



ADDINGTON

NEWSLETTER

Oct 2016

HELLO EVERYONE!!

I would like to start by welcoming all our new pupils and parents to Addington. I do hope that your child has settled into school and that you are all feeling a little more at ease and less anxious.

Hopefully you will all now have had the opportunity to meet teachers at our autumn Parents' Evening and have had a good chat whilst setting IEP targets.

Please do contact us if you have any worries or concerns as we cannot help if we do not know what the problem is. Lucy, our Parent Support Advisor, is also available for support, advice or just a chat.

The first half term of the year is always very busy settling everyone back into the school routine, but now our lunchtime and after school clubs are in full swing, and our Music and PE departments have started events and tournaments. We have been very fortunate with the weather this half term, which has allowed us to continue to use our outside spaces for lessons as well as leisure.

David and Eirfron have started their new roles as Assistant Heads and, for this half term have been supported by Val, as they have been learning their new jobs. They have both done really well in their first half term. Also Yvonne has started her role as Assistant Head of Primary Faculty and Emer is working alongside Jean on the handover of Citizenship and Work Related Learning.

We say goodbye to Val on Friday after over 25 years here at Addington. Val's contribution both as a teacher and a leader has been exceptional, supporting our pupils both in the classroom and particularly in her role as Head of Secondary/ FE alongside working with our multi-agency professionals.

Val supported pupils and parents with care and compassion and I know that her work has definitely made a difference.

I am sure that you would all like to join me in thanking Val for her hard work and commitment to Addington. We wish her a very happy retirement.

I hope that you all have a relaxing half term. We have enclosed the new school term dates for 2017/18 to help you plan ahead.

Liz Meek
HEADTEACHER

SPORTS PAGES



401 Challenge

On Friday 23rd September five of our students had a fantastic opportunity to be a part of the 401 challenge. A man called Benjamin Smith started Marathon 389, out of 401, at Woodford Park and invited some of our students to run alongside him for the first mile. Our students also attended a talk at Beechwood School beforehand where he told us about his incredible story and the charities he was running for. The students were very inspired and enjoyed running with everyone that turned up to support the Marathon man.

To find out more or to donate please visit www.the401challenge.co.uk



Unified – Waingels Sports Day

Sports leaders from Waingels College organised a Sports day for Pupils from Addington and Arbour Vale school.

One class attended for the day and the pupils took part in Basketball shooting; Penalty shoot-out; Boccia; Kurling and Skittles.

One student won an award for excellent contribution.



Orienteering- 14th July 2016

Pupils from one class went to Newbury race course for Orienteering on Thursday 14th July.

The pupils also got to hold different birds of prey including a barn owl and a raven!

After-School Football club

This term the focus of our after school sports club has been Football.

The sessions have been focusing on improving the pupils passing, dribbling and shooting skills.

It is great to have some new pupils joining the club.



British Masters

On Friday 14th October, 12 pupils from Addington were invited by the Golf foundation to attend the British Masters Golf tournament at the Grove Golf course in Watford.

Pupils watched professional golfers play, got to meet a professional golfer and take part in a tri-golf lesson.

The children absolutely loved the experience and were learning the rules of Golf throughout the day. The pupils behaved wonderfully in the busy crowds and came home with some amazing souvenirs.





Student PE Achievements



Running a marathon with the 401 Challenge Man

Well done to one of our FE students for completing the 389th marathon with Ben Smith and other runners from around Reading. 26 miles around our area is a massive achievement and one of the best ever achieved by a student from Addington.





Student PE Achievements



Addington student plays Ice Hockey

Well done to one of our KS3 students for attending an Ice Hockey Club. She plays for Team Spice in Slough, the team travel to Canada once a year to play in an International tournament.





The Music Page



The start of a new school is always very exciting in the music department. Our theme this term is 'Harvest' and many classes have been exploring how music is put together through playing pieces such as 'Fields of Gold'. Our students on the access curriculum have been going exploring music about the farm in their sensory theatre music sessions and some of our younger students have been singing songs about the weather.

Our instrumental lessons have all started well, with many students continuing their lessons and some students having the opportunity to try a new instrument. This year we have new cello teacher Elysia to welcome onto the team. There is always a waiting list for lessons but if students are interested please let us know as places can often become available over the course of the year. We have a system here of offering free lessons for students to try out an instrument and if they choose to continue these lessons are then privately funded.

Extra-curricular lunch time clubs are also well underway, including our afterschool Theatre Club, which welcomes some new students this year.



Addington Band

We recently held an afternoon where we invited all of our students learning an instrument to come and play as part of band. This was to give students a new experience and see if they were ready to join our after school band. Students really enjoyed playing together and sounded fantastic! We are hoping that some of these students will now move on to join our regular band!



