



# Walton-le-Dale

## Wednesday Newsletter

*"Through working together, the best is yet to come"*

[www.wldps.com](http://www.wldps.com)

Issue 13 – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### IMPORTANT - INCREASING NUMBERS OF COVID CASES IN SCHOOL

We are noticing a sharp increase in the number of children testing positive for COVID presently. Although some of our positive children have had a raised temperature or cough, many cases do not. Those children are showing one or more of the following symptoms:

<b>Headache</b>	<b>General unwell feeling</b>	<b>Sore throat</b>	<b>Runny nose</b>	<b>Sneezing</b>
<b>Nausea</b>	<b>Diarrhoea</b>	<b>Vomiting</b>	<b>Extreme tiredness</b>	

We are asking that if your child has any one of these symptoms, you give them a lateral flow test. If your child has several of these symptoms, particularly a general feeling of being unwell or headache, we ask you take them for a PCR test and keep them at home until their result returns (usually the next day).

By following these requests, you are helping to minimise the chance of outbreaks in school and keeping vulnerable members of our community safe.

It would make sense to carry out a LFD test whenever your child feels unwell and when reporting their illness to the school.

### CLUBS

The following clubs will finish this week (they will not be on next week the w/b 13th December).

**KS2 Art Club** with Miss Keelan

**Mindfulness Club** with Mrs Hocking

**Choir Club** with Mr Shields

**STEAM Coding Club** with Mr Richardson

**KS1 Art Club** with Mr Johnson and Miss Turner

**Robotics/ Jam Coding**

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**The following clubs WILL be on next week:**

**Athletics Club** will be on next week, on Monday 13th December. This is the last session for this club

**Craft Club** will be on next week, on Tuesday 14th December. This is the last session for this club.

**Netball Club** will be on this week and next week, on Thursday 16th December. There will be another session on Thursday 6th January.

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## YEAR 4 BRASS ASSEMBLY

We would like to invite Year 4 parents to a Brass Assembly on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am. We would prefer only one parent per child but will allow a maximum of two parents/adults per child. Masks must be worn when entering the school building and during the assembly.

## CHRISTMAS JUMPERS – ‘SAVE THE CHILDREN DAY’ THIS FRIDAY! 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

We are inviting all children to wear Christmas or coloured jumpers this Friday (10<sup>th</sup> December) to mark ‘Save the Children Day’. If you wish your child to be involved, please send them with £1 to support this worthwhile cause.

## RECEPTION NATIVITY – THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

We are looking forward to welcoming our Reception parents to watch our Christmas nativity next Thursday. There will be a showing at 10am for parents of Chinchilla Class and another showing for Lemur Class at 1.30pm.

The event should last about an hour with the addition of photographs that parents may wish to take at the end. To allow social distancing to take place, tickets will have to be limited to two per child. These tickets will be sent home with your child.

Admittance will be limited to **two seats per child** and **masks must be worn** throughout the performance. Limiting numbers will enable more effective social distancing for this event.

## PTFA DISCO - POSTPONED

With regret, the discos have been postponed this week owing to a rising number of cases being recorded in school over the last week. The PTFA will review this in the New Year with the intention of being able to arrange another. We hope you understand the sound reasons for making this decision, helping our families enjoy as healthy and enjoyable Christmas as possible.

## PTFA CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY – 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021

Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or colourful jumper on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December and bring a cash donation, suggested £1

## FACE MASKS

In line with recent guidance, all parents entering the school buildings must wear masks. This will apply at the front entrance, forthcoming brass assemblies, Reception Class Nativities and Celebration Assemblies. Please ensure you have a mask handy!

## PTFA CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Thanks to all of your amazing donations, the hampers this year are better than ever!

**Tickets are on sale now and until 4pm on Friday 10th December.**

Tickets are £2 for medium sized hampers, £3.50 for large hampers or £10 for luxury hampers.

PLUS - every £10 hamper ticket gets a free entry to win one of 5 luxury food hampers too!

**Don't miss out - get your tickets via Parentpay!**

The drawer for all winners will be carried out on the 14<sup>th</sup> December.

## NURSERY STAFFING CHANGE

Sadly, Miss Natasha Turner will be leaving us in the New Year to pursue her goal of becoming a teacher. Miss Turner has been a most popular member of staff, supporting the needs of our nursery children. We will be sad to see her leave us but wish her well as she moves on.

