



1 Worrall Drive, Wouldham Kent ME1 3GE
☎: 01634 861434 Email: office@wouldham.kent.sch.uk
Headteacher : Mrs Victoria Baldwin BSc (Hons) NPQH

14th June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well as we embark on term 6, the busiest term of the school year! I am pleased to inform you that we have initiated our OPAL journey this term, introducing three new play areas for the children. The children have actively participated in devising their own rules for these areas, engaging in activities such as dressing up play, water play, and Lego. The children are eagerly anticipating the upcoming new areas including a 'wheeled' area for bikes, scooters, and skateboards. Regarding this, we have observed an accumulation of scooters in the bike shed for extended periods. Kindly ensure that these are collected at the end of the day today; otherwise, we will reallocate them for OPAL use.

I extend my deepest gratitude for the generous donations we have received for our OPAL project. Currently, we are in need of storage solutions for the new equipment. Should you have a garden shed or any other storage solution to spare, we would greatly appreciate your consideration. Additionally, donations of small world toys and more 'dressing up' clothes would be welcomed.

Throughout this term, we have several exciting events lined up, and we cordially invite parents to join us on the following occasions:

- Wednesday 26th June 2024: New Year R parents welcome evening @ 6pm
- Thursday 4th July 2024: Year 4 celebration assembly @ 2.45pm
- Tuesday 9th July 2024: 'Stepping into Primary with Crafts' for New Year R families @ 1.25pm
- Wednesday 10th July 2024: Year 3 celebration assembly @ 2.45pm
- Thursday 11th July 2024: Sports Day @ 1.45pm
- Friday 12th July 2024: Year 5 celebration assembly @ 2.45pm
- Wednesday 17th July 2024: Year 6 Leavers play @ 2pm and 6pm
- Tuesday 23rd July 2024: Year 6 Leavers assembly @ 10am

I hope you have read the PTA newsletter shared this week, we are fortunate to have such a dedicated team who are busy arranging special events for the children this term, we hope that all families will support these events.

As we look ahead, some year groups have exciting school trips planned for this term. While we acknowledge the current challenges many families face, it is essential to highlight that our school budget has significantly reduced this academic year. Therefore, we kindly request parent contributions to facilitate these trips and ensure their successful implementation.



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Looking further ahead to term 1, I wanted to give you some advance warning; from September 2024 we will be extending our school day so that we meet the new statutory requirements. Children will be welcomed into school from 8.40am, the school gate will close at 8.45am. We recognise that the gate will be open for a shorter period, but are planning to have two separate gates available to bridge the issue of crowding. Our school day will still finish at 3.15pm. Further details will follow.

Lastly, as part of our commitment to continually enhancing the quality of education at our school, we are excited to inform you about some key curriculum developments that we are planning to introduce in the upcoming academic year. These initiatives have been designed to enrich the educational experience of our children and further support their learning and development.

However, in light of current financial constraints, we regret to inform you that our school is unable to fully fund these planned enhancements using our existing budget allocation. To ensure that all our children can benefit from these valuable additions to the curriculum, we kindly request a contribution of £10 per child to help bridge the funding gap.

The nominal fee requested will be utilised to cover the costs of essential stationery supplies and provide each child with personal copies of Power Maths workbooks, which are integral to their academic progress. We firmly believe that these resources are crucial in facilitating effective learning and growth among our children.

It is important to highlight that without the additional financial support from parents, we may be compelled to consider cuts in non-essential areas that could potentially diminish the overall educational experience of our pupils. After careful deliberation within the school community, we firmly believe that the suggested contribution represents a reasonable and necessary investment in our children's education.

We understand that times are challenging for many families, and we approach this request with sensitivity and understanding. We recently conducted a survey within the parent forum, and the majority of respondents expressed their support for this initiative, recognising the positive impact it will have on our children's educational journey.

To facilitate the payment process, a one-off payment option has been set up on Eduspot for your convenience. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter as we continue to strive towards providing the best possible educational opportunities for our children.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs V Baldwin
Headteacher