



WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Merton Hall Road
Wimbledon
London, SW19 3QB

T: +44 (0)20 8542 1413

E: wcps@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk

W: www.wimbledonchaseschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr. K. Ellis B.Ed. (Hons.), M.A. (Education)

Friday 20th October 2023

Dear Parents,

I can hardly believe how time has flown by. This half-term has been a whirlwind of hard work and happy faces from the children. They've tackled their lessons with zest, and it's been a joy to watch them learn and grow into their new year groups.

The children have been very positive about our school values and [Cornerstone rules](#). You may remember that these values were introduced after our Rights Respecting Schools work with the children, who helped decide what was important at Wimbledon Chase. Our values are woven through our Cornerstones Curriculum and are the basis for our school [relationship and positive behaviour](#) ethos.

It has been a busy half-term!

CHRISTMAS!

It may feel too early to mention but Christmas is coming!

Christmas Cards

Hopefully you received information from the Friends about Christmas Card designs this week. The deadline for designs to be returned to school is **Wednesday 1st November**. Please return them in the envelope supplied to the class teacher.



Love in a Box

As in previous years, we are supporting the 'Love in a Box' appeal which provides a small box of Christmas gifts for underprivileged children in countries facing challenges at this time of year. Love in a Box leaflets were sent home to you this week and the children have talked about Love in a Box in assembly.

The deadline for boxes back to school is **Friday 10th November**.

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BOOKFEST

Years 3, 5 and 6 have had great fun recently attending numerous events put on by **Bookfest**. They have been inspired in their reading and writing by listening to authors talk about their work and how they get their inspiration. Our children asked excellent questions and some even went up on stage to meet the authors (you can see a photograph below of Atharv receiving a prize from Cressida Cowell, author of *How to Train Your Dragon*. He was a runner up in this year's Bookfest writing competition). I hope that the children do lots of reading over the half-term break!



Cressida Cowell presenting a prize to Atharv



Mithila was presented with a signed book by David Walliams!



Katherine Rundell, author of *Impossible Creatures* inspired our Year 5s to read back in the school library!



YEAR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER

I am sure that Year 6 parents have made decisions about **applying** for secondary schools for their children for next year. If you do need help, the [Department for Education has recently published this blog](#) which may be of interest as well as the information that [we have on our website](#). The deadline is Tuesday 31st October.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



We recently launched our annual celebration of **Black History Month**, which takes place throughout October. Black History Month is an opportunity to ensure that all young people, no matter their background, learn about black history and the achievements of black people. The children gain age appropriate opportunities to learn about black explorers, writers, musicians, activists and leaders. Black History Month is not just confined to one month

here at Wimbledon Chase, but it does provide us with opportunities to talk about rights as part of our Rights Respecting Schools work.

The theme this year is "**Saluting our Sisters – Celebrating the achievement of Black Women**". You may be interested in the women we focused on this week by following the links on [Yvonne Witter](#), who has encouraged women in her community to enjoy the countryside. Or you might like to watch a video about one of our house heroes – [Malorie Blackman](#). Or perhaps you would be interested in the famous and important [Rosa Parks](#).

PETER AND THE WOLF - MUSICAL EVENT



Merton Music Foundation (MMF) have asked us to send out details of a lovely concert of film and music on **Saturday 18th November**, which might appeal to some parents to take their children to. MMF have negotiated a deal of 10% off for Merton schools.

The event is on Saturday 18th November, at Regent Hall (Oxford Street), with three performances at 1.00pm, 3.00pm

and 5.00pm. **Peter & The Wolf** is an Oscar-winning stop-motion animation, set beautifully to Prokofiev's famous music. The St Paul's Sinfonia will be live on-stage in front of the big screen and the performance will open with an exclusive preview of **Kensuke's Kingdom** – the new animated feature film adaptation of the Michael Morpurgo book of the name.

If you are interested, please use the promo code "**MERTONPETER**", giving a 10% [discount on ticket purchases here](#).

