

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

ANCIENT GREEKS

Year 5 have dived straight into life as Ancient Greeks! After being inspired by the designs and decorations on Ancient Greek pottery, they have created their own vases using mod-roc and recycled materials. These beautiful pieces of art work will soon be painted and decorated with their own intricate designs. Look out for them when passing the Year 5 classrooms.



TEMPLES, TOMBS AND TREASURES

To help immerse ourselves into our new topic this half term 'Temples, Tombs and Treasures', the children explored how the River Nile provided many benefits for the Ancient Egyptians. We looked at how they used the papyrus plant to make their own paper. We then created our own papyrus paper and painted pictures on top that were inspired by Ancient Egyptian Deities, entertainment, culture and battles.



Autumn 2024—2025

Please find below dates and events for this term. Why not pin this on your noticeboard so that you can refer to the dates each week.

Dates are subject to change but we will try to give as much notice of any changes as possible.

SEPTEMBER 2024		Description	Time
Tuesday	03	Back to school	
Wednesday	04	Year 6 Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Wednesday	04	Volunteer and Safeguarding Training (Adults only)	5:00 p.m.
Thursday	05	Volunteer and Safeguarding Training (Adults only)	8:50 a.m.
Friday	06	Year 3 Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Monday	09	Year 4 Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Monday	09	Wray Common Clubs Start	3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday	10	Year 5 Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Wednesday	11	Year 1 Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Wednesday	11-13	Year 6 High Ashurst Residential	During School Time
Thursday	12	Year 2 Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Thursday	12	Friends of Wray Common Committee Meeting (Teams)	7:30 p.m.
Monday	16	Year R Information Meeting	8:50 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.
Monday	16	School Swimming Starts	See separate timetable
Friday	20	Year 4 Egyptian Day	During school time
Sunday	22	Friend's Run Reigate	
Tuesday	24	Florence Nightingale Workshop Year 2	During school time
OCTOBER 2024			
Tuesday	01	Parent Consultation Evening (booked time slots)	3:40 p.m. - 6:10 p.m.
Thursday	03	Parent Consultation Evening (booked time slots)	4:00 p.m. - 6:40 p.m.
Monday	7-11	Bikeability L2 Y6	Details to follow
Wednesday	09	Individual and Sibling Photos	Details to follow
Thursday	10	Sports Crew Training (invited Y6 children only)	During school time
Friday	25	Celebration Medals Assembly	2:20 p.m.
Monday - Friday	28-01	Half Term Holiday	

NOVEMBER 2024			
Wednesday	06	Nasal Flu	During school time
Wednesday	06	New Parents Open Morning	9:20 a.m.— 10:30 a.m.
Friday	08	Friend's Non uniform day (donations for Rainbow hampers)	During school time
Friday	08	Friends Firework Evening	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Monday	11	New Parents Open Morning	9:20 a.m.—10:30 a.m.
Thursday-Wednesday	7-13	Class Assemblies	Details to follow
Tuesday	12	Friends of Wray Common AGM (Small Hall) & Zoom	7:30 p.m.
Friday	15	Children in Need	Details to follow
Monday—Wednesday	18-20	Friends Elfridges Sale	During school time
Tuesday	26	Y2 Sparkfish Christmas Journey	During school time
Wednesday - Friday	27-29	Year 5 Residential Trip to Aylmerton	Departure time tbc
Friday	29	Friends Non Uniform Day (sweetie jar donation)	During school time
Saturday	30	Friend's Winter Wonderland	Details to follow
DECEMBER 2024			
Saturday	07	Friend's Christmas Tree Sale	Details to follow
Tuesday	17	Whole School Carol Service at St. Matthew's Church (children only)	During school time
Wednesday	18	Year 1 Nativity Performance	9:20 a.m.
Wednesday	18	Reception Nativity Performance	2:15 p.m.
Thursday	19	School Christmas Lunch	During school time
Friday	20	Celebration Medals Assembly	12:45 p.m.
Friday	20	Break up for Christmas Holidays	1:35 p.m. pick up KS1 1:40 p.m. pick up KS2
	23	Christmas Holidays	
JANUARY 2025			
Wednesday	07	First day of Spring Term for children	Normal school times apply

SWIMMING AND PE REMINDER

Just a reminder that swimming for Y2 and Y6, and Reception's PE lessons, start w/c 16th September.

	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Monday		PE	PE				
Tuesday					PE	PE	PE
Wednesday	PE			PE	PE		Swimming
Thursday		PE		PE		PE	
Friday			Swimming				

If you are able to help with swimming and you have a valid DBS organised through Wray Common and have attended this year's Volunteer Induction, please let your child's class teacher know your availability.

Important: all children must have a swimming costume/shorts, swimming hat, goggles, and a swimming hat. The school stocks swimming hats costing £2.40 which can be ordered and paid for via Scopay.

On PE days, children should come in to school wearing their PE kit and trainers. Earrings are not permitted to be worn during PE lessons.

TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS

Please click [here](#) to view a parent guide on Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) which includes information on the types of games and frequently asked questions.



CLUBS

All clubs start next week and should be paid for in advance. The majority of clubs finish at the end of November, however for specific dates for individual clubs, please click [here](#).

Does your child fancy trying something new this term? Some of our external clubs still have space. Full club details can be found [here](#). If you would like to book please contact the club provider directly.



