

Thanks for a brilliant first term!

October Newsletter 2023

Dear families,

It has been a fantastic first term and we have really enjoyed getting settled back into our routines for our **10th academic year**. The whole staff team have been modelling and promoting rights, responsibilities and respect and our learners have demonstrated this brilliantly over the term. Earlier this term, we welcomed our 10th Oak cohort into WFA with all 60 places being filled. We are really enjoying getting to know all learners and it has been brilliant to welcome new members into our WFA community. In this newsletter I will share some highlights of the term and some key information for next term. Many thanks for being a part of our journey!

Charlotte Black (Principal)



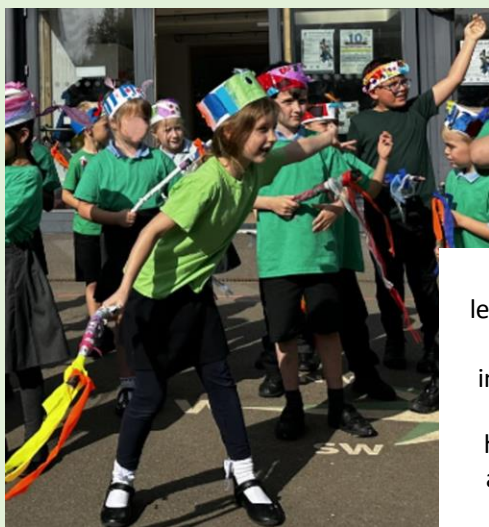
WFA celebrates 10 years!

Our 10 year celebrations were, without doubt, our biggest highlight so far this year. What a fabulous day of joy-filled experiences for our learners and families to feast over. We had an absolute blast and hears to another 10 years!

You can see more about this event on page 2 of this newsletter.



Beech learning zone danced the calypso, dressed as our ELLI characters in orange.



Willow learning zone showed imagination with headbands and ribbon wands, dressed in green.



Maple learning zone dressed in blue with headbands inspired by curiosity.

Emails: If you would like to contact us please ensure you email info@wfa.df.uk as our schoolcomms system does not allow us to access replies to emails sent. Emails will be forwarded to class teachers if marked FAO with the teacher's name.

Please make sure we have the most up to date contact details including mobile number and emails for our school comms text and email service

Follow us on twitter @wallscourt and the learning zones @YRWFA, @Y1WFA, @WfaYear2, @Y3WFA, @Y4WFA, @WFAYear5, @WFAYear6 @WFAtheArtists These are official school twitter accounts

The Great WFA Bake Off!

On the day, we had a Great WFA Bake Off, we had entries from all the year groups!



In the weeks preceding the day of celebration, each year group spent lots of time preparing and creating their fantastic costumes. As well as practicing and learning their wonderful street dances.



We then had a carnival style parade, wearing our costumes and performing our street dances! We were led around by the Y6 samba players!



Elm learning zone dressed in green and led the parade playing Samba.



Hazel learning zone in orange showed their resilience with their mountain themed headbands.

Acer learning zone dressed in red with headbands showing their independence.



At 7pm, families gathered together for the firework display...



Oak learning zone waved their blue fans dressed all in blue.

Thank you to everyone who got involved in celebrating our 10 year anniversary and for making it a huge success! Particular thanks to all of the volunteers who helped, especially our FWFA volunteers and for everyone who came to either the parade or the evening event. You can find out more about the event in the CLF article - <https://clf.uk/news/wallsourt-farm-celebrates-10th-anniversary/>

We gazed at the fireworks while the full moon watched over us...



This term we also...

Celebrated Black History month

We have been really inspired by the stories we have heard this month when talking about black history.



We also found out about Akyaba Addai-Sebo who came to the UK in 1984 as a refugee. His aim was for the local community to challenge racism and educate themselves and others about the British history of black people that was not taught in schools.



Leomie Anderson

UK Model

"You are valid, you can do anything, you are intelligent, and you deserve to be heard...Just be unapologetically yourself and remember your voice matters."

This is what south London model Leomie Anderson wants young girls to know, especially young black girls.



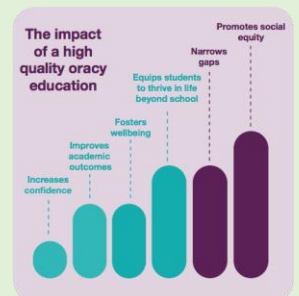
We found out that Evelyn Dove was the first black singer to sing live on the BBC.



Developed our oracy skills



This term we have been introducing new elements to our oracy curriculum. This work has been led by year 5 teacher Sally Doughty and has been a part of our work with Voice 21.



The Oracy Framework, devised by Voice 21 and Oracy Cambridge, provides a structure through which we can understand what constitutes good speaking and listening in different contexts. It breaks down the skills within oracy into four distinct but interlinked strands:



Physical



Linguistic



Cognitive



Social & Emotional



WFA Reading Curriculum Evening

Thursday 2nd November 2023

We need your support and engagement!



Dear families,

We would like to invite you to an evening workshop looking at how we teach and support all children in developing their reading. The evening is designed to give you further insight into the learning here at Wallscourt Farm Academy and help you think about how you can continue to work with us to support children in their learning.

