



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### AHOY THERE!

Ahoy there! Year 1 couldn't believe it when their treasure box mysteriously vanished on Tuesday morning! They received a message in a bottle from a pirate who dared us to complete some challenges such as walking the plank and throwing the treasure in the treasure chest, before revealing the final clue to collect our stolen treasure on the pirate ship! Well done Year 1 for your teamwork and clue solving skills!

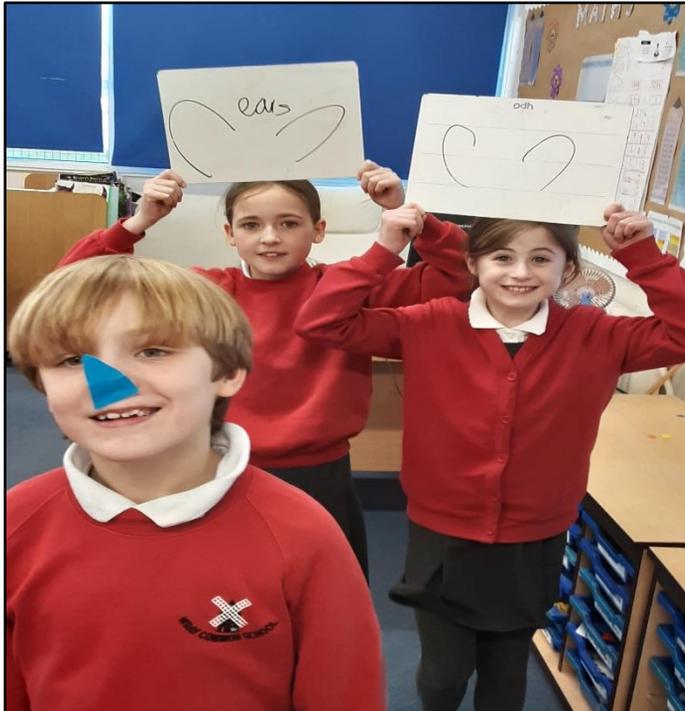
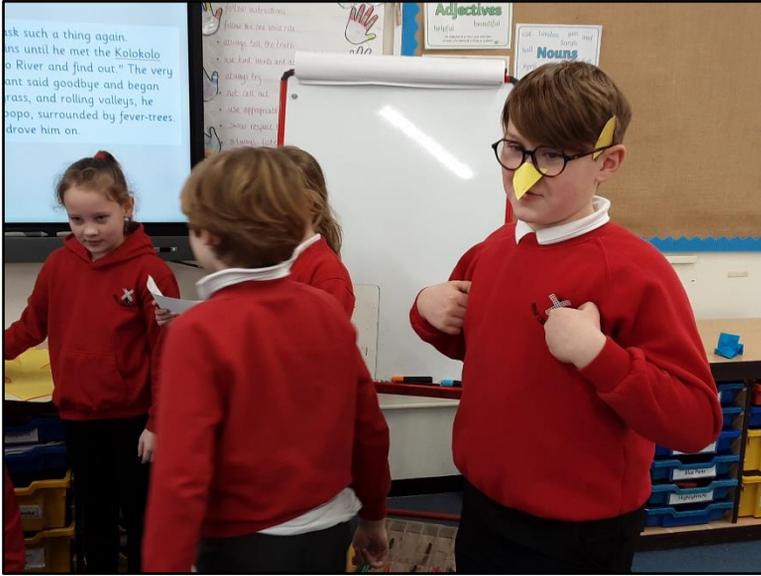
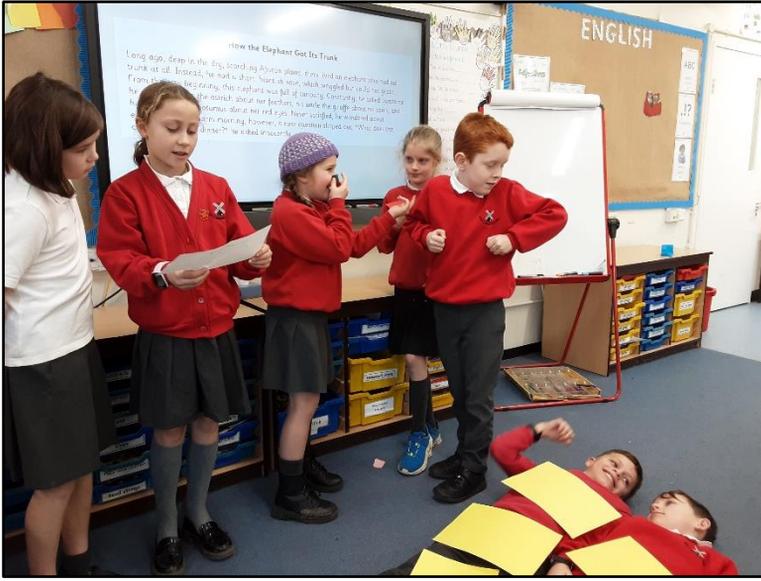