YEAR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Parents and carers of children in Year 6 can now start applying for their child's secondary school place. The closing date for applications is the **31st October 2024**, but you are encouraged to apply well before that closing date. Surrey are encouraging applicants to apply online at [Secondary school admission applications - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)



FRIENDS

Welcome to the new school year. The Friends of Wray Common, the PTA associated with the school, have a lot planned for your children to enjoy and to help us raise vital funds that then benefits the children in their school environment.

This term you can get involved with the Run Reigate charity fundraiser, our ever popular fireworks night and numerous Christmas events including Winter Wonderland when Santa will be visiting. Find out more and get involved by joining our mailing list.

Email friends@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon - Y4 Parent Information meeting
8:50am



Tues - Y5 Parent Information meeting
8:50am

Wed - Y1 Parent Information meeting
8:50am

Wed-Fri - High Ashurst Residential

Thu - Y2 Parent Information meeting
8:50am

BABY GRAND PIANO GIVEAWAY

We have received a message offering a Yamaha baby grand piano to a passionate instrument lover. If you are interested, please email the school office.

PERMISSION TO WALK HOME

If your child is currently in Years 5 or 6 and you would like them to walk home from school or have a mobile phone in school you will need to complete a permission form. Please note that if children are bringing in a mobile phone the phone must be switched off when they arrive and be clearly named.

OPEN MORNING

Open mornings for prospective Reception parents with children due to start in September 2025 are now bookable on our website by visiting [our Prospective Parents webpage](#).

SCHOOL DINNERS

Just a reminder that school meals need to be paid for in advance of the half term. All dinner money balances have been added to Scopay accounts for any meals up to October half term.

School Dinners

If you need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can help you source information about support through the right agencies, and make referrals ourselves to local support groups. Here are some of the things we have supported families with recently:

- School uniform, school bags, P.E. trainers and school shoes
- Pre-loved clothes for children
- Foodbank referrals
- Housing applications and letters of support
- Seasonal gifts for children



FOODBANK AT
ST MATTHEW'S REDHILL



If you have any questions or would like to talk about how we can help, please contact Miss Kober on 01737 761254 or email familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk

HONOUR BOOK

1EL	Sophie	For showing kindness and positively contributing to our class team.
1B	Heidi	For positively contributing to our class environment by being kind to others and helping to keep it tidy.
2T	Albert	For his perseverance and determination to succeed in his maths lessons.
2P	Lilly	For having the courage to put her hand up and answer questions on the first day back of school.
3S	Holly	For consistently showing kindness and respect to everyone this week.
3F	Tabitha	For showing great courage in her first week back and looking for the positives in every day.
4BR	Diana	For being helpful towards the whole class when tidying up after activities this week.
4BE	Lottie	For being so helpful and contributing to keeping our classroom tidy.
5E	Tapiwa	For taking pride in our classroom environment and helping other to tidy up after our art lessons.
5J	Safa	For showing kindness to another member of the class by helping them make their Greek Vase.
6C	Ahmed	For showing excellent respect during learning always listening and responding considerately.
6F	Avika	For using her voice positively to challenge other children's learning.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screen time. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

1 WORK TOGETHER

Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.

2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES

Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.

3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY

Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.

4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE

To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices – especially smartphones – are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.

5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY

Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family; discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key – so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.

6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO

Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.

7 BE RESPECTFUL

Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online – such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lend themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.

8 "NO TECH" ZONES

Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to potentially engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.

9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES

As a family, discuss why the rules are important: to balance their screentime, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.

10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS

To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices



RUN REIGATE

22

SEPTEMBER

ENTER RUN REIGATE AND RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL

For full details visit www.runseries.co.uk/run-reigate

If you're planning on running at the Run Reigate event we'd love you to be sponsored by your friends and family to raise vital funds for our school. Children can run a cumulative half marathon before the event and finish with the final 1.1 mile on the day or simply run the 1.1 miles on the day.

The FOWC team will have a stall at the event area so pop along to say HI. We'll be selling sweet dummies, bouncy balls and fruit shoots too!

Click on the QR code to head to Wray Common's JustGiving page:



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Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. See the Asda & George Rewards Policy for full details. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible spend is donated. Funding funded by primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072333. Full T&Cs at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards: T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30/11/24



Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.



Studybugs



SOUTH EAST SURREY DYSLLEXIA ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association

SESDA Reg. Charity no.281076

Support Evening for Parents and Carers

New venue for this meeting

Canada Hall, All Saints Church, Battlebridge Lane,

Merstham RG4 7UT

Parking outside Church or in adjoining roads

Tuesday 17th September 2024
8pm to 10pm

A chance for parents and carers to meet Committee members, who are themselves parents of dyslexic youngsters, and specialist dyslexia tutors, to talk about any concerns they have about dyslexia at home or in school.

Resources and books to help dyslexic pupils will be on display.

This meeting is free and open to all parents and carers who have an interest in dyslexia. Very informal.

It would be helpful to know numbers beforehand but not essential. Contact sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com

If you cannot make the meeting by 8pm join us when you can.

**Canada Hall, All Saints Church,
Battlebridge Lane, Merstham**

SESDA Helpline: 01737 556173

E-mail: sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com