



Warden Hill
PRIMARY SCHOOL

JANUARY 2021



Update from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

We've made it to the end January and I'm starting to see the mornings getting lighter (just) and on a clear sunny day the evenings are 'eeked' out for a bit longer...roll on spring!

Whole School Assemblies

Our Whole School Assembly themes over the last three weeks were:

- New Year's Resolutions: how to challenge ourselves
- The Importance of Reading: books, books and more books
- Mindfulness: reminding ourselves of the 5 ways to wellbeing and how important it is to talk.

Remote Learning

The Google meet sessions continue to be the highlight of the day for our teachers, seeing all their classes and checking in with them. I really hope that our children are enjoying them and, whilst they might not realise it, it is so important to keep in touch and see the faces of their class to help try and bring a sense of 'normal' into this situation. I just want to say again, how incredibly proud we are of all the children and their learning and acknowledge the incredible role you as parents are playing at the moment – thank you.


No-Screen Day






As I have already mentioned on the recorded assemblies, in recognition of the very different way our children are having to learn and work at the moment, today is 'no-screen day'.

50

ACTIVITIES

SCREEN BREAK DAY
Friday 29th January



MAKER HOUR 	Build the roller coaster	Build a den in your house or garden	Make a boat to float in your bath	Create a large piece of art	Make a sock puppet	Make your own healthy lach	Paint a picture	Draw a picture on a cereal box and use it to make a piggy	Create a board game to play with your family	Build and decorate a cube
GENIUS HOUR 	Play hide and seek (indoors or out)	Learn to read/spell 3 new words	Go on a bug hunt in your garden – sketch what you find	Play your favourite board game	Learn a magic trick	Invent a secret code	Draw your family and any pets you have	Learn to juggle	Learn to tie your shoe laces	Practice a musical instrument
BOOK HOUR 	Copy the front cover of one of your books	Read a recipe or instructions to complete an activity	Read a poem	How many books did you read in 1 minute? Can you improve?	Turn your favourite story into a comic book	Read a description from a book and create your own illustration	Read to someone else in your family for 10 minutes	Time how many words you can read in 1 minute. Can you improve?	Read someone else's favourite book	Begin to read your favourite book again
FITNESS HOUR 	Have a dance with your family and friends to your favourite tunes	Go on a safe walk with a family member	Make an obstacle course inside and out	Make up a fitness workout – Joe Wicks style	Touch every wall in your house	Take 200 steps around the house	Walk up and down the stairs 10 times	Do 50 star jumps	Throw and catch a ball as many times as you can without dropping	Sit down on the floor and stand up straight again 20 times
SERVICE HOUR 	Draw a picture for someone	Make a phone call to a relative	Write a card or letter to someone to say 'hello'	tidy your room	Make a bird feeder	Fold your clothes	Write a card or letter to someone to say 'thank you'	Teach someone else how to do something	Hoover a room in your house (ask a parent first)	Do the washing up

I hope that the day is of real benefit for the children and that you find the activity grid from R-Y6 of some use. I will be asking you to complete a very short feedback survey to gain your views on this day to help us make informed decisions about future ones.

Wider Personal Development of our children

At Warden Hill we pride ourselves on being able to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities and experience days, that complement and enhance their learning experiences. It's how we support and help to develop and nurture our children's resilience, independence, confidence and their knowledge in



keeping themselves mentally healthy. During normal school days we would touch on these areas daily. For example: resilience – Our children are given encouragement and support to take on advice or new learning, this gives them the confidence to persevere on a task when it gets tricky, or acknowledge someone else receiving an award, and their recognition that it could be them next time.

A lot of these personal qualities are developed through our school Inter-House events – where children actively compete in the skills sessions or the games sessions on the day. They learn about winning and losing in a safe supportive environment. These are life skills. Skills, which, if learnt early, will not only enhance their overall schooling experience (Primary and Secondary) but their own personal life experience too.

