

WEXHAM COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL



Monday 4th January – Friday 8th January 2016

Important Dates:

- ★ Monday 11th January – Parent Assessment Meeting in Urdu (4-5pm)
- ★ Wednesday 13th January – Parent Assessment Meeting in Punjabi (4-5pm)
- ★ Thursday 14th January – Parent Assessment Meeting in Polish (4-5pm)
- ★ Wednesday 20th January – Year 2 Trip to Milestones Museum (first 45 children)
- ★ Wednesday 20th January – Year 4 Topic Based Workshop (10-11:45am – Large Hall)
- ★ Friday 22nd January – Year 2 Trip to Milestones Museum (second 45 children)

Mathletics:

1st – 6VB

2nd – 6HM & 6SB

3rd – 3TM

4th – 4MO

5th – 4AM

Spellodrome winners:

Year 6 – Shearyaar (Thailand), Mohammad (Nepal) and Khuzaam (China)

Year 5 – Kate (Italy), Adrian (Hungary), and Gaja (France)

Year 4 – Dominik (Tanzania), Sonia (Morocco) and Ahmed (Mozambique)

Year 3 – Ibrahim/Eiman (Chile), Souddhais (Ecuador) and Harleen (Peru)



Reminder: Wexham Court Primary is a NON-SMOKING site and a NO LITTER DROPPING site. Do not drop litter or smoke. Do not do it!



Dear Parents/Carers,

A big welcome back to all parents and pupils and a Happy New Year to you all. I am so pleased to see the children bouncing back into the flow of school life, some even telling me how much they missed school! There are just a few things I wanted to make you aware of. Across the school this term we are concentrating on healthy living and have started by implementing a new lunchbox policy. With regards to healthy eating, whether or not we agree on what should be in a lunchbox, I am sure we all agree that it falls to us as adults to ensure that our children develop well. Therefore during school hours, I humbly request that you follow the policy and rules that are in place, they will not go away. A more productive approach would be to work together to develop some really good lunchbox ideas to share.

We will continue to develop the topic of healthy living by exploring physical and mental health too. The key message we wish to share is that we must look after all areas of our health to reach a BALANCE. During this topic the children will look at internet safety, how to relax and mentally prepare for the next day, ensure they get enough sleep and that they understand how their personal responsibilities grow each year. We also want to ensure that pupils are aware of how to get support and help both in school and externally eg: Child Line /the NSPCC's 'pants rule'

etc... This is a very important piece of work and I will be writing to you this term to explain in detail the topics we will cover.

You will also see below that we had parents in to support us in preparing our lunch box display. We are a running a number of sessions for parents this term, so please keep an eye on the key dates and announcements. Next week we are running the parent assessment workshop in Urdu, Punjabi and Polish. This is the same as the previous one, so if you attended that, you will not need to attend again.

Over the Christmas break children were set homework online and asked to read from the book list and learn their times tables. Well done to those who did this, however there are still a number of children who did not read at all and nor do they during the school term. I cannot express the importance of reading, and it is fair to say that most children will not just pop off and start reading. This is something you will need to monitor them doing and better still make time to do with them. Ask them questions and challenge their speed and understanding of the book. We have a competition in school for all children to complete their class reading list by the end of June. Please help them to achieve this goal.

Finally, I just want to cast your minds back to the end of the Autumn term. The pupils received a letter and a gift from Santa. He had asked the pupils to have a discussion and vote on who should receive this gift. The option being, they keep it or they give it to somebody else in recognition of their contribution or current situation. All classes voted to give the gift away to various organisations such as the Syria Appeal, the homeless shelter, the post office, police and many more. On Monday I opened my post to find a number of letters from these organisations, thanking the pupils for their kindness. I was so pleased that we were able to lift the spirits of others and make them feel so appreciated, whilst showing publically how caring and kind our pupils are.

NEW website!!!