Year 1 also enjoyed a wintery walk on Tuesday morning, spotting all the signs that the season has changed from Autumn to Winter, including the bare trees, the cold temperature and the beautiful snow fall.



## DRAMA SKILLS

During our writing lesson this week, Year 4 immersed themselves in our new story, *How the Elephant Got Its Trunk*, through the use of drama. The children were extremely creative, using a variety of props and demonstrating a wide range of drama skills to bring the story to life.



## CIRCUS

To kickstart the Spring Term, Year 2 explored some circus skills which included spinning plates, juggling, ribbon work, diablo, stilts and lots more. The children loved exploring these different skills and showcased their persevering skills as well as collaboration skills to help each other be successful. We look forward to seeing if any of these circus skills can be developed over the half term.



# Attendance Matters

*At Wray Common Primary School we expect children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so. Everyday attendance at school and good punctuality are vital for pupils to get the most out of their education. We seek to support children and their parents and carers as best we can to make this a success.*

## Reporting absences

All absences must be reported on a daily basis by 9.20am. If a child is absent for 5 days or more, we ask that parents provide **medical evidence** for the absence.

If a child is absent from school with no explanation, it will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

If a child is absent without explanation from their parents or carers, for the equivalent of 5 days or more (which do not need to be consecutive) within a 10 week period, parents and carers will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

## Requesting a leave of absence

Term dates are published well in advance, allowing parents to plan family holidays outside of term time.

As such, please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, which became law on 1st September 2013, state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances would only ever be considered on the rarest occasion in which a child's absence from school is wholly unavoidable.

Should parents and carers still choose to take their children out of school without the approval of the school, for 10 sessions (the equivalent of 5 days) or more, which do not need to be consecutive, they will be liable to receive a penalty notice upon their return to school.

Each parent is liable for a penalty notice for each child who is absent from school. If a child has not had a penalty notice in the last 3 years, the amount payable if paid within 21 days, is £80. Thereafter, the amount increases to £160, if paid between 21 and 28 days.

If a child has had a penalty notice in the last 3 years, the amount payable is £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

If a penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

If a child has had 2 penalty notices in the last 3 years, a 3rd penalty notice would not be issued - The Local Authority would consider prosecution under s444 Education Act 1996.

**Thank you for your ongoing support - children's attendance at Wray Common continues to be excellent.**

## Did you know?

If your child misses 1 day of school every two weeks, this will add up to 20 days each year.

Over children's 13 years at Primary and Secondary School, this would be the same as them missing 1.5 years of school.

## Reasons for absence when children are unwell

Children should attend school unless they:

- are not well enough
- have been physically sick and/or had diarrhoea within the previous 48 hours

## When children become unwell during the school day

If a child becomes unwell during the school day, they will be supported by school staff. If it is felt that a child is too unwell to continue with their learning, they will wait in the medical area outside the school office while parents or another nominated person, are contacted.

## How is attendance monitored?

Every half term, attendance and punctuality are monitored. Schools have a **statutory duty** to report on children's attendance when it has fallen below 95%. This will include writing to parents to make them aware of their child's attendance level and, where appropriate, seeking to work with them to support improved attendance for their child.

## Punctuality

Registration is completed promptly at 8.50am. If your child arrives after this time, they will be marked as late.

Persistent lateness disrupts children's education and can lead to poor attendance.

## Did you know?

Being just 10 minutes late each day is the same as missing 50 minutes a week. That is almost 1.5 weeks in a year. Over a child's 13 years at Primary and Secondary School, this would be the same as missing almost half a year of schooling.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please find below dates and events for this term.  
Why not pin this up at home so you are always up to date with what is happening at school!

