

# Wildmoor Heath School

Newsletter Issue Number 3

Friday, 22nd October 2021



**REACH FOR THE STARS** ★★  
Respect - Empathy - Aspirations - Courage - Honesty

## Wildmoor Curriculum Drivers:

**Opportunities, Community, Environment, Communication, Wellbeing, Creativity**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your incredible support this week, after the school received news of the reinstated pandemic restrictions on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 from the East Berkshire Health Team. You will have seen my letters on Monday – these are also available on the school website.

The office team had to move quickly to ensure the Parent Teacher consultations were held as online appointments on School Cloud for Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021. These took place smoothly, with few exceptions, and I would like to thank parents, carers and staff for their rapid response and flexibility. If you have not yet had the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher online, please contact the teacher concerned directly to arrange a call next half term. Teachers and parents have found these sessions most informative and helpful.

This latest news comes in the context of rapidly increasing national infection and transmission rates. Thank you to the community for keeping us informed of illness plus possible and confirmed Covid cases. We have had five positive confirmed cases in Year 5 this week, with one other awaiting PCR results. We will keep the whole school community informed of our confirmed positive cases. To remind parents, if your child tests positive on a LFD test, you will then need to book a PCR test and confirm the results to the school directly. Once a class bubble reaches the official threshold level of infection (10% of a class or 5 children), we will continue to report to the DfE. We have been fortunate this week that none of our staff have been affected by infection.

I am sorry to report that Miss Smith has resigned and will leave Wildmoor Heath School at the end of December 2021 to pursue a different direction. I know that Miss Smith is dedicated to the children's learning and is committed to ensure a very successful autumn term in Year 2. We have placed an advertisement for a KS1 teacher and will be interviewing after the holiday. We will keep our Year 2 parents closely apprised of our plans to ensure continued quality of provision in the Year 2 class.

## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES AND PARENTAL SHARING

The new restrictions will inevitably affect our enrichment programme between now and the end of December 2021, as we cannot hold assemblies, festive productions, etc. As a school, we are determined to go on providing as many opportunities as we can to support our children's education and families.

On Tuesday morning, the landscaping team once again marked our school field with white lines to segregate a section for each class. Individual year groups are continuing their daily 'walk/run a mile'. Our regular walks on the heath are continuing – yesterday the Thames Valley Partnership led our Year 4 bubble on a fascinating heathland tour; this is their third class this term! Class use of The Haven will continue, as will our Forest School teaching sessions led by Mrs Holt for Year 3, moving to Year 1 in the spring term.

Our French lessons and peripatetic music lessons will continue. Mr Phelps is organising for specialist yoga sessions for Years 4 and 6 on a Tuesday afternoon and Mrs Rich is happy to coach our Year 5/6 children in netball skills on a Thursday afternoon outside. Mrs Vincent and Year 6 will provide a recording of their super Rhos-Y-Gwaliau assembly for parents; we will also upload this to the website for the whole school community to enjoy. We also plan to allow the children to rehearse and produce their festive carol performances and Nativity plays; these will be recorded and uploaded to the website. We are researching a recorded alternative to our scheduled 'Aladdin' performance via The National Theatre. I-Rock will produce their performances by year group and the children will record these on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. Festive lunch will be served to year groups on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup>/ Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

## **NEW RHOS Y GWALIAU 'SUPERSTAR' TROPHY**

I am delighted to announce a new award for the Superstar during the Rhos Y Gwaliau week. The Jackson family have donated an award which will be engraved annually with the Superstar's name. Mr Jackson was one of the staff members on this year's trip and he brought back a distinctive pyramid-shaped block of slate which will form the trophy. This year's winner is Addison from Year 6 and the adjacent picture shows him proudly holding his award, with Mr Jackson. Well done Addison and many thanks to the Jackson family from all our learners – something to aspire to in Year 6 😊.



## **PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO WATCH VIOLENT SHOWS**

You may be familiar with this TV game, which is a shocking South Korean survival show where players compete against each other with the hope of winning a huge cash prize. A number of children across various classes have told me that they have watched parts of the series called 'Squid Games' on television. This is a very violent series for those over 15 years of age and is not appropriate for primary school children. Please ensure that you do not allow your child to watch this programme, even small parts of it. The programme is causing worries in school and has led to some playground games being adapted around the Squid Games concept. I have spoken to the children and asked the lunchtime team to ensure that the children are playing games that reflect their age, and do not involve any contact.

