



Integrity

Message from the Head

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Watling Park School,

Last week, you will have received the curriculum leaflet outlining what your child will be learning about at school this half term and also the home learning packs, we hope you found these useful. We are keen to improve home school links and this term will see the start of many workshops that we want to run for parents. If you do have any suggestions as to how we can further develop home and school partnerships, please do let us know.

Last week, as a school team, we reviewed the school values and decided that the central beliefs that we all hold at Watling Park School can be captioned by the acronym 'I care' with the word 'care' being the overarching value.

Each half term, we will focus on one of the values in depth and this half term the value is "Integrity". What does "integrity" mean?



We have defined it with the children as doing the right thing even if it is difficult and no one is looking.

Can you please talk to your child about what it means to have integrity. What does it look like in day to day life. One of the examples I have given to the children is "Only going to the toilet when I need to go, not to mess about!" Another is, "Not walking off when you have hurt someone playing football."

We would like to create a display of what our children understand integrity to be and I am setting the challenge this week for children to create A4 posters of what Integrity means to them.

Please do help them with this and share examples with them, like those mentioned above.

With best wishes,
Moira Anderson

The aspect of Integrity which we are focusing in on this week is "being honest".

Please talk to your children about why it is important to be honest, what might happen if you are not honest? What might the impact be on other people?

Attendance and Punctuality

Unfortunately attendance at Watling Park is below our target and this is an area we do need to improve upon. Thank you to those parents who consistently make an effort in ensuring their child is in school every day. Our current overall attendance is **92.6%** and our target is 96.5%. We have a little way to go to achieve this.

We introduced an attendance cup last week which will be awarded to the class with the best attendance each week. Last week it was Elm Class. Come on Oak Class – it is your turn to make sure Elm Class do not run away with the trophy two weeks in a row!

Attendance

89.6%

Punctuality

94.8%

Elm

Attendance

92.1%

Punctuality

96.2%

Oak



The PTFA held their AGM meeting on Monday at 5pm. Thank you to those parents who were able to make it, your time and commitment to the school is much appreciated. Anna, our chair of the PTFA, will be ensuring there is a suggestion box that will be available this Family Friday and she is keen to elect a parent rep for each class. Please do speak to Anna (Francis' mum) or Ginka (Alex's mum) if you would like to know more about the work of the PTFA.



Parent Day... Can you help?

Saturday 19th March, 2016 (11 – 3pm)

You may have seen that we have painted the changing rooms by the entrance to cover up the graffiti as a start to improving the appearance of the outdoor area. We want to build on this and continue to make the outdoor area a bright, stimulating place and to do so, we really need your help.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we are looking to pot plants, construct outdoor play equipment and paint bits and pieces to brighten the outdoor space up. Wouldn't it look better if children had access to equipment such as those shown below?



There are lots of different ways to help

- 1) You can donate resources
- 2) You can help with some planting
- 3) You can help with some painting
- 4) You can help with general construction/DIY
- 5) Or you can be like me and keep the workers happy with tea and coffee!

There are so many ways that you can help us develop the outdoors to provide a richer learning experience for your children. Please get involved.

Well done !

Stars of the week

Eric for excellent progress in phonics and blending sounds together to write words independently.

Abigale for retelling the story of Jasper's Beanstalk by painting scenes independently.

Friends of the week

Zachariya for displaying the value of the week, Integrity and being trusted to do the right things sitting on the carpet while he waited for the other children.

Hasan for displaying our school value 'integrity' and doing the right thing – helping his friend when he knocked him over in the playground.

Life cycles

From baby... to child... to adult

Elm Class have had a visitor this week to come and see their 'baby clinic' ...a baby who wasn't even a week old. We are looking for volunteers to come into class with young babies/toddlers so that children can learn about what babies and toddlers are like at different stages of development. Please do speak to the team if you are interested – there is not better way than first hand experience.

We still need photos of your children as babies - please put in an envelope, marked with your child's name and hand to a member of the Reception team.

Mothering Sunday

We would like to recognise all the hard work that you all do in raising such wonderful children, who you must be incredibly proud of and we wish not only Mums, but all parents, grandparents and carers an enjoyable and hopefully restful day.



World Book Day

To celebrate the world of books, we will all be dressing up as characters from our favourite books and engaging in activities such as creating new characters for a favourite book, making bookmarks, designing a new cover for a book and much more. We are encouraging children to bring in a copy of the book which their character features in. It would be great to see as many different characters as possible.



'Personal and academic excellence; every child every day'

Our core values are captured by the acronym: I Care

Integrity

Confidence

Appreciation

Responsibility

Excellence

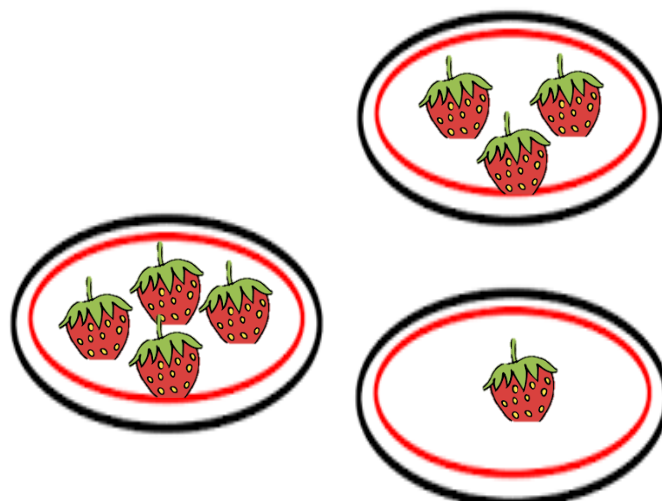


Could you be Miss Anderson's Maths Whizz?

You have eight strawberries and three plates. How many ways can you arrange the strawberries using the three plates?

I have done 1 for you.

1 -



$$4 + 3 + 1 = 8$$

Please investigate this problem with your child. You could use counters or pennies if you don't have strawberries.

Miss Anderson would love to see any worked examples or photos of your children investigating this task.

Talk for writing

Enclosed with this newsletter is the talk for writing picture for this week. Ask them questions beginning with words or phrases such as why? I wonder what happen if..? Where ? How ..? When? Remember, they have to be able to say it to be able to write it.

Thursday 3rd March, 2016

World Book Day
We will be celebrating World Book Day and for this we would like everyone to dress as their favourite book character and bring along their favourite book to share with the rest of the class.

Wednesday 9th March, 2016

RWI Parents workshop. Find out more about how we teach phonics at school and how you can support your child at home.
The workshop will run at the following times
3:30 – 4:15
5:00 – 5:45

Thursday 17th March, 2016

Trip to Willows Farm – volunteers needed. Please speak to a member of the Reception team. Names will be chosen randomly. It is not first come, first served!

Saturday 19th March, 2016

Parents' Day – Improve our outdoor space
11 – 3pm

Green fingers

These next few weeks will see our children busy learning how to care for plants and learning about ways in which they can improve the environment.



They will be making close observations of the roots and shoots of beans as they grow, they will be planting their sunflowers seeds and tending to them as well as an growing an array of other plants.

By the end of this term, we are hoping that they will have a range of produce to share with you. Do you have a particular interest in gardening? Would you like to come and volunteer to help with our gardening project? Please speak to a member of our Reception team.

Through the lens, lets take a look at...

In this weeks newsletter we are focusing in on writing. As you know, the children have been busy learning their sounds and are becoming ever increasingly confident in being able to blend these sounds to write words independently.