I am delighted to announce that our new school website is now live! Please click on: www.wexhamprimary.com and have a look at the new site. I believe it is much easier to navigate. On the homepage you will see the stars of the week and attendance winners (starting next week), latest news and upcoming events. Parents can click into the calendar to see all key dates.



The parent page has an enquiry form and an absence form, which may be submitted to the school. The home page allows parent access to sQuid via online payments and the online learning gives pupil's access to Mathletics, Bug Club, Spelldrome and many more. This site has a host of documents available such as Phonics clips and resources, timetables and curriculum maps.



Healthy Lunchboxes Display



Following on from our new Healthy Lunchbox Policy, a number of parent volunteers helped design a healthy lunch box display on Wednesday 6th January! Parents and WCPS Staff joined forces and spent a lovely afternoon brainstorming exciting ideas for lunchboxes. After much chat and discussion, the ideas came flooding onto paper - spicy chicken wraps, Mediterranean couscous, even sushi for our more adventurous eaters!

Whilst discussing food, the subject of drinks was raised. Thoughts about the 'cheeky' marketing of large companies making their sugary drinks appealing to our children were shared. Although we can't tell off these companies (today!) we can educate our children to understand how much sugar is in some of their 'juices'. We also shared knowledge of a new, free APP 'Change4life sugar smart' where you can scan the barcode of a drink and it instantly informs you of how many sugar cubes are in that drink. We all highly recommend that parents download this if you haven't already.

As a result of the afternoon, a large display board in the hall is being re-designed to share the fabulous lunch box ideas with the pupils at WCPS. There will also be a display showing the children the quantities of sugar in their drinks. In the future we hope that staff and parents can work together to make healthy lunchboxes with our children; so if you have a love for food and fancy coming into school to help, please speak to your child's class teacher or to Miss Gosling (year 4).

Finally, we are also encouraging all parents to email the office with any 'lunchbox ideas'. Please let us know what you pack in your child's lunch box - what works? It will be great to share more ideas in the newsletters. Please send in a picture of explanation of your idea. You could write this with your child.



Click on this for link to Change for Life sugar app and many more ideas:

<http://www.nhs.uk/change4life/Pages/change-for-life.aspx>

Thank you to all those parents who attended the afternoon. It was a real pleasure working with you all.

Library Opening



The Library in Lower Primary will be open between 3.15-3.45pm on Friday afternoons. Please do come along to help your child browse and choose a book for the weekend. There will be a member of staff available to ask for advice and to log out all the books borrowed.

Quiz Club

The latest Quiz Club was held on Wednesday 6th January. It was definitely a close affair. With 9 teams competing at The Stoke Poges School, the children stretched their general knowledge and luckily came 5th and 6th. They conspired with each other and came up with tactics. A special shout out to Cerys, Tawqeer, Summer, Harsimrit, Milan, Ross, Inayah and Muizz for their team work and tremendous efforts.



Some comments from the children:

"I loved the buzzers!" (Ross, 4MO)

"It was really cool and fun." (Inayah, 5LH)

"It was challenging yet fun." (Harsimrit, 6SB)



[LAST REMINDER - Applications for School](#)

Just a reminder for all parents of Nursery children; you will need to submit your applications for a Reception school place by **15th January 2016**. If you do not ensure that your application is submitted in time, your child may not get a school place. Should you require any help with the applications please contact Mrs Thistle in the office to arrange a time for her to help you.

[Author Visits](#)

We love reading at Wexham Court and this year, we've invited two prominent authors to visit us. On Thursday 21st January, Dan Freedman – a former sports journalist who has written a series of football novels – will be running an assembly for the children in Years 3 to 6. He has also agreed to hold a book signing after school. On 9th February, the younger children will receive a visit from Ruth Galloway, who has written a series of books about adventurous animals! We look forward to welcoming both visitors to Wexham Court and there will be more details to follow.

Have a lovely weekend and let us know about your lunchbox ideas.

Regards

Miss Mehat and the team