The evening will be held on Thursday 2nd November and will run slightly differently for families of children in Oak Learning Zone (our reception class) to those with children in year groups 1 to 6. The evening for year groups 1 to 6 will include a whole school address from the principal, Charlotte Black, about the curriculum and being a reader at WFA. Following this, families will be directed to their child's year group for a session about being a reader in that learning zone. The evening will run as follows:

- 5.30 pm – whole school address in the Super Classroom
- 6.00 pm – families make their way to the year group they would like to find out more about
- 6.30 pm – end of evening



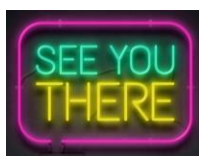
For our families in Oak Learning Zone, the evening will begin at 6pm for an address from the principal, Charlotte Black, about early years and the WFA curriculum. Following this, the Oak teaching team will share key information about the early years curriculum, phonics and reading. This will all take place in the Super Classroom and will end between 6.30 and 7.00 pm depending on running times.

It is really important that families attend these workshops if possible as they are designed to support you in helping the children with their reading at home. This forms part of our learning triangle approach where the partnership with families is fundamental to our ethos. We have planned for this evening to take place before our Family Learning Conferences so that families can hear about reading progression and support prior to the conversations about your child's progress.

This will be the first of 2 curriculum evenings that we will hold this year at WFA. The second curriculum evening will take place later in the year and will be based on how WFA supports and challenges learners across the curriculum.

We look forward to seeing you during this first meeting and working together to support your child's learning journey.

Kind regards
WFA Team



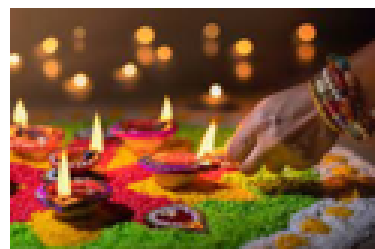
Being a reader

Annual Celebrations and Events 23-24

Last year we increased the celebrations we recognise at Wallscourt Farm Academy to represent the diversity of WFA and our local community. We would like to share with you the festivals, celebrations and events we will be acknowledging this year.



Diwali



We will be celebrating with a special gathering led by learners and their families.

Chinese New Year



We hope to be able to invite The University of Bristol Chinese Lion Dance Troupe back to Wallscourt Farm Academy to perform for us.



Eid

We would like to be able to build on the Eid celebrations that we enjoyed last year.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
7 MARCH 2024

World Book Day

Throughout the day learners will be taking part in different activities to promote a love of reading. We will also be holding a bedtime stories event with hot chocolate and doughnuts!

Learners can attend the bedtime stories event in their pyjamas, but we will not be coming to school dressed up as book characters.

National Charity Fundraising Events

We have made the decision not to take part in any national charity fundraising events this year. If families wish to donate to these causes, there are plenty of opportunities for them to be able to do this outside of school. In order to promote the idea of giving and supporting others, we will hold one event across the year to raise money for a local charity. This charity will be selected by the learners. We will also be collecting donations for our local food bank. Learners will be able to wear their Christmas jumper to school on the day we have our Christmas lunch however we won't be asking for a donation for them to do this.





We fully understand that families may want to top-up the branded Wallscourt Farm uniform with plain jumpers, t-shirts and school uniform trousers etc. These can be purchased from any number of budget and high street shops.

Jumpers need to be Primary Blue, and t-shirts need to be light blue. School uniform trousers and skirts need to be grey or black, and appropriate school shoes in black must be worn.



Jewellery

Children should not wear jewellery to school other than simple stud earrings or small objects of religious significance. Ideally, for health and safety reasons, these should not be worn on the day your child is an athlete.

PE Kit



A blue school jumper, cardigan or fleece can also be worn if it is cold.

Term 2 Sports – On this day, send your child to school in their sports kit

Oak	Beech	Willow	Acer	Maple	Hazel	Elm
Tuesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Tuesday	Friday

Remember, the PE kit does not include football shirts or other T-shirts with logos and emblems etc.

Important Reminders:

Birthdays

We will always make your child feel special on their birthday. We request that you **do not** send sweets or **chocolates** into school or give them out at the end of the day.

Sunglasses and Sun cream

In warm weather, we encourage children to wear sun cream as they are outside for at least 30 minutes at lunchtime. If you would like your child to apply their own sun cream, please provide a named bottle of cream. An adult will supervise the application, but we are not allowed to put it on your child for them. We request that your child does not wear sunglasses unless arranged with the school due to hay fever or allergies.

Trim Trail and Monkey Bars

Please **do not** let your child use any of the outdoor equipment at the beginning or end of the school day. This equipment is for use during learning time only.

Due to serious allergies, we are a **nut and seed free** school – please do not send these items into school as part of a packed lunch.

Term dates

These can be found on the school website. Please ensure you check these before booking any holidays.

Please only book a holiday during school holidays. **We do not authorise holidays taken during term time.** Unauthorised absence may result in a fixed penalty fine.