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## **SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2022/23**

The school term and holiday dates for the 2022/23 academic year have been approved by governors. These are published below and available on our website.

### **Autumn 2022**

Starts: Monday 5 September 2022

Half term: Monday 24 October – Friday 28 October 2022

Ends: Tuesday 20 December 2022 (School Closes at 1.15pm)

### **Spring 2023**

Starts: Tuesday 2 January 2023

Half term: Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February 2023

Ends: Friday 31 March 2023

### **Summer 2023**

Starts: Monday 17 April 2023

May Day: Monday 1 May 2023 (School Closed)

Half term: Monday 29 May – Friday 9 June 2023

Ends: Friday 21 July 2023 (School Closes at 1.15pm)

## **ON A VERY POSITIVE NOTE...AVA GIBSON**

**Ava Gibson, in Jaguar Class is doing something very special for a member of her wider family.**

When Ava was watching the Pride of Britain Awards, she turned to her parents and asked if there was anything she could do to help Phoebe, a family member. Phoebe has dealt with two liver transplants whilst only being an infant. She has been in and out of hospital all her life and has just spent the last 6 months leading up to and following the last operation.

The first attempt at a transplant failed, but the second, from her Nana, has so far been a success. Phoebe's mother, Lauren, has obviously had a tremendously challenging time supporting her through this and Ava felt that she could help make life a little better for them both by raising a little money. Her target was £100.

Ava has been going out every evening, in all weathers, to run a mile or so with her dad and her dog. As word has spread of her commitment to carry on doing this, she has now raised around £1300 with other cash donations.

I personally think that this is a very impressive deed and shows how we can make a difference supporting each other.

Ava and her family would greatly appreciate any support you are able to offer. Well done Ava – fantastic effort!

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/forphoebe?utm\\_term=2g8aPBMVR](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/forphoebe?utm_term=2g8aPBMVR)

## **SWIMMING POOL REDEVELOPMENT**

We are excited to announce that our swimming pool is about to undergo a significant redevelopment. While the pool itself is an excellent learning facility, the building is in need of replacement. The works will include removing the existing building and erecting a new building on the current site. We will also have new changing facilities and poolside showers.

Due to the scale of the works, the swimming pool will be closed to all swimmers from January to March. We will keep you updated on the project as it progresses and will re-open the pool as soon as possible in the spring. We expect this facility to be an excellent addition to our school.

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## IMPORTANT - MAKING THE SCHOOL AWARE OF NEW COVID CASES

If you discover your child has Covid following either an LFD test or PCR test, please ensure that you let a member of the office or senior leadership team know as soon as possible. Some parents have recently taken to Class Dojo to inform teachers of new cases rather than the office, but this information may not be discovered quickly enough to react on, especially if messages are sent over a weekend.

During school hours, please send an email to the school office to either:

[shodgson@wldps.com](mailto:shodgson@wldps.com) or [cdobson@wldps.com](mailto:cdobson@wldps.com)

If you need to contact the school out of school hours or over the weekend:

[cshields@wldps.com](mailto:cshields@wldps.com) or [prichardson@wldps.com](mailto:prichardson@wldps.com)

## CURRENT TRIPS & PAYMENTS AVAILABLE TO PAY ON PARENTPAY

The following may be paid for using Parentpay –

Nursery Fees

Lunch Payments

Breakfast Club Payments

After School Club Payments

PGL Boreatton Park – Year 6

Borwick Hall – Year 4

Yours sincerely,

C J Shields

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Assessment Week
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	PTFA Infant Disco 5 – 6pm PTFA Junior Disco 6.30 – 7.30pm
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Hobgoblin Theatre Company – King Arthur (performances for KS1 and KS2) PTFA Christmas Hamper Draw
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 4 Brass Assembly - 11am
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Breakfast with Santa 8am
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Breakfast with Santa 8am PTFA Christmas Jumper Day – cash donation suggestion of £1 Class parties and entertainment
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term – 1.15pm

## SUPER PUPILS

Congratulations to our “Super Pupils” from last week:

Bison Class- Athena

Manatee Class-Jayden

Falcon Class- Tamas

Eagle Class-Arthur

Jaguar Class- Theo



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Leopard Class- Lila

Loris Class- Lyra

Kakapo Class-Priya

Gorilla Class- Ava

Orangutan Class- Izzy

Elephant Class- Oliver

Rhinoceros Class-Madeline