



NEWSLETTER NO 8 - Tuesday 14th January 2020

	Term Begins	Finish		Return	Term Ends
Spring 2020	Tuesday 7 January	Friday 14 February	Half Term	Monday 24 February	Friday 3 April
Summer 2020	Monday 20 April	Friday 22 May		Tuesday 2 June	Tuesday 21 July
Autumn 2020	Wednesday 2 Sept	Friday 23 October		Monday 2 November	Friday 18 December
Spring 2021	Tuesday 5 January	Friday 12 February		Monday 22 February	Thursday 1 April
Summer 2021	Monday 19 April	Friday 28 May		Monday 7 June	Wednesday 21 July

Inset Days: 1 June 2020, 1 Sept 2020, 4 January 2021

Please note 2 Inset Days in 2020/21 academic year are yet to be set

Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome back to the Spring Term following the holiday; I trust everyone had a good break and enjoyable time celebrating the start of a new year.

Wingrave Church of England School starts 2020 in a great position having achieved a Good judgement in last term's Ofsted inspection; so many strengths were praised and recognised and we are already well on the way regarding the few areas of development that were highlighted.

You may have noted the article in Christmas Day edition of the Bucks Herald which featured our school council and the good news?

As mentioned at the time, we want to make sure parents have the opportunity to ask any questions regarding the report and what this means for the future of the school in addition to all other developments currently in the pipeline. I will be holding a meeting for parents on **Tuesday 11th February at 7.00pm** to share school developments and plans in the context of our Ofsted report and beyond. We will of course remind you closer to the time when we will also ask for an idea of numbers so we can make appropriate arrangements.

School Absence - Holidays & Punctuality

It is usually this time of year we are informed of family holidays which are being considered or have been booked for the Spring season. Please can we remind parents that the school do not authorise holiday during term time or provide work for your child when they are away. We actively discourage absence of any kind due to the impact it will have on your child's academic and social development.

Whilst we sympathise with parent's work commitments and related limitations we are ultimately accountable for your child's attendance and therefore aim for the national expectation of at least 97%.

Any form of holiday absence should please be communicated with the school in writing (letter or email) prior to your departure in order for us to monitor your child's whereabouts. Periods of absence of 10 school days or more are subject to Buckinghamshire County Council procedures for parental fines and could result in the involvement of the County Attendance team. We are obviously keen to avoid any difficulties for the school or our families, so please do communicate with us regarding any holiday plans so that we can best advise you.

Punctuality is also monitored as this can have a considerable impact on the children at the start of each day. We want the children to arrive in good time so they start their lessons in a relaxed and positive state of mind - arriving late is often stressful and embarrassing for them when their classmates are already settled and learning. Just being 5 minutes late on a daily basis is equivalent to missing 3 whole days of school a year. Again, communication is key so if you are having difficulties with transport or logistics in the morning, please do inform the school office so we can support you as much as possible.

Spring Term Clubs & Activities

The children have already been spoken to in assembly about the forthcoming clubs and activities this term and we now wish to confirm the details for you to make any necessary arrangements.

Please remember that 'Game On', 'Simply Out of School' and other non-school organisations organise their clubs independently of the school who simply act as a host. School Clubs, organised by our own or J&C staff, do not take place in the very first or last full week of each of the 3 terms (excluding half term breaks) and can be booked via the ParentPay portal for a termly fee.

We administrate these clubs ourselves and said charges are fed back directly into school funds so we can offset costs for providing specialist music and PE teaching.

This term, starting week beginning January 20th, the following activities will be available:

NEW 'Roots & Shoots' Club - This is a new Monday lunchtime opportunity for all age children being lead my members of the Wingrave Church team. This is an informal, drop-in style club for children to explore more about our collective worship themes and discuss inclusive questions around faith and life. Very much rooted in our school vision tree, the children will be able to join in with activities and crafts throughout the hour without missing out on their lunch. There is no need to sign up or book, the children can simply turn up, however we will operate a first come first served basis and rotation system if we need to manage numbers. Thank you to those supporting this venture and giving so freely of their time and energy.

Wake & Shake - Weather permitting, Mr Boland will lead a variety of active sessions between 8.35 and 8.45am on Wednesdays and Thursdays for any children who wish to start the day with a boost! No cost or changing involved, just turn up.

Choir - Mr Vickers will continue to lead separate KS1 and KS2 choirs during Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes. There is no cost involved and details have been shared with the children so they know what is involved and, most importantly, don't miss their lunch.

Lunch Games - Mr Boland will continue to lead organised Games during the lunch break on Wednesdays and Thursdays for those children who would like to take part. Again, no cost or changing involved, just turn up.

Multi-Sports - Mr Boland will lead separate KS1 and KS2 Multi-Sports Clubs. Please book and pay online.

Years 3 - 6 on Wednesdays, 3.15 to 4.15pm

Years 1 & 2 on Thursdays, 3.15 to 4.15pm

Music - Mr Vickers will lead separate Music-based clubs. Please book and pay online.

Years 1 & 2 on Wednesdays, 3.15 to 4.15pm

Years 3 - 6 on Thursdays, 3.15 to 4.15pm

Please inform the school by letter or email if you wish your child to walk home after clubs as the evenings begin to get lighter. Please remember that we do not currently offer after-school clubs to EYFS children; they are often extremely tired by the end of the school day. With this in mind, we encourage all children staying for an after-school club to bring a quick, healthy snack to provide a boost of energy.

The portal to book school clubs will be open for use from Wednesday morning, 15th January - please contact the school office if you have any questions regarding this.

Mr M Tomson

Headteacher

head@wingrave.school

Planetarium Workshop

On Monday, the Oxford Science mobile Planetarium visited Year 6, Year 5 and Reception. The highlight of the experience was the Greek myths as they explained the different constellations. One of our favourite constellations was the seven sisters as they were considered an eye test in ancient Greek times. Before telling us about the constellations, the lights went off. Suddenly, the planetarium was filled with hundreds of glistening stars which filled us with awe.

By Sorrel and Zahara, Year 6

DATES FOR THE DIARY (New items or amendments in bold)

18 Jan	Years 3-6 Cross Country Event, Wendover CE Junior School, 9.30am-12.30pm
21 Jan	Years 5 & 6 Young Voices concert, Birmingham
21 Jan	Game On Football Clubs start
w/c 21 Jan	School Clubs start (Multi-Sports, Music, Roots & Shoots etc)
23 Jan	PTFA Meeting, 8.00pm
4 Feb	Years 3 & 4 Faith Tour
4 Feb	No Game On Clubs
11 Feb	School Development Meeting for Parents, 7.00pm
13 Feb	PTFA Disco EYFS/KS1 5.00-6.00pm/KS2 6.15-7.30pm
17 - 21 Feb	HALF TERM
24 Feb	Years R & 6 NHS Height and Weight Screening
3 Mar	Learning Discussions, 4.00-7.00pm
5 Mar	World Book Day
5 Mar	Learning Discussions, 4.00-7.00pm