SingIN!

SingIN! is a project led by Addington that brings together children and young people from local schools in music and friendship. This year we are working with Highwood Primary School and Waingel's College to come together as a choir to perform in a concert on 6th November. Students are given a buddy from a different school, and they have been meeting at weekly rehearsals throughout the half term. We also have an adult community choir who will be performing alongside the student

choir on the day. Tickets are available for the event through the Music office.



We hope you all enjoy half term!

Rhona, Sean, Jules and Martin

Dates for the diary:

SingIN concert - Sunday 6th November 7pm at Bulmershe Theatre

Proms week - 3rd July - 7th July 2017

Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) and how it works at Addington

The teaching of SEAL promotes the social and emotional skills that underpin effective learning, positive behaviour and emotional health and well-being. Here at Addington School, we believe that these skills will support our pupils towards success both at school, and beyond.

There are five identified social and emotional aspects of learning. These are:

- Self-awareness- understanding our own feelings
- Managing feelings- expressing our feelings
- Motivation- being enthusiastic and active in our learning
- Empathy- understanding the feelings of others
- Social skills- interacting with others appropriately

We teach these areas through focused lessons and assemblies, but also through our whole-school ethos. We pride ourselves on the caring and considerate manner of our pupils, and undoubtedly, teaching SEAL supports this.

We have different themes that change each term, such as 'Going for Goals', 'Relationships' and 'Changes'. These help us to hone in on specific areas of life that can pose challenging for all of us, and provide strategies to support.

So, when your young person comes home communicating that they have been learning about seals, as one child in my class did, now you know the types of things they may have been doing!

Steph Knight



Learning to provide a helping hand





Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back! As always, it has been a real pleasure to see how much our young people have grown over the summer, and to meet so many new faces. It was lovely to see so many of you at the Foundation Stage information morning, and just as lovely to see so many of you at our first coffee morning of the year! It was really well attended, and I promise to take on board your request for another morning in November, in addition to running my normal Christmas themed event.

Parent and carer workshops have started with a Basic Makaton course, run by Katrina and Janet in SLT taking place on the 18th October. This will be followed throughout the year by workshops on PECS, SCERTS, Mindfulness and more - please check out my page on the Addington website for the timetable of events, and keep an eye out for information coming home too.

I am still looking to make the events I offer as relevant and accessible as possible, so if you haven't already, can I urge you to take five minutes to complete my online survey? I have had a number of responses and am currently looking at the information I have been given, but am happy to receive as much feedback as possible. The link to the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/X392HGN>

Many thanks, enjoy your half term and I hope to see you at an event soon!

Regards,

Lucy - Parent Support Adviser



Good Behaviour Award Winners



Congratulations to the following Students who achieved good behaviour awards for the 1st half of the Autumn Term:

Lucas Windisch. Jashvin Kavuri. Daisy. Ria Lakhanpal.
Tommy Hunter. Alyan Kayani. Jake Hitchman. Luka White.
Lloyd Locke. Lauren Simmonds. Tom Scott. Christopher Smith.
Henry Hicks. Ben Allum. Daniel Thrower. Lucas Pidgeon.
Hamza Athar. Thomas Miller. Vincent Miles.

Well done everyone...keep up the good behaviour!

Simone Pengraeve
Behaviour Support Teacher

Addington Association



Welcome to all the new parents whose children have just started at Addington and welcome back to rest of you.

By now we will have held our annual Disco which is a lovely event for the children. I hope those of you who attended had a lovely time and didn't eat too many sweets.

Our main fundraising event is the Christmas Fayre which will be held on the 3rd December. Look out for raffle tickets coming home as well as letters asking for donations. We really need as much parent support as possible to run this event, both on the day and also in the run up. We will be sending out pleas for help after half term please consider joining in, we do have a lot of fun.

In the meantime if you're having a half term clear out we will be asking be for donations of children's toys/games in good clean condition, items we can put on our popular gift stall and small toiletries/gifts/sweets that we can put in our mugs.



Addington Association has a Facebook page which we try to keep updated with all the news about events. Just search for Addington Association and like our page..

Regards

Natalie Walker
Chair of Addington Association

WORK RELATED LEARNING

National Grid

There are five Addington students undertaking internships this year. We set up travel training programmes in the summer holidays enabling four of the students to travel independently from the start of term. All the students are placed this term within the National Grid organisation but we will hopefully also use '14Forty' next term to provide more practical based options. They are all progressing well and enjoying being part of the NG teams. Currently they are busily planning together, organising a Christmas Fair. Already their families, colleagues, job coaches and I have seen an amazing transformation in raised levels of confidence and independent working skills.

