



NEWSLETTER NO 2 - Monday 5th October 2020

	Term Begins	Finish		Return	Term Ends
Autumn 2020	Thursday 3 Sept	Friday 23 October	Term Half	Tuesday 3 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		Tuesday 8 June	Wednesday 21 July

Inset Days: 2 November 2020, 4 January 2021, 7 June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Autumn has definitely arrived! We appreciate the weather will add additional complications to our procedures however we are very grateful for your ongoing patience and support with everything we have put in place for the school communities' well-being and hope that no major changes will be necessary.

Thank you for your generous donations for our Harvest appeal; I hope some of you had the chance to see the display in the church over the weekend. A special thank you to EYFS who were unable to visit the church but still very kindly brought donations for the older children to deliver on their behalf.

Although sadly a distant memory, Legoland Wingrave was a great success and everyone of all ages enjoyed the opportunity to see our very own exhibition and Mini-land. Years 2 and 3 had a wonderful time in their workshops and certainly had more time to enjoy the experience that they would have done on the actual trip - and no long coach journey either! Thank you to the children for being so careful and respectful of the models and thank you to the staff who made the whole event possible. Please bear with us while we await details on the refund.

Despite so many restrictions, we are still very keen for the children to enjoy school life and enjoy the same (and new) creative experiences we expect here at Wingrave. Lots of further plans are afoot for future occasions, not to mention the Hotdog lunch being organised by the PTFA. Thank you to the committee for meeting the challenge and thinking creatively too.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Although the organisation of this event must change we are still keen to support the appeal by gathering items which the church team can assemble on our behalf. A letter is attached with more information including the associated non-uniform day on Friday 23rd October.

Current Procedures

We continue to review all procedures and measures to ensure we respond to latest news and guidance as appropriate but, whilst relaxing some aspects would make life much easier all round, we do not think it wise with the national picture as it stands. As we have had no further precautionary tests or concerns in the last fortnight we feel confident that we are doing the right thing.

Several things to bear in mind over the coming weeks:

- Please ensure the children are dressed for the weather and have a light waterproof coat as a precaution, especially on PE days. It is important the children get outside for playtimes and exercise and we do not want a little rain to prevent this.
- Music lessons will be taught at a distance in classrooms if PE is unable to take place outside and the hall is required in more severe weather.
- We will be aiming to strike a balance between our use of heating and keeping the classrooms well ventilated. It would therefore be wise for all children to have a school sweatshirt with them, vests/tights and to avoid shorts.
- The recent downpours have highlighted a drainage issue in the car park which we are investigating, however should this cause difficulties at drop-off or collection times please look out for alternative space/routes

around the school site. Please be especially aware of the EYFS and Year 1 children who need clear line of sight to their parents when being collected - thank you.

- We want to limit any waiting times at the end of the day for your benefit, however should specific areas appear crowded, parents are welcome to wear a mask if you feel more comfortable. Although the slightly reduced staggered drop-off/collection times are more convenient for siblings in different classes, it does mean there is a higher concentration of people.
- Conversations are taking place with AIP around the possibility of reintroducing hot meals however currently, with the whole staggered lunch process taking 2 hours in total, we do not think it will be possible to staff and manage the service and still safely guarantee hot food.

Parking

We appreciate that as the weather worsens, more families are likely to drive to school. This unfortunately has a huge impact on parking around the area and causes further difficulties for our school neighbours and friends. Please can we remind you:

- to only drive to school if necessary so we can reduce the traffic and parking issues as much as possible.
- to make use of the Sports Club car park if possible.
- not to park across driveways, pavements or drop curbs which cause difficulties for residents and pedestrians.
- not to park on or near junctions affecting the flow and movement of traffic and pedestrians.
- to drive carefully around the village where children are more difficult to see between parked cars or over larger vehicles - 'twenty is plenty'.
- set off a bit earlier in the mornings to allow time to drive and park at the Sports Club.

Thank you for your help in keeping the children and wider community safe.

After-school Collection Forms

Last year we introduced a collection form to list any adults/older siblings who had permission to collect your children after school. We are very aware that recent developments mean more parents and family members are supporting each other by collecting each other's children and therefore we are re-issuing this form (attached) for the new school year. We can still accommodate last minute requirements if you contact the office by phone or email.

TT Rockstars

We are having a great deal of fun with the new TT Rockstars times table platform online. Your children should have now brought home their login details, many of them taking part in competitions and challenging the teachers already. Each challenge the children complete also adds to their Housepoint House score and Maple are currently in the lead with 1150! We look forward to updating the children in our virtual assemblies and celebrating the overall winner soon.

School Photographs

Individual school photographs will be taken next Wednesday 14th October, again by Veronica Stewart. These will be taken outside weather permitting. Unfortunately there will be no sibling photos this year. Please ensure that you child is wearing correct school uniform with no extreme hair styles or hairbands.

Mr M Tomson
Headteacher
head@wingrave.school

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

14 Oct	School Photos
15 Oct	PTFA Hotdog fundraiser
20 Oct	PTFA AGM, 8.00pm via Zoom
23 Oct	Non-uniform day for Shoebox Appeal – please donate shoebox items as per letter
w/c 26 Oct	HALF TERM
2 Nov	INSET DAY
4 Dec	Whole School flu vaccination
