you all very happy and healthy Christmas holiday and look forward to seeing the children back at school on Thursday 4th January 2024.

Best wishes
Mr. Hackett

PTFA Christmas Fair

A huge thank you to all of our families for the support for our Christmas Fair last Friday. The weather was once again very kind and a fabulous community event took place. Thank you to all of the amazing volunteers who gave up their time to make the event possible. A fantastic total was raised for PTFA funds.



Reception Nativity

Our Year R children put on a really lovely Nativity show for their parents and families last week called "Everyone Loves a Baby!" Thank you to all who came along to watch. The children (and staff!) did a great job!



Marlowe pantomime visit

Our whole-school visit to The Marlowe Theatre pantomime last week was a great success. A special thank you to Ms. Burnley for all of her hard work and organisation. It is certainly not easy planning a trip for over 400 children and adults!



A special well done must also go to Sophia and Archie from Tigers' Class (and Mrs. McDonald!) for their starring moment on stage alongside CBEEBIES very own "Mr. Maker"!



If you have not seen it, there is a great video on our [school Facebook page](#) of them performing "Mrs. MacDonald had a farm!" on stage in front of the audience!

Rocksteady concert

On Monday this week, our 'Rocksteady' bands took part in their first ever concert to friends and family members.



It was great to see how far the children have come in a short period of time and see first-hand the enjoyment that comes from learning an instrument and playing in a band. Thank you to teacher Colin for his hard work in organising the concert.

Christmas choir visits

Our school "Christmas Choir" have been incredibly busy over the past few weeks. They had an absolutely fantastic evening at St Mary's Church in Walmer last Saturday where they performed alongside the White Cliffs Symphonic Wind Orchestra as part of their 'Christmas Celebration' Concert. Visit our [school Facebook page](#) to see some lovely videos of some of their songs.



We have also been out singing in the community over the past two weeks. Smaller groups of children have visited, St. Winifred's Care Home, Walmer Care Centre, Wellington Court, Glendale Lodge and the Betteshanger Sports and Social Club Christmas Breakfast where they have sung carols and brought Christmas cheer.



The children have one final performance this Christmas time as they have been invited to take part in the Walmer Town Council "Carols on the Green" event this Saturday 15th December at 5pm (next to the Sea Café on Walmer Green).

'Southern Water' Planters

Our site manager Mr. Richards has been in touch with Southern Water who have kindly provided us with several large planters for our school site as part of their "Slow the Flow" initiative. This eco-minded campaign is designed to slow the flow of rain water during periods of heavy rain to stop the drain and sewer system from being overloaded.



Last week a team from Southern Water visited the school to install the planters and work with some groups of children to plant them up with some hardy perennials that will enhance the appearance of our school site.



Southern Water's Project Lead Nicole McNab said about the project:

"This is a fantastic project that showcases how crucial partnership working is. I'd like to thank the schools, students and staff for participating in the scheme, as well as the Department for Education for establishing the programme."

"All the schools involved are helping to slow the flow of rainwater entering our network, and we have seen real enthusiasm from all taking part. It has given us a great opportunity to explain the work we're doing to reduce flooding and storm overflows to a younger audience and answer any questions teachers may have."

Deal Library

Christmas Arts and Crafts

Deal Library are hosting a special Christmas Arts and Crafts session for primary-aged children on Tuesday 19 December between 11:00am and 12.30 pm. This is a Drop-in session that is suitable for ages 4- 11 years and is free.



Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult. Further details can be found at:

<https://local.kent.gov.uk/kb5/kent/directory/service.page?id=uw2wDK8a1CA>

Celebration Assemblies

As you may know, during our weekly celebration assemblies each week, children have the opportunity to bring in any special certificates, medals and trophies that have been earned outside of school.



If you feel that your child has a special achievement that they would like to share with the wider school community, this must be brought into class and shared with their teacher who can then decide whether this is something that can be shared in a whole-school assembly.

Staffing Updates

As we come to the end of term, there are several staff changes to let you know about for the New Year including several departures and new arrivals:

Departures:

Leaving us at the end of term is our Assistant Headteacher and SENCO Mrs Alldis. As I'm sure you will know, Mrs. Alldis has been an absolutely integral part of our team over the past five years – leading SEND across the school along with our school's pastoral team. Her hard work has been instrumental in us achieving the National Nurturing School Award last year. I know that she has provided a great deal of support to so many of our families over her time with us and she will be deeply missed by us all.

Also leaving Warden House/Veritas MAT at the end of term are two to take up new challenges are members of the finance team, Mrs. Dawn Hunter-Wardle and Mrs. Hayley Manning. We wish both staff members well and hope they keep in touch.

Year 6 teacher Miss Robinson is also moving on from Warden House at the end of this term following a period of absence. We wish Miss Robinson all the best for her future and thank her for her hard work and commitment to all at Warden House over the past three years.

We also say goodbye to midday supervisor and school cleaner Chloe Williams who leaves us to take up a new role as a carer.

We wish all of these staff members all the very best for their futures and hope that they stay in touch.



Arrivals:

Taking over from Mrs. Alldis as Acting SENCO will be our current assistant SENCO Mrs. Lucy Watson. Mrs. Watson has a range of experience in supporting children and families with SEND and we are very grateful that she has agreed to step into this role on a temporary basis until we can recruit a replacement Assistant headteacher/SENCO. Mrs. Watson will be increasing her hours next term and will be available for 3.5 days per week.

We have been pleased to welcome our new FLO Mrs. Mackenzie-Frazer to the team over the past week (see previous item).