It has been wonderful to meet up with our three ex-students who are now employed at the National Grid after their very successful internships. They seem to have made a good transition from being an 'intern' to being a paid employee! They look very comfortable in their new positions.

Horticulture

The new school year has started well. The weather was very hot to begin with but now that temperatures have dropped, the students are finding the physical work a lot easier.

We have harvested beans, courgettes, garlic, herbs, onions, potatoes, pumpkins, squashes, strawberries, sweetcorn, and tomatoes.

We currently have two groups of students working towards their City and Guilds qualification in Horticulture. They have already successfully sown seeds and pricked them out. They have also potted on viola plugs and will soon be planting them out around the school grounds. We have started working at the allotment and plan to sow onions, garlic, broad beans and peas as soon as the beds have been prepared.

Several other students have been learning new skills – planting hyacinths for Christmas, sowing various seeds, potting on plugs and preparing raised beds, ready for planting. We are also sending two scarecrows to the Newbury ploughing competition and, upon their return they will be sited on our two plots at the allotment.



Hospitality

The Hospitality group has had a good start. Five of the six students this year, are new to the programme and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have started developing their catering and communication skills. They already work very well together as a team and they are starting to get a little bit more confident working face to face with customers at the café.



Three of the students volunteered to help at the 'Wokingham Federation Careers Fair.' They ran a cake stall for the presenters and visitors during the interval. They made a great impression on everyone there with their friendly customer service and also the quality of their produce. A great showcase for Addington School!

Work Experience

We have now started our supported work experience placements. Two of our FE students have started one day a week extended, supported placements at local cafes. One student is working at the 'Rainbow Café' in Woodley and one student is working at Café Piazza, also in Woodley. Both these cafes provide ideal environments for our students, and provides them with a first insight into the world of work. With support, they are learning to carry out tasks and routines associated with the catering industry. It is also provides a great opportunity to develop social and communication skills



Opportunities Evening.

Plans are underway for this important information evening on Thursday 3rd November. There will be representatives from all the local colleges, social and day care teams as well as representatives from organisations who provide leisure opportunities in the local community. The Wokingham Supported Employment Service will be running a workshop focussed around the importance of early support in the Transition process.

Work Ready Days

Two classes have enjoyed interesting visits to Reading Football Club at the Madjeski Stadium and the 'Carnival Pool' at Wokingham. The classes had the opportunity to tour the buildings, find out how the organizations work and also find out about the different job roles involved. These visits were very much enjoyed by both groups.

ASD Family Help have produced a newsletter which outlines the support that they can provide for families, and specific activities available throughout autumn.

*This can be found on their website
www.asdfamilyhelp.org*

Addington Youth Club

Managed and staffed by
Wokingham Bracknell & Districts Mencap

Wednesday evening 7pm to 9pm
Fun for all youngsters from Year 9 up

Look out for the activities planned for the winter term,
come along and try a session.

Contact Wokingham Mencap on 0300 777 8539 for more information.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE LOCAL OFFER?

Why the Local Offer is worth knowing about?

From 1st September 2014 The Children and Families Act introduced changes to the support for children and young people who have special educational needs and disability. One of the key changes introduced as part of these reforms was the publishing of a Local Offer which enables parents and young people to see what services and facilities are available in their area and how they can be accessed.

The Wokingham Borough's Local Offer can be viewed on the Wokingham Borough Council website: www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo

If you do not have access to the internet the CAN Network can support you to find the information you require by telephoning: 0118 974 6818

The Local Offer also provides the opportunity for parents, carers and young people to provide feedback on provision available in the borough and comment on the online Local Offer.

The council is keen to hear your views to help us with the continual development of the Local Offer and the provision available. This can be done through our online survey or by contacting the Family Information Service:

Survey: www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo-survey

Email: info.families@wokingham.gov.uk

Tel: 0118 908 8466

The online Local Offer also provides information on other changes brought in as part of the SEND reforms, including Education, Health and Care Plans which are replacing statements of SEN.

SCHOOL LUNCH PRICE LIST



Primary Pupils.....£1.95 per day

Secondary/FE Pupils.....£2.15 per day

All monies should be paid in advance.

ONLINE PAYMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE please ask for details

Please remember that lunch MUST be paid for every day.



ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES
2016 - 2017

Autumn Term 2016

Tuesday 6th September – Tuesday 20th December

Half Term: Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October

Training Day for Staff – Monday 5th September

Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5th January – Friday 31st March

Half Term: Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February

Training Day for Staff – Wednesday 4th January

Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18th April – Friday 21st July

May Day Holiday – Monday 1st May – school closed

Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Training Days for Staff – Tuesday 2nd May
Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July – school closed

190 days for pupils