

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



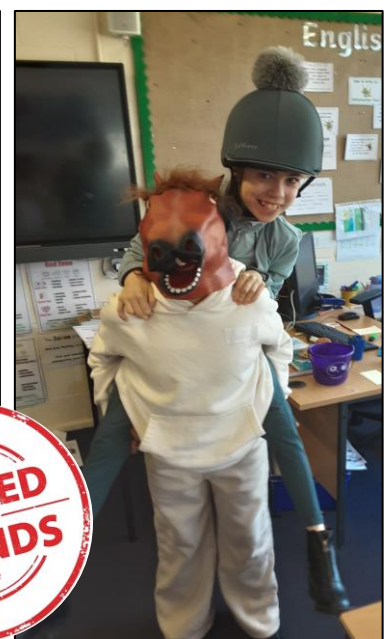
Inspiring Lifelong Learning

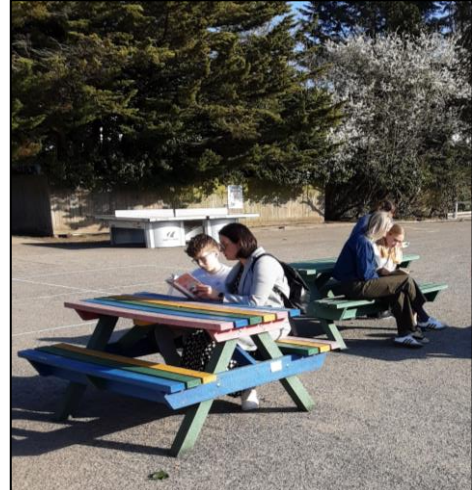


THIS WEEK...

WORLD BOOK DAY

Yesterday, our school was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated World Book Day with a variety of fun activities designed to inspire a love of reading! Children and staff showed wonderful creativity by dressing up as a word of their choice, bringing language to life in imaginative and colourful ways. In the morning, we were delighted to welcome parents and carers into school to spend time sharing a book with their child, creating some lovely moments and celebrating the joy of reading together. The day ended with great anticipation and laughter during a special assembly featuring our very own 'Masked Reader', where children tried to guess which mystery reader was behind the mask! It was a fantastic day enjoyed by everyone, reminding us all just how magical reading can be. Did you know the Friends have donated some of the money they raised to bring a fantastic collection of exciting new books to Wray Common?





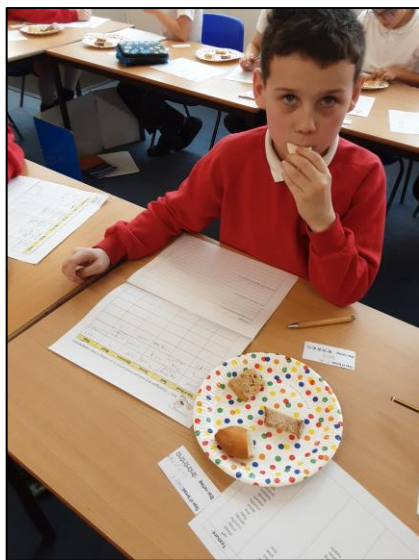
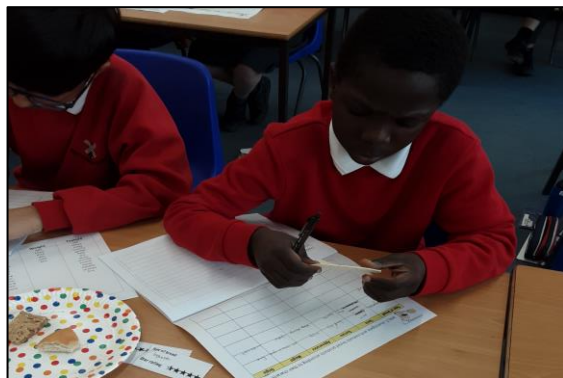
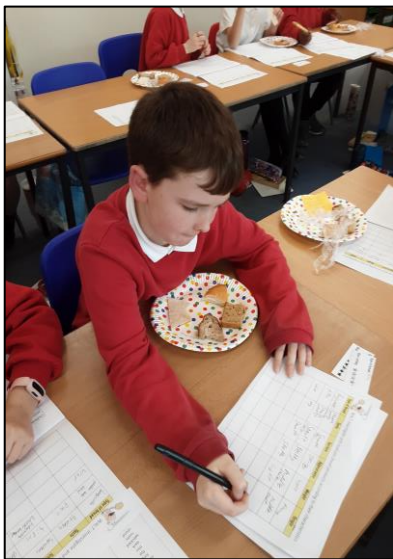
MIXTURES

