



Wantage
PRIMARY ACADEMY

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WPA's Newsletter

Principal: Mrs Robinson

6th September 2024

Welcome back to WPA!

Whether your child is returning back to school in a new class or you are new to the school, a very warm welcome to each and every one of you. It has been a great start to the academic year and I have felt an immense sense of pride this week when walking around the school and Nursery, seeing all of our children actively involved in their learning and enjoying all the new experiences, making friends and building relationships. It is great to see them settling in so well and learning from their existing WPA peers, who have been fantastic role models.

Keeping you informed:

Newsletter - this is emailed out to parents registered on our school information system Arbor each week. The newsletter is then saved on the newsletter area of the school website for you to access.

Emails – Our main form of communication is via email. Please check regularly and ensure office@wantageprimaryacademy.org does not go into your junk.

Google Classroom: Every week the teachers will upload homework and place announcements. Please log on as soon as you can and let us know if you face any issues or difficulties with access. It is our expectation that all parents log in to ensure they can support their child. Please let us know if you cannot access or have any questions.

Website and Facebook. Our website and our official Facebook pages are regularly updated.

Whatsapp groups and comments on Facebook have their uses in terms of knowing what is going on, but this is not the best forum for individual concerns or queries. Please email if you have a query or check the newsletter for more information each week.

Please note: Choir is now on Wednesdays and will start next week 3:30 – 4:30 for those pupils who are signed up.

Key Dates for the remainder of this half term (see full calendar below)

Date	Who?	Event
September 2 nd	All Staff	INSET day all staff in school No pupils in school
September 3 rd and 4 th	Children	All children from Year 1 – Year 6 start school 8:40 – 3:30 Reception ½ days
September 5 th	Children	Reception and Nursery start full time
September 16 th – 20 th	All children	NSPCC Speak out Stay Safe week
September 18 th	Year 5 parents	Meeting to discuss Year 5 Residential Trip and finalise forms
Sept 18 th	Y 4 and 6	Climate and Art Exhibition
September 23 rd – 25 th	Year 5 children	Year 5 Residential Trip
Sept 23 rd	KS1 – Year 1 and 2 parents	Parent workshops and curriculum expectations outline – 4:30pm
September 24 th	KS2 – Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 parents	Parent workshops and curriculum expectations outline – 4:30pm
September 25 th	Reception parents	Phonics workshop and coffee morning 8:45am
Sept 26 th	All children	European day of Languages
Sept 30 th TBC	Parents	FoWPA 6.30pm AGM
September Date TBC	Everyone	Kingsgrove community day
October 3 rd	All children	National Poetry Day and Poet Visit
October 4 th	All staff	INSET day all staff in school No pupils in school
8 th October	Pupils school and nursery	Individual and sibling photographs
October 10 th	Parents of SEND pupils	SEND coffee morning- a chance to meet the SENDCO and other parents of pupils with SEND, 8:45am
October 16 th	Reception – Year 6	October Flu Immunisation
October 15 th 8:50 – 9:20	KS1 (Years 1 and 2)	Harvest festival assembly and classroom learning exhibitions –
October 16 th 8:50 – 9:20	KS2 (Years 3,4,5,6)	Harvest festival assembly and classroom learning exhibitions –
October 16 th 3pm	Reception	Open afternoon visits - a chance for parents to see children's learning and books. 3pm – 3:25pm
October (date TBC)	Year 3 pupils	Stone Age to Iron Age workshop
October 25 th	All pupils	End of term. Normal times of day

In school learning

This week, you were sent an overview of your child's learning for this term. We have also saved them on our website. Please visit <https://www.wantageprimaryacademy.org.uk/childrens-termly-learning-overviews/> to see termly learning overviews for each class.

Drops offs and pick ups

Thank you for dropping children promptly and safely to school each day, ensuring children are safely in school and learning at 8:40am.

Please ensure pupils do not use or climb on the trim trail play areas or hills before or after school.

When dropping off and picking up, we ask that you exit the playground as soon as possible to ensure we can lock the gates and ensure everyone from school (morning) or After School club (afternoons) is safe. If you need to speak with a member of staff for a longer period, please email or come to the office.

The area around the disabled bay car park gets incredibly busy during morning and evening drop offs and pick ups. Please ensure you do not stand or walk through the car park itself and be mindful when walking or cycling past the entrance. We ask that, where possible, parents line up along the path outside of the school gates or alongside the school (between the school office and access gates) to free up space and ensure all children are safe. If you park in the large parent car park behind the MUGA, please continue to do so. This is available to all. We also ask that Year 3 and Year 4 parents do not wait in front of the planters when collecting children from the Year 3 and 4 fire exit as this could cause a bottleneck. Instead, we ask that you stand behind the planters and we will then send children to you. We will open the large side access gate alongside the small access gate to help support this.

