



NEWSLETTER

Words from our Headteacher

December 2019 | Autumn Term

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the first term. On the one hand, it has seemed to fly past, yet on the other so much has happened in the last few weeks. In particular, the last couple of weeks have been lovely with all the Christmas activities going on; from biscuit decorating to plays to carol singing and everything in between.

Christmas is truly a magical time at Warlingham Park and the children have really put us all in the Christmas spirit, while making me so proud again and again. I would like to say a big thank you to the PTA who have continued to support the school so well over the last few weeks; helping with refreshments at our many events, running the Secret Christmas Shop and helping out with our Christmas Lunch. My heartfelt thanks also go to the amazing staff team here who always 'go the extra mile' for your children and never more so than at this time of year.

As discussed in my meeting with parents on Wednesday, there are exciting changes in store around the school over the Christmas holidays. We are looking forward to coming back in January to see the results of the first works and improvements put in place by ILG.

Finally, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable and restful Christmas a very happy New Year.

Sarah Buist,
Headteacher



Mrs Sarah Buist

B.Ed (Hons)



Warlingham Park School is once again one of the Sunday Times Top 100 Schools in the country - at number 70 for 2019



WARLINGHAM PARK SCHOOL BECOMES PART OF INSPIRED LEARNING GROUP FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

Warlingham Park School has recently been acquired by The Inspired Learning Group, a family of Independent schools and nurseries.

The inspired Learning Group was founded by Mr Amit Mehta in 2014 and has grown into a family of highly successful Preparatory Schools and Nurseries around London and the South East. The Inspired Learning Group are also a small family run organisation who are dedicated to ensuring that their schools retain their individual and unique ethos, identity and values.

Since founding the Inspired Learning Group in 2014 he has expanded the group's portfolios of schools and nurseries to 16 and still growing.

The news was received very positively by both parents and staff and Mr Mehta has held meetings with both groups to explain the advantages and opportunities now available to Warlingham Park School's staff and pupils through the Inspired Learning Group. These include: interschool events, networking, sharing of outstanding practice across the group and professional development opportunities; all of which will combine to further enhance the children's education and breadth of opportunities.

Refurbishment work on the school will be taking place during the Christmas holidays and in particular creating an enhanced area for Nursery and Pre School and Class 1 - The Early Years Centre.

A Parents and Teachers Survey has been carried out by ILG and they will be constantly feeding back from this and keeping parents informed with updates.

Warlingham Park School was founded by Stuart Sexton, former Advisor to the Secretary of State for Education and Science, in September 1986. The Independent preparatory school and nursery was established with the aim of providing primary level children with a curriculum that included an emphasis on design technology and IT and its practical teaching, while maintaining a solid grounding in Maths and English.

Over 30 years later, the school still follows the same educational approach while also developing strengths in the broader curriculum particularly in areas such as Drama and Music.

Mr Sexton, who turned 85 in 2019, felt that the time was right to think about the school's future and its long-term sustainability. The Sexton family have all contributed to its success over the years and wanted to see the school continue to flourish for future generations.

Mr Sexton felt strongly that he wanted Warlingham Park School to continue with a family friendly ethos for future generations and that the philosophy of ILG resonates with his own. Mr Sexton said, "This is an exciting opportunity for current pupils and staff and I am happy that The Inspired Learning Group will continue to build on our strengths of developing children into happy, rounded and articulate individuals who are ready to meet the challenges of secondary education".



MUSIC & DRAMA

Nursery have brought Christmas cheer with their Christmas Music Morning, a casual sharing of what we get up to in our music sessions with a festive ending singing Christmas songs and shaking sleigh bells.

Pre School performed their Nativity to a packed hall of parents and there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Helped caringly by class 7, singing what are now Christmas classics such as Bumpety Bump and of course Away in a Manger, the children performed really well.

Classes 1, 2 and 3 performed a triumphantly charming Christmas play written by Mr Clark. Grumpy Gilbert was the story of the cantankerous Inn Keeper who just wants to close his inn for a holiday when Mary, Joseph and a whole host of other unexpected guests arrive. The sheep going 'Baa Baa Bananas' was the peoples favourite and every child performed with outstanding confidence especially considering it was many of their first times on stage.

Classes 4 and 5's singing and dancing has been ringing through the corridors this term as they practise for January's O2 concert. The soundtrack has featured a Queen medley, very enthusiastic renditions of Ghostbusters and of course the yearly Pop Medley.

Classes 6 and 7 have been composing in small bands, working very hard to come up with Warlingham Park School's next Christmas number one in the annual Carol Competition. They have also been out singing carols for the residents of Cranmer Court and Selsdon Lodge and also in the Whitgift Centre in Croydon. They showed kindness and compassion when, after singing carols at Cranmer court, they stayed to help the care worker serve cups of tea and cakes to the residents.