JANUARY 2026		Description	Time
Tuesday	06	Back to school	
Wednesday	07	Choir starts	3:20 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.
Wednesday	07	Swimming resumes for Y4	During school time
Friday	09	Swimming resumes for Y6	During school time
Monday	12	Wray Common school-led clubs start	3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday	20	Year 5 Young Voices	12:00pm–10:00pm
Friday	30	Y5&6 Sportshall Athletics (invited children only)	During school time
FEBRUARY 2026			
Monday–Friday	02-06	Think Space Workshops	During school time
Monday	02	Y3&4 Boys Football Tournament (invited children only)	Details to follow
Tuesday	03	Primary Panathlon (invited children only)	During school time
Monday	09	Junior Citizen Event Year 6	During school time
Tuesday	10	Year 4 Cultural Day	During school time
Thursday	12	Year 1 Pirate Day	During school time
Friday	13	Celebration Medals Assembly	2:20 p.m (invited parents / carers only)
Friday	13	School finishes for Half Term Holiday	Normal pick-up times apply
Monday - Friday	16-20	Half Term Holiday	
Monday	23	Inset—No children in school	
Thursday	26	District Cross Country (invited children only)	After school

MARCH 2026			
Tuesday	03	Parent Consultations (booked time slots)	3:40 p.m.—6:10 p.m.
Wednesday	04	Swimming starts for Y3	Details to follow
Thursday	05	Parent Consultations (booked time slots)	3:40 p.m.—6:10 p.m.
Thursday	05	World Book Day	Details to follow
Friday	06	Swimming start for Y5	Details to follow
Tuesday	10	Y5&6 Girls Football Tournament (invited children only)	Details to follow
Wednesday	11	Y3-6 Gymnastics Competition (invited children only)	Details to follow
Wednesday	18	District Netball Tournament (invited children only)	Details to follow
Thursday	19	Y3&4 Girls Football Tournament (invited children only)	Details to follow
Thursday	19	Year 5 Sparkfish Easter Journey	Details to follow
Tuesday	24	Primary Music Festival (Choir)	Details to Follow
Friday	27	Celebration Medals Assembly	12:45 p.m.
Friday	27	Last Day of Term	1:35 p.m. pick up KS1 1:40 p.m. pick up KS2
APRIL 2026			
	30 Mar -10 Apr	Easter Holidays	
Monday	13	First day of summer term for children	Normal school times apply

## CLUBS

Please see the clubs timetable for this term below; some clubs are started this week so please check the dates for the clubs that you have signed your child up for this term. If you have not already paid for the club, please can we ask you to do so before the club starts; if payment is not received, the space in the club cannot be held and maybe offered to someone on the waiting list.

If you have not yet signed up for a club, you may contact the Office for any clubs highlighted in red to see if there are any spaces available. All other clubs should be booked with the club provider directly and the flyers for the club are on the website [Wray Common Primary School - Clubs](#)

