



Wantage CE Primary School

Newbury Street, Wantage, Oxon, OX12 8DJ

Tel: 01235 762396



Learning for Life

'Life in abundance'

Friday 17th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good couple of weeks. The term is flying past and I can't help noticing all the Christmas advertising that is appearing on television and in the shops!

Diwali Display in our Reception classes

I could not resist starting our newsletter with this brilliant display that greets everyone as they come into our reception classrooms. The children have loved learning the story of Rama and Sita and have really enjoyed creating firework pictures and of course Diwali lamps.



Attendance for Term 1

Year 1	95.1%
Year 2	97.4%
Year 3	95.5%
Year 4	96.8%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	94.8%
Total	96.2%

Our target for attendance is 97%, so very well done Year 2 for achieving the target last term. Both Year 4 and Year 5 were extremely close, with Years 1, 3 and 6 noticeably lower.

Please continue to make attendance an absolute priority for the rest of this term. Children need to be in school all the time so that they don't miss any vital learning and to make sure that they keep up with their peers.

239 children had attendance of over 97% for term 1, which is a fantastic achievement. Let's aim for even more children achieving 97% or more attendance this term.

New Reading Ambassadors for 2023-2024

I am delighted to announce the names of this year's Reading Ambassadors. They are very keen to help to raise the profile of reading around the school, and I know that Mrs Jones has lots of plans for them to celebrate reading with everyone over the coming terms. Well done to: Imogen C, Imogen R, Harry S, Scarlet C, Franklin, and Ariya G.



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Basketball Competition

On Wednesday, a team from Year 5 and Year 6 competed in the Vale Basketball Competition. They played extremely well and we were impressed with their skills and sporting behaviour on the courts.



Some reminders which will really help with the smooth running of the school day

- 1. Starts and Ends of the School Day:** Please be on time in the morning and at the end of the school day. We have noticed that a number of parents/carers are late picking their children up. This can make it very difficult for staff who have meetings or training to go to and there are still children waiting to be collected.
- 2. Only healthy snacks please:** We only allow children to have fruit or vegetable snacks during morning play. If a child is on the playground with items such as a chocolate bar or packet of crisps, we will ask them to go inside and put it back in their bag.
- 3. Every child must have a PE kit:** Please make sure that your child has a PE kit in school, ready to be worn at all times. This is an essential part of being ready for school, and too many children have to borrow PE kit as they do not have a full set in school for themselves.
- 4. Only use the school car park if you have a permit:** Parents and carers must have a permit to drive onto the school site at the start or end of the school day. (The only exception being Butler Club parents who drop off before 7.45 am and pick up after 5.15 pm, much earlier/later than most families.) If you do not have a permit, please use the Wantage Memorial Park car park and make the short walk to school.

Open Morning & Applications for September 2024

We held a fantastic Open Morning on Tuesday this week. We had six tour groups whom we had the pleasure of showing around Wantage CE Primary School. The school was looking excellent, and the visitors on each tour com-



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mented on everyone's immaculate behaviour and friendly welcome in every class.

The deadline for applications for Reception places is the 15th of January 2024.

If you know families who are considering Wantage CE for their Reception-aged child, please encourage them to get in touch with us. I would be delighted to show them around. Every school place matters this year, and the more children we have in our Reception Classes the more funding our school receives and the more we are able to provide for all our children.

Data Checking Sheets

Children in Year 1—Year 6 will be bringing home data checking sheets today. Please check that we have the correct contact numbers for you and update them as necessary. For those children with special dietary/medical needs please also let us no if there are any changes to this information.

We ask that you sign and return the sheets to us even if there are no changes to make, so we know we have the most up-to-date information. Thank you.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner for all children in F1—Year 6 will be on Thursday 14th December. Full details will be sent home next week but you can now book your child's Christmas Dinner, and all dinners up to the end of term, on Parent Pay.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend – the photos/film from our spectacular Wantage CE Does Strictly will be available very soon.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Browne
Headteacher



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Calendar

Monday 20—Friday 24 November		3JS swim everyday
Monday 20 November		Y6 Library visit
Wednesday 22 November		3JS Library visit
Thursday 23 November		3LC Library visit
Friday 24 November		Non-uniform for Hamper donations
Monday 27 November—Friday 1 December		3LC swim everyday
Monday 27 November		4PS Library visit
Tuesday 28 November		Y5 Library visit
Friday 1 December	3.15 pm	Year 4 Cake sale
Friday 1 December	6—9 pm	Dickensian Evening
Tuesday 5 December	9.30 am	Early Years Christmas performance
Wednesday 6 December	2 pm	KS1 Nativity
Thursday 7 December	5.30 pm	KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 12 December		2AS to Victorian Christmas at the Museum
Wednesday 13 December		2KV to Victorian Christmas at the Museum
Thursday 14 December		Wear something Christmassy
Thursday 14 December	9.30 am	Christingle Service in Church for KS2 (Y3-6)
Thursday 14 December		Whole School Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 20 November	12.15 pm	End of Term 2
Tuesday 9 January 2024		School reopens for Term 3



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