All of the Juniors are getting ready for the upcoming Young Voices concert at the O2. To practise at home please go to the online Music Room at <http://www.youngvoices.co.uk/music-room> and use the pass code YV2020. Here you will find singalong lyric videos and dance-along dance videos to fill your winter break with song and dance and come back ready to share the stadium stage with thousands of other children at the concert.



INFANT NATIVITY

Grumpy Gilbert, written by Mr Clarke especially for Warlingham Park School, with songs by various artists was enjoyed by all. The infants had worked hard to learn their lines and all the songs, before costumes were finally put on and make-up applied. Everyone was ready and eager to perform!



PRE SCHOOL NATIVITY



NURSERY CHRISTMAS SONGS



PRE SCHOOL 1

Pre School 1 have had a very busy end to the term. Carrying on with our topic of nursery rhymes we have been counting, matching and making spiders for Incy Wincy Spider. We made a barn and enjoyed role play with all the animal masks, for Old MacDonald had a farm.

Fine motor skills were used to make our clocks for Hickory Dickory Dock. We experimented drawing long and short flowers for Mary, Mary quite contrary with chalk.



Pre school one decorated biscuits and the winning biscuit picked by the judges was Lilly Morrow.



PRE SCHOOL 2

Pre School 2 have been so busy in the lead up to Christmas and been very creative making marshmallow snowman, Christmas cards, mobile father Christmas's and crowns for their party. They have also been planting spider plants.



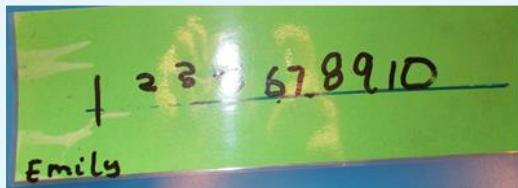
CLASS 1

Class 1 had a very busy and eventful half term. We have learnt about different winter festivals and celebrations, such as Divali, Christmas, Bonfire Night and Poppy Day.

We painted and decorated our Christmas house using a huge cardboard box. It has snow on the roof and a fence around it.



In Maths, we have learnt to write numbers up to 10, count up to 100 and make more complicated patterns using different objects.

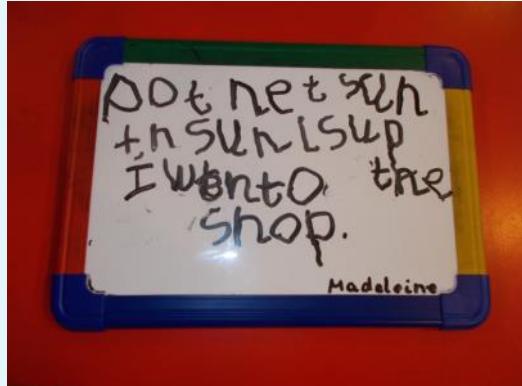


This is Emily's amazing pattern using 1 rose hip, 1 shell, 1 orange and 1 pepper.

We have also learnt to sort different objects into small groups and to explain the rules applied.



In literacy the children have finished all the new phonemes (sounds) in Phase 2 (Anima Phonics/Letters and Sounds). They are becoming really good at sounding out, blending, writing simple words and captions. Some of them can even write short sentences!



Learning about money and value was a very exciting topic. The children acted as shopkeepers and customers. The shopkeepers needed to add values to their selling items and the customers needed to count the right amount of real coins to "pay" for their purchases. It was great fun!



There are great architects in our class. Some children enjoy building towns, houses, spaceships and airports. Look at our amazing buildings!



Rafferty built an airport, a farm and a town



Haydn's tower house



Xavier's amazing spaceships

Camping in our Early Years garden!! Dacie is cooking a delicious soup!



CLASS 2

Wow! What a busy half term it's been. In History we have looked at the Gunpowder Plot, and why we still celebrate with bonfires and fireworks every year. The children used these ideas when developing their bonfire silhouette pictures.

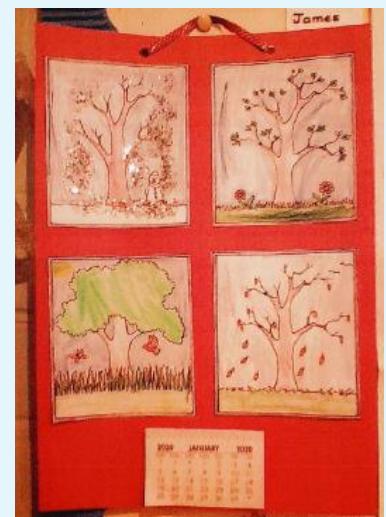
Having looked at times past, in History, we have been looking at time present in Maths, and as part of our tasks have enjoyed making our own clock faces and calendars.

In Design Technology, the children have used cutting, sawing, and design techniques to create their shops for our model village green.

Our Science project has been materials, and the children have enjoyed experimenting with magnets and squeezing and moulding clay into candle holders.