Day	Club Name	Provider	Dates	Wks	Timings	Year Groups
Monday	Gymnastics	Flexiflcs	12/01/26 – 23/03/26	9	7:45 am – 8:30 am	3, 4, 5 and 6
Monday	Football	Wray Common	12/01/26 – 23/03/26	9	3:20 pm – 4:20 pm	Y6 only
Monday	Football	Skills School	12/01/26 – 23/03/26	9	3:20 pm – 4:20 pm	3, 4 and 5
Monday	Musical Theatre	Sophie Chapman	12/01/26 – 23/03/26	9	3:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Reception, 1 and 2
Monday	Lego Club	Kids with Bricks	12/01/26 - 23/03/26	9	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	1,2 and 3
Monday	Swimming	Flipper Club	12/01/26 – 23/03/26	9	3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	All Year Groups
Tuesday	Gymnastics	Flexiflcs	13/01/26 - 17/03/26	9	7:45 am – 8:30 am	1 and 2
Tuesday	Art Club	Artsparks	13/01/26 - 17/03/26	9	3:20 pm – 4:20 pm	2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
Tuesday	Dance / Cheerleading	Wray Common Staff	13/01/26 - 17/03/26	9	3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	3, 4 and 5
Tuesday	Y6 Netball	Wray Common Staff	13/01/26 - 17/03/26	9	3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	6
Tuesday	Beat Lab	Wray Common Staff / Sing	06/01/26 - 24/03/26	11	3.20 pm - 4:20 pm	3, 4, 5 and 6
Tuesday	KS1 Athletics	Athletix Kidz	13/01/26- 24/03/26	10	3:05 pm – 4:05 pm	Reception, 1 & 2
Wednesday	Fun with music <small>Musical games, rhymes and songs</small>	Wray Common Staff / Sing	07/01/26 - 25/03/26	11	12:00pm - 12:30pm	1 and 2
Wednesday	Choir	Wray Common Staff / Sing	07/01/26 - 25/03/26	11	3:20 pm - 4:20 pm	3, 4, 5 and 6
Wednesday	Wray Sports Junior <small>(hockey, tag rugby, basketball)</small>	Wray Common Staff	14/01/26 – 18/03/26	9	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	3, 4, 5 and 6
Wednesday	Football	Skills School	14/01/26 – 18/03/26	9	3:15 pm – 4:15 pm	1 and 2
Wednesday	Street Dance	Reigate Dance Centre	14/01/26 – 18/03/26	9	3:15 pm - 4:00 pm	Reception, 1 and 2
Thursday	Playball	Playball	15/01/26 – 19/03/26	9	7:45 am – 8:30 am	Reception, 1 and 2
Thursday	Girls Football	Wray Common Staff	15/01/26 – 19/03/26	9	3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday	Musical Theatre	SCTA	15/01/26 – 19/03/26	9	3:25 pm – 4:25 pm	3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday	Karate	Sama Karate	08/01/26 – 26/03/26	11	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	ALL
Thursday	Lego Club	Kids with Bricks	15/01/26 – 19/03/26	9	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	1,2 and 3
Thursday	Wray's Wonders	Wonderfolk	08/01/26 – 12/02/26	6	3:30pm – 4:30pm	2, 3, 5, 5 & 6
Friday	Swimming	Flipper Club	09/01/26 – 20/03/26	10	3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	All Year Groups

### FAMILY SUPPORT

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

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

### STAFF UPDATE

Today, we said a sad farewell to Mrs Peach, who is retiring after 26 years of dedicated service. We are also pleased to welcome Mrs Ormrod, who joined us this week as a Teaching Assistant in Year 6. You may have also seen Miss Baldwin, our Assistant Head - DSL and Inclusion Lead, who has also joined us this week. We wish everyone every success as they begin their new chapters.

### SCHOOL DINNERS

Please can we remind you that payment for school dinners should be made in advance of the half term via Arbor.. Please could we ask you to check that your Arbor meals account has been paid for last half term and topped up for this half term. If you have any problems with making payments, please speak with the school office.

Thank you in advance.

### SCHOOL ADMISSIONS DEADLINE

Just a reminder that if your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, the deadline to apply for a school place is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

To apply, please visit [Apply for a primary, infant or junior school - Surrey County Council](#)

### HONOUR BOOK

1LP	Finley	For always showing Wray Common values and being a super role model for others.
1P	Mason	For always showing kindness to his classmates and helping others.
2T	Ariana	For having a great attitude towards her learning in Maths and Writing lessons.
2F	Marnie	For using her science vocab mat to help her understand different materials.
3EM	Belle	For always having a positive attitude to her learning and being an excellent role model for her classmates
3F	Max R	For always being enthusiastic about his learning and sharing new facts with the class.
4B	Pollyanna	For showing such a positive attitude towards her learning in her fist week at Wray Common.
4S	George	For persevering and trying his best when dividing with remainders.
5A	Kyle	For settling into the class well and using his CAPTURE skills effectively. He has been thinking deeply this week and making excellent contributions to class discussions.
5J	Arran	For demonstrating excellent collaboration by giving clear instructions and actively listening to his partner.
6C	Tom	For showing a great attitude to learning both in and out of school.
6F	Rupert	For demonstrating a hardworking and conscientious attitude this week. What a fabulous start to the year - well done!

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

### 1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

### 2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

### 3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

### 4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

### 5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

### 6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

### 7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

### 8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

### 9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

### 10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

## Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

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