This is why we have launched the Inter-House Get Active Challenge, The Scavenger Hunt and Mr Antonious' latest Lamp Post Orienteering, to continue to help provide our children (and you) with these wider personal development areas. We hope you are enjoying them and good luck with the orienteering! <https://wardenhill.gloucs.sch.uk/event/lamp-post-orienteering/>

Inter-House Get Active Challenge Results

- 1 - COLN - 404.7km
- 2 - CHURN - 356.37km
- 3 - LEACH - 348.59km
- 4 - WINDRUSH - 332.57km

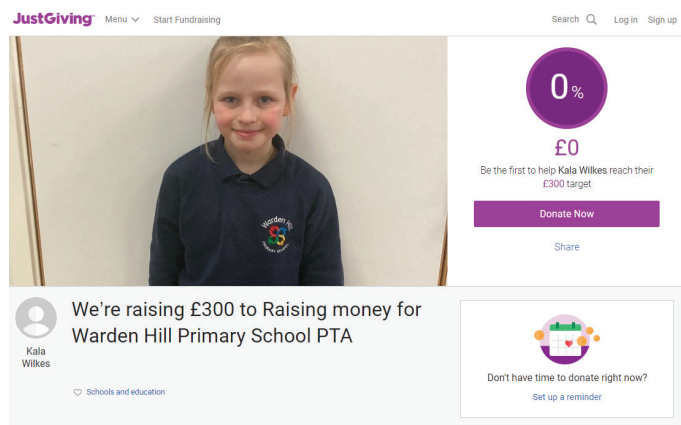
Getting Active - Fundraiser

On the note of getting active I am very proud of one of our pupils whose birthday it is today as well – Millie in year 4. Here is an extract from the Just Giving page:

We are so proud of one of our year 4 children, Millie, who has decided to take on a very personal active challenge for the month of February!

Millie recently said 'it would be amazing to help the school buy things for all the children and teachers.' But it wasn't just a throw away comment. She has decided to do something about it. So in order to help raise vital funds for Warden Hill Primary School Millie will be completing 2 marathons in a month... the shortest month of the year!

In just 28 days Millie will run 26.2 miles, the equivalent of a marathon AND she will also cycle 26.2 miles. She has set up her own just giving page and will be completing the 52.4 mile total in the hope of getting sponsorship.



JustGiving Menu Start Fundraising Search Log in Sign up

0%
£0
Be the first to help Kala Wilkes reach their £300 target
Donate Now
Share

We're raising £300 to Raising money for Warden Hill Primary School PTA

Kala Wilkes
Schools and education

Don't have time to donate right now?
Set up a reminder

Can you help Millie reach her £300 target? If you'd like to sponsor her please visit the Warden Hill Primary School PTA Just Giving page: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kala-wilkes?utm_id=1&utm_term=MznjyZNA7

We will be watching Millie's progress with great interest. 52.4 miles and £300 is an amazing target for a 9 year old that just wants to help her school.

Please get in touch with us at school if any of our pupils are taking part in anything amazing – we'd love to share your story with our school community.

Update from the Department for Education

Yesterday, the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the reopening of schools and colleges from Monday 8 March. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity.

Education settings, as well as students, parents and carers will be given at least two weeks notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education.

Feedback on Learning

Our children are receiving really valuable feedback about their learning at the moment – via motes (voice messages) or written by their teachers. As parents you are seeing it too, giving you an insight into the

progress and achievement of your child's learning. From time to time myself and Mr Antonious might also comment on the work that the children have submitted. You are also receiving private comments from the teachers too in terms of feedback and support. We are also ensuring that we share excellent learning from across the school in our Celebration Assemblies, as we would in school.

Celebration Assembly

Thursday 28.01.2021



In addition to this, our teachers are also celebrating learning through their Google Meets and awarding Merit Marks at the end of the week as we would in school. These are all ways that we promote the wonderful learning taking place.



Parents' Evening

More detailed information will be relayed during our Parents' Evenings which are currently timetabled for the later part of March. They will be taking place remotely again, using video call. Different year groups will be scheduled for different nights to ensure that our bandwidth can cope.

Once finalised, we will post all the details on our website: <https://wardenhill.gloucs.sch.uk/parents-evening/>

This seems to be a good time to hold these meetings, based on the current information about schools possibly re-opening from 8th March.

The High School Leckhampton

I had the privilege of meeting with Helen Wood this week, the Headteacher of the High School Leckhampton. She was very keen to hear about our school and our children as well as share her exciting news on the different developments that are taking place with the build of the school. I did discuss the Priority Consideration area with her and the possible implications that would have on our children from Warden Hill gaining a place and it was reassuring to hear that this would be carefully monitored and reviewed by the Trustees.

Helen has started to produce newsletters for the school and you can find the link here: <https://www.newschoolcheltenham.co.uk/>

That just leaves me to say – have a good weekend.

Warmest regards

Georgina Flooks
Headteacher





Warden Hill

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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