Safeguarding and child protection

Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us and forms a very important part of our work. WPA's Designated Safeguarding Lead is myself, Mrs Robinson and I am supported by Mrs Hammond and Mrs Gladwin as deputy DSLs. Our whole staff team is trained every year to be vigilant and any concern, however small, is logged on to our CPOMS safeguarding system. This may mean that there may be occasions when we contact you or speak with you at the end of the day, to discuss something that your child has said and this may be all that is needed. There may be times where we may need to offer help and support and to signpost for additional services. On rare occasions, we need to make a referral to the safeguarding hub or social services, and when this decision has been made, parents are usually notified via a phone call or email. The safeguarding hub or social services will then carry out an assessment to determine the support required.

At school, we have a whole programme to help your child to be aware of their own rights and to keep themselves safe - at an age-appropriate level. This includes relationships, internet safety, risk assessment, road safety, PANTS, consent and much more besides. This is delivered through our Personal Development programme and starts right from nursery.



Friends of WPA

Friends of Wantage Primary Academy would like to welcome all parents and children back.

We hope you have had a great first week.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with FoWPA, we are similar to a PTA. We have taken on the role of raising funds for the added extras that make pupils' school experience even greater! Having formed in 2021 we have so far been able to raise funds for the playground markings, the trim trail and the ramp to the outside classroom making it accessible to all pupils. It is a great place to meet other parents and form a community too. Not only are we raising money but we aim to help create childhood memories that last a lifetime.

If you are interested in learning more please join us for our AGM which we will shortly share a date for. We would love to meet you. In the meantime, please contact us at: pta@wantageprimaryacademy.org

Secondary School Transfer

This is a reminder that the window for secondary school applications for Year 6 pupils will open next week. Applications can be submitted from 12 September 2024. The deadline to submit an application is 31 October 2024. National Offer Day for Year 7 is 3 March 2025. If you miss the deadline, your application will be processed later in the year, making you less likely to secure a place at a preferred school.

Local secondary schools will be holding their own events in the coming weeks.

[Year 7 - secondary school applications | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

King Alfred's

[King Alfred's Academy - Open Events \(kaacademy.org\)](#)

[King Alfred's Academy - Join us as a Year 7 student \(kaacademy.org\)](#)

St Johns CE Academy

[St John's CE Academy - Secondary Phase Events \(stjohnsceaacademy.org\)](#)

Series of Q&A Sessions/Tours of the Primary Site:

Join us for these sessions, where you'll have the opportunity to ask questions and take a tour of the primary site. This will be especially useful for parents of incoming Year 7 students, as it will provide insights into the temporary arrangements at the Primary Site while the Secondary Site is being completed.

- *Dates: Thursday, 12th September 2024; Thursday, 19th September 2024; Thursday, 26th September 2024 (3:30 - 4:30pm) @ SJA Primary Site, Stanley Hall Road, Grove, Wantage OX12 0GR*

Please see below for details of new upcoming events at Wantage Library!

Introduction to Rag Rugs! Friday 13th September – 6.30pm – 8pm – Come and learn the basic techniques of making a rag rug using the proddy/poked method! All materials are provided, although you are welcome to bring fabric with you too! This activity is suitable for 12yrs and above – to book your free ticket, please ring 01235 762291.

Painting without Brushes – Saturday 14th September – 10am - 12pm – Come and have a go at making artwork without using a brush – wearing old clothes advised! This activity is suitable for children aged 5yrs plus – please book your free ticket by phoning 01235 762291!

Health Watch – Friday 20th September 11am – 1pm - Healthwatch Oxfordshire will be visiting Wantage Library to hear about your care experiences in Oxfordshire, including your experiences of hospitals, opticians, GP surgeries, Mental Health services, Community Services, Pharmacies, Care Homes, dentists and carers at home – please drop into Wantage Library and give your views. To find out more, please phone 01865 520520.

Robot Workshop – Friday 20th September – 4pm – 5pm or 6pm – 7pm - Come and have fun with our crazy robots! There will be a chance to do some basic coding, and see what our robots can do! There are two sessions – 4pm – 5pm, or 6pm – 7pm - and this activity is suitable for children aged 7yrs and above! Please ring Wantage Library on 01235 762291 to book your free ticket!

Garden Event Saturday 21st September – 1pm – 3pm - Come and make seed bombs and swap seeds! Please call Wantage Library on 01235 762291 to book for this FREE event!

Mike White Local History Author – Wednesday 25th September – 6pm – 7pm – Come and listen to Mike White, author of local history books, 'The Veiled Vale' and 'The Ox-Files' will be talking about his books, and the local history of the area! To book your FREE ticket for this talk, please phone 01235 762291, or speak to library staff.

MacMillan Coffee Morning – Friday 27th September – 9.30am -1pm - It's not long now until MacMillan Coffee Morning at Wantage Library! Why not pop down and have a nibble and a natter, and raise some money for MacMillan Cancer Research! There will be lots of goodies on offer, so come and visit the Library before all the cakes get eaten.....! No need to book, just pop in!

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs Robinson

Principal