## YEAR 4 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO HINDLEAP WARREN OUTDOOR CENTRE MONDAY, 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE TO WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022

It has been very difficult for us to secure a residential booking for Year 4's trip in 2022. Centres are fully booked and we have had to conduct a great deal of research. After much perseverance and many phone calls, Mrs Young has managed to secure a residential booking for our Year 4 class at the Hindleap Warren Outdoor Centre from Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Having accompanied trips in the past, I know that this is a fully contained and secure country site with a wide range of exciting, adventurous activities, excellent accommodation and superb meals. We will send out a letter to all Year 4 families after half term, giving you further details. Link to their website: <https://hindleapwarren.org/>

## CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2021

Quite separate to our Christmas card orders, for which we have many submissions, we have an exciting Christmas card competition for all our children to take part in, perhaps over October half term.

Our local MP, James Sunderland, has invited our pupils to take part in this annual Christmas card competition by submitting a design that represents our area. You may recall that Hannah, now in Year 7, won the regional competition with the adjacent design, which featured local features as baubles on a tree. We would very much like a pupil from this school to win again! It is a great competition as the whole family wins a trip to visit the House of Commons with a lovely lunch!

**Please encourage your child to enter and submit the entry to the school office on white A4 paper by Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021. A creative half term project!**



## 'REVERSE' ADVENT CALENDAR

We are keen to foster an appreciation of our community at Wildmoor Heath and to encourage our children to contribute towards the wellbeing of everyone. One of our values is EMPATHY, which sits well alongside our curriculum driver of COMMUNITY. To promote empathy and our sense of community, we intend to run a Reverse Advent Calendar for one month from 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 to 17<sup>th</sup> December, asking children to bring in one dried/canned food item every day. We will then collect these items into a series of food parcels to be delivered to the Crowthorne Foodbank. These items will help local families, particularly over the festive season. An example of appropriate items is shown below.

We hope that this will make Wildmoor Heath children proud of supporting their community, and remind them of others when opening their own advent calendars in December.

### Suggested Food and Festive Items

Baked beans/chick peas/tinned vegetables  
Tinned fruit  
Steam puddings  
Cooking sauces  
Crisps  
Cookies, biscuits, chocolate bars, cakes  
Tea/coffee

Festive selection pack  
Tinned custard  
Tinned fish  
Tinned meat  
Cereal bars  
Rice/pasta/couscous  
Canned drinks

Thank you for your support of your child with our Reverse Advent Calendar.

## NEW BEEHIVE BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We are delighted to be welcoming Beehive to Wildmoor Heath School. They will be running our Breakfast and afterschool clubs from November. The booking system is now up and running and they are looking forward to providing wrap around care for your child. Full details can be found on their website at [www.beehive.co.uk](http://www.beehive.co.uk).

## REMINDER ON WILDMOOR'S OPEN DAYS

The school has two Open Days at 3:30pm on the days shown below. Please pass this message onto any families you may know who will have a child starting Reception in September 2022.

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 3.30am

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 3.30pm

I wish you and your families a relaxed and healthy half term break. As ever, thank you for your support of the school, our learners and our amazing team, particularly with the rapid changes made this week.

Best regards,



Leslie Semper  
Headteacher

## SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

1. Protecting children from maltreatment;
2. Preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;
3. Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
4. Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

At Wildmoor Heath School, **all staff maintain a culture of vigilance** and put the health and safety, learning progress and pastoral needs of our learners first. We have robust safeguarding procedures in place, including annual formal training for all plus ongoing informal updates.

Wildmoor Heath has eight trained DSLs who receive multi-agency training, attend ongoing formative sessions and represent the school at Child Protection meetings.

Mrs Semper is the Designated Safety Leader (DSL), supported by Mr Thomas, Mrs Johnson, Mr Phelps, Mrs Thurgood, Mrs Joseph, Mrs Vincent or Mrs MacManus, as our Deputy Designated Safety Leaders (DDSLs).

Our Safeguarding Policy (latest September 2021), together with a Covid-19 Addendum Policy, can be found on the school website and/or a copy can be requested from the school office.

If you have any concerns whatsoever about a child, or something that you have witnessed inside or outside of school, please ask to speak one of our safeguarding team.

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