As part of our science unit, we went outdoors to look at how we could separate a mixture. We used colanders and sieves to try to remove sticks, leaves and pebbles from soil. We discovered that the colander separated out the largest pieces, medium sized pieces remained in the sieve and only the smallest pieces could pass through both.



BREAD MAKING

As part of our DT project linked to making bread, we began by carrying out a taste test. We looked at five different types of bread and evaluated them by thinking about their appearance, texture, smell and taste. We are looking forward to planning and make our own bread soon.



FOOTBALL REPORT V FURZEFIELD

"When the game started, we were the better side. The first five minutes, we were dominant. We were in the opposition's half for most of the beginning, but then they began to play better. We weren't winning our duels and they got in our heads. Eventually, they scored. It was an error at the back, and they slipped it under our goalie, Jack. Not long after, they pressed with the ball towards our defence and scored again, 2-0. That half ended disappointingly. Mr Savedra told us what we needed to improve on, and how we needed to win our duels. Somehow, that ending up working very well! The second half began, and we immediately went on the attack. Within moments we scored, with Finlay crossing it in to Rupert. It was a bullet header and slammed into the back of the net. 2-1! Minutes later, the ball was in their box and we stole it from them. It was messy, but the ball ended up coming off Vinnie's boot into the back of the net. It was all square! Seconds later, we progressed the ball towards their defence, and then, Albie struck the ball past the goalie! It was an epic comeback in the space of 5 mins! The rest of the half were nervous moments as they had a few chances at goal but luckily they were all off target. We also had a few chances, but none of them paid off.

The game finished 3-2 to Wray Common! What a half time team-talk from Mr Savedra!" Written by Albie, Year 6.

YEAR 3 - FEET FIRST

We are pleased to announce that the school has secured funding from Councillor Natalie Bramhall, via the 'Your Councillor Community Fund' to support all of our Year 3 children's participation in Surrey County Council's Feet First: Walking Training Programme on Thursday 23rd & Friday 24th April 2026.

As the project is being supported by Surrey County Council, this is a free training programme and requires no payment from Parents and Careers. However, to ensure your child gets to participate **please complete the online consent form** using the link below by 9am Thursday 16th April.

https://walkingtraining.online/public/school_training/10000494/

What is the Feet First: Walking Training Programme?

Feet First is a road safety and active travel skills awareness course that will be aimed at children ages 7 to 8 years old (Year 3). It will provide pupils with road safety awareness skills, providing them with a key life skill that prepares them for travelling independently in the future. The children will be participating in on-road practical training during the school day which will be led by fully trained and DBS checked Surrey County Council Walking Instructors. There are also some at home activities to continue the learning.

Pupils will be trained in:

- The Green Cross Code: Stop, Look, Listen and Think.
- Road signs and pedestrian crossings.
- Recognising safer and unsafe places to cross.
- How to cross between parked cars.
- The benefits of active travel on health, wellbeing, and the environment



Your Councillor Community Fund

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S SAFER TRAVEL TEAM - ANNUAL SURVEY

Our school are once again assisting Surrey County Council's Safer Travel Team to undertake research with parents on pupils' types of travel to and from school. The objective of the research is to develop a better understanding of the different types of travel used, and to ascertain if this is changing over time. The Safer Travel Team's goal is to assist schools to continue to encourage safer and more active ways of travelling to school.

Please could I ask that you take the time to complete the survey using the link below. The deadline for completion of the survey is 12th April 2026 and the survey should be completed for each child that attends our school.

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Primary-STS-2026>

As a thank you for taking the time to help them, The Safer Travel team will donate £25 for every 100 surveys completed* to your choice of the following two charities;

[Home - Stripey Stork](#) / [Charlie's Promise](#) | [Working to prevent knife crime](#)

Thank you for continuing to support our school to improve children's journeys to school.