IESP MEETINGS & PARENT CONSULTATIONS

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Parents' Consultation Meetings this week and the teachers enjoyed talking about the children's learning.

We always welcome any feedback from these events - if you would like to feed anything back then [please follow this link](#).

Please don't forget the [Share My Learning](#) evening on **Thursday 16th November (3.45pm - 7.00pm)** which will be an opportunity for you and your child to have a look at the learning the children have been doing this term as well as their learning environment.

SAFEGUARDING



We take the safety and wellbeing of pupils and those who work in and visit our school very seriously. Each year we review the security of the site and our safeguarding procedures and we have recently reviewed the school Safeguarding and Child Protection policy in light of new government documentation. School staff have regular update training and are keen to promote the safeguarding of children through the curriculum and the daily interaction they have with the children. We also talk about safeguarding (staying safe) in class and in assemblies and you may have seen the children's [Stay Safe board](#) when you came for Parent Consultation Meetings.

After half-term when it is darker in the evenings, to keep the site safe we will be [locking the gates by Merton Hall Road at 4.45pm](#). Happy Faces children will need to be [picked up via the Chase Alley entrance](#). This is purely to safeguard the children on site.

EVENTS

Our latest dates for the term can be [found on our website](#) (as well as in the Calendar on the Parent App) and here are some reminders below.

Forthcoming events include:

- **Parent Workshops**
 - Thursday 2nd November** (please note change of date): Zones of Regulation Virtual Workshop for parents (supporting your child's self-regulation and emotional control) 6.00pm (Virtual - information to follow - Nursery to Year 6)
 - Wednesday 8th November at 2.00pm & 2.25pm and Thursday 9th November at 8.55am and 9.20am**: Developing the Life-Long Reader (Reception Parent Workshop - Phonics and Comprehension)
 - Wednesday 8th November**: Phonics and Early Reading Workshop (Years 1, 2 and ARP Parents) 9.00am
 - Monday 13th November**: Linking Language and Comprehension Workshop (Nursery Parents)
 - Wednesday 22nd November**: Parenting a child with characteristics of ADHD 9.00am - 10.30am (see Parent App for flyer)

- **Christmas Productions**

Phase 1: Tuesday 5th December at 9.20am, Wednesday 6th December at 2.00pm and Thursday 7th December at 9.20am.

Phase 2: Tuesday 5th December at 2.00pm, Wednesday 6th December at 9.20am and Friday 8th December at 9.20am.

Phase 3: Wednesday 13th December at 6.00pm, Thursday 14th December at 6.00pm and Friday 15th December at 9.20am.

- **Other Events**

Thursday 16th November: **NHS Flu Immunisation** Reception to Year 6

Thursday 16th November: **Share My Learning Evening** 3.45pm – 7.00pm

Friday 10th November 4.30pm-6.00pm: **Phase 3 Disco**

Friday 17th November **Non-uniform day for Children in Need**

Friday 1st December **Non-uniform day for Christmas Fair**

Friday 8th December 4.30pm-6.00pm: **Phase 2 Disco**

Friday 8th December **Christmas Jumper Day**

We will send out information on how to sign up for these events on the Parent App.

FINALLY

A couple of reminders, please remember that children can only have **school meals** for a week at a time and not on ad hoc days. Please give us a week's notice if you wish to change lunchtime arrangements.

For parents who **need to pick their children up during the day** for an appointment, please remember that the **scooters** by the Chase Alley are inaccessible during the day (it would be worth using the shelter by the dining hall if you know you have an appointment for your child).



Our **uniform sale** this week was extremely popular again. Half term is a good time to check that your child's name is still visible on their uniform or whether it needs re-naming. Thank you.

Have a good half-term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 30th October.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Ellis".

Mr. K. Ellis
Headteacher

The Rights Respecting Articles we have been focusing on recently at school.



Every child has the right to share freely with others what they have learned, think and feel.



Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.