We are looking forward to welcoming new Year 6 teacher Mr. Dominic Whittle who will be taking over the teaching of Ravens class from Miss Robinson from the start of Term 3.

Also joining the team next term is new breakfast club assistant Mrs. Jasmin Morris and new Midday supervisor Miss Charlotte Cory. We look forward to working with them.

Welcome from our new Family Liaison Officer (FLO)

I'm writing to introduce myself as the new family liaison officer for Warden House.

It is my privilege to serve as point of contact for the families who are connected with our organization. I am dedicated to ensuring clear and effective communication between Warden House and the families that we serve.



My role as family liaison officer is to provide support, information and assistance to families. I understand that navigating the various services and resources available can be challenging and I am committed to helping families access the support they need.

I will be working closely with families to address any concerns or questions they may have as well as provide guidance on available services and programs. I am here to listen, offer empathy and help families feel supported throughout their interaction with our organization.

I recognize the importance of building strong relationships with our families as well as creating a sense of trust and understanding. I am committed to being transparent, approachable and responsive to the needs of the families I serve by maintaining open lines of communication.

I aim to ensure that our families feel informed and empowered in their interactions with Warden House. I'm eager to connect with each family and to establish a strong, supportive partnership. My goal is to ensure that our families feel heard, understood and valued within our organization.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns or feedback. I am here to assist in any way I can and welcome the opportunity to connect with you. I am honoured to be a part of this important team and am committed to making a positive impact on the lives of the families we support.

I will be holding a coffee morning on Wednesday 10th January 8.30-9.30am in the Bistro. Please do come along to say hello!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. Kerry Mackenzie-Frazer

Key Dates for Term 3 2024

Staff Training Days	Tuesday 2 January 2024 Wednesday 3 January 2024
Children Return to school	Thursday 4 January 2024
School council trip to Westminster	Thursday 4 January 2024
Swimming Lessons for Year 3 Foxes and Starfish classes	Every Thursday afternoon in Term 3
FLOs Coffee Morning – ALL welcome!	Wednesday 10 th January 8.30am - 9.30am
PFTA “Surprise!”	Tuesday 23 January 2024
Scholastic Book Fair in School	Tuesday 30 January 2024 to Thursday 1 February 2024
Parents’ Evenings	Wednesday 31 January 2024 and Thursday 1 February 2024
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 February 2024
Whole School Pfizers Science Day	Friday 9 February 2024

Menu November 2023 - February 2024			
	Week One	Week Two	Week Three
	30th Oct, 20th Nov, 1st Jan, 22nd Jan	6th Nov, 27th Nov, 8th Jan, 29th Jan	4th Dec, 15th Jan, 5th Feb
	11th December Christmas Week (Rel)		
Monday	Option 1 Cheesy Pasta Option 2 Tomato Pasta served with Garlic Flatbread Sweetcorn & Green Beans Option 3 *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Dessert Frozen Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Pizza Pinwheel Pasta Provencale Wedges Baked Beans & Peas *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Frozen Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Home-made Pizza Vegetable Pasta Bake 1/2 Jacket Potato Peas & Baked Beans *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Frozen Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly
Tuesday	Option 1 Chicken & Cheese Quesadillas Option 2 *Mexican Bean Wrap served with Rice Carrots & Peas Option 3 *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Dessert Chocolate Cake & Chocolate Sauce Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Chicken Pie & Gravy Veggie Pie & Gravy Creamed Potatoes Broccoli & Mixed Veg *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Marble Sponge & Custard Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Breaded Chicken Steak *Cheese Puff Herby Diced Potatoes Mixed Salad *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Syrup Sponge & Vanilla Sauce Fresh Fruit/Jelly
Wednesday	Option 1 Roast Chicken with Stuffing Option 2 Winter Vegetable & Potato Bake served with Roast Potatoes Local Seasonal Vegetables & Cooks Choice Option 3 *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Dessert Cookie Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Sausages with Yorkshire Pud & Gravy Quorn Sausage with yorkshire pud Roast Potatoes Diced Carrots & Cooks Choice *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Cookie Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Roast Pork *Veggie Meatloaf & Gravy Roast Potatoes Local Seasonal Vegetables & Cooks Choice *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Cookie Fresh Fruit/Jelly
Thursday	Option 1 Burger in a Bun Option 2 Quorn Sausage served with Wedges Cucumber & Coleslaw Option 3 *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Dessert Fruit Crumble & Custard Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Bolognese Veggie Bolognese Pasta Sweetcorn & Broccoli *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Fruit Crumble & Custard Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Meatball Sub Meatless Sub Cucumber & Peas *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Fruit Crumble & Custard Fresh Fruit/Jelly
Friday	Option 1 Fish Fingers Option 2 Veggie Nuggets served with Chips/Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn Option 3 *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Dessert Cooks Choice of Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Fish Fingers Veggie Nuggets Chips/Pasta Baked Beans & Peas *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Cooks Choice of Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly	Fish Fingers Veggie Nuggets Chips/Pasta Baked Beans & Sweetcorn *Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Cooks Choice of Dessert Fresh Fruit/Jelly
 Suitable for Vegetarians  Suitable for Vegans & Vegetarians  Contains Fish	All items are subject to availability Bread, Salad and fresh drinking water are available with every meal All vegetarian dishes with * can be made suitable for vegans www.wholeschoolmeals.co.uk <small>Whole School Meals CIC – Company Number: 5721609 – Registered address: Almond House, Belfashanger Road, Belfashanger, Deal CT14 0EN</small>		