**Please note that the overall amount that will be donated is subject to a restriction within an available budget.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon-Wed - Someone Special Sales (Friends)



Tues - Y5/6 Girls Football tournament (invited children, St Matthews)

STAFF

We are pleased to share that Miss Stiles joined Wray Common this week as a Teaching Assistant supporting Year 4. We are delighted to welcome her to our school community.

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

FRIENDS OF WRAY COMMON

Our lovely Someone Special Sale is back from Monday 9th to Wednesday 11th March, during school hours. Children get to browse and choose a thoughtful gift all by themselves, a truly special moment of independence and pride. With Mother's Day approaching, they can celebrate mum, aunties, grandparents, friends, or any special person in their lives.

All items £4. Please send money in a sealed, named envelope with class and total enclosed, written on the front.

LOVEWORKS FOOD BANK - EASTER HUNT

Come and join the Easter fun and help local families at the same time. On Sunday 29th March, bring along your food bank donation or take part in The Loveworks Great Reigate Bunny Hunt. Track down the Easter bunnies and eggs to claim your prize! Full details can be found at [Easter Hunt](#).

HONOUR BOOK

RH	Marco	For sharing ideas during lessons on the prehistoric era versus present day.
RP	Finn	For being able to explain confidently how he knows which creatures are dinosaurs and not dinosaurs based on the facts he has learnt in Literacy.
1LP	Roma	For trying her best with all her learning this week.
1P	Hudson	For always adding such interesting contributions to our lesson starters.
2T	Eve	For always approaching her learning with positivity and a desire to succeed.
2F	Poppy	For great enthusiasm and progress in her fractions learning.
3EM	Willow	For showing great courage when being the conductor for the class in our music lesson.
3F	Edie	For always being prepared to learn and trying her best in all lessons.
4B	Noah	For excellent contribution to class discussions this week, particularly in maths.
4S	Fred	For persevering and working hard with his reading this week.
5A	Amrit	For always having an amazingly positively attitude to learning. She listens carefully and always strives to be the best she can be.
5J	Jemima	For using resources independently in the classroom to support her learning.
6C	James	For aspiring to be the best he can be, persevering with writing and adding new ideas.
6F	Lily-Rose	For being a great role-model around school and making a positive difference in her role as peer-mediator.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.



2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.



3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.



4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorfy and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.



5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.



6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.



7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.



8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyIno and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.



9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.



10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.



Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



The National College

See full reference list on our website



FRIENDS OF WRAY COMMON PROUDLY PRESENT:

SOMEONE SPECIAL SALE

MONDAY 9TH - WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH 2026

All gifts £4

Please bring cash in a sealed envelope with the value +
child's name/class written on the front.

THE GIFT SHOP WILL BE OPEN DURING SCHOOL HOURS

JOIN THE TRAIL • EXPLORE NATURE • SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

WIN A FAMILY PASS
TO DISCOVERY LAND!

GET READY FOR
THE
WRAY COMMON
EASTER
CHALLENGE!

ADVENTURE PACKS £5

AVAILABLE FROM
OUTSIDE SCHOOL
FRIDAY 20 -
FRIDAY 27TH MARCH
CASH/CARD ACCEPTED

TRAIL SHEETS TO BE HANDED
IN BY WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL
FOR THE PRIZE DRAW!

FRIENDS OF WRAY COMMON

ENTER FOR YOUR
CHANCE TO WIN!

Announcing: The Friends of Wray Common Easter Challenge 🐰🌿

Swap chocolate trails for a woodland adventure around Wray Common this Easter! For £5, grab an Adventure Pack with a trail map, clues, Easter activities and a chocolate egg, leading you on a 1-mile outdoor quest around Wray Common and the surrounding areas.

Packs are available at school pick-up from **Friday 20 - Friday 27 March**. Complete the challenge over the holidays and return your sheet to the school office post box by **Wednesday 15 April**, to enter the winning draw!

Winners announced Friday 17 April in the newsletter, with a family pass to Discovery Land at Priory Farm for one lucky adventurer and Easter prizes for two runners-up.