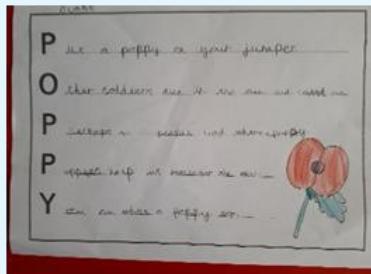
In Geography, we have looked at maps of the British Isles, and have been introduced to the concept of the United Kingdom.

In between curriculum subjects, we have pressed on with rehearsals, and finally performances to the school and parents, of our Nativity Play, "Grumpy Gilbert", which the children carried off fantastically. Well done, Classes 1, 2 and 3.



CLASS 3

The last six weeks have certainly been a busy time for Class 3. First came Remembrance Day where we thought about what it was like for families and soldiers during war and created our own acrostic 'Poppy' poem.



We have also been thinking about where we look for information and used Tim Berners Lee's amazing creation, the World Wide Web. Next we created our own illuminated letters like the first handwritten books and everyone thought about the things they liked to decorate an initial for their name.



Addition and subtraction have been the main theme in Maths lessons. Class 3 have been learning all about place value and have used their knowledge of number bonds to ten to help them work with two-digit numbers. Then they reviewed their knowledge of measuring time; everyone enjoyed using the geared clocks to set a time and investigate durations of an hour.

A particular highlight of Science was learning about germs and the importance of washing hands. Hand gel and glitter made sure everyone could see where the germs were lurking!



Mrs Bird has a request for people to save the inner cardboard tubes from wrapping paper please and bring them in to school next term to be used for a DT project. Thanks

CLASS 4

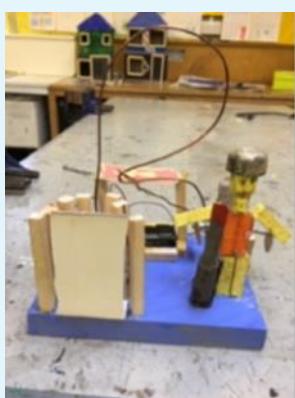
This Autumn term has been an exciting one for Class 4. They have been enjoying all aspects of the curriculum and had some amazing experiences culminating in Christmas celebrations!



The children celebrated firework night and the story of Guy Fawkes with sparklers in the playground along with writing poems in class.



Our Roman theme has spread across various subjects in the curriculum. In History, we have been learning about Roman clothes, roads and food and how they fought the Celts. Everyone produced fabulous project work and presented their artefacts to the rest of the class, from mosaics, shields, reciting Roman numbers to food tasting traditional Roman banquet fare.



In Design Technology we produced electrical circuits based around a copper piece of metal in the shape of a Roman “R” with features of life as a Roman, such as a soldier or a colosseum, added for effect.



The children were also treated to a movie morning at the Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks to see the movie “Horrible Histories Rotten Romans” which was very humorous and gave an interesting account of the war between the Romans and the Celts.



We also had a fabulous day trip to Fishbourne Palace near Chichester, the site of a Roman Palace which was excavated in the 1960s. The children participated in an interactive workshop where they learnt about the lifestyle of a Roman, performed Roman crafts such as wool spinning, played Roman games and carved letters. Whilst all this was going on in the workshop a Centurion walked up and down outside the building to keep us all safe from Celts!



In Science the class have been learning about how electricity is conducted around circuits and the children did some testing in class of broken and complete circuits.

School has got well and truly into Christmas! We made stars from natural products in the woods and baubles using balloons, glue and string. As part of RE we learnt about an advent wreath and the meaning of each of the four pillars - hope, love, joy and peace. We then produced a beautiful advent wreath of our own to light each week on the lead up to Christmas.

We also celebrated St Nicholas Day by making and icing gingerbread biscuits!!



Class 4 decorated their biscuits for the biscuit competition, with so much imagination...



CLASS 4 WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, SEE YOU IN 2020!!!

LANGUAGES

Languages - French & Latin

The Juniors have continued to enjoy a varied programme of study in languages this half term. Phonics and numbers have been the focus in Upper Juniors, reinforcing learning through team games involving the accurate pronunciation of co-ordinates. Lower Juniors have been developing their spoken language skills adding number and colour adjectives to their ever-increasing range of vocabulary.

Our Classicists in the Upper Juniors have been studying adjectives and conjunctions in grammar and focusing on feasting and jewellery in Roman Life studies. Class 7 researched, made and presented a piece of jewellery that might have been worn by one of the characters in our Minimus stories to the class.



FOREST SCHOOL

The children have continued to enjoy Forest School and it's always a colourful affair even in the winter ... they even found deer scratches on a tree.



The beautiful different coloured leaves were used to make pictures of houses and lions around our Forest School area.



We also used a hammer and cloth to make an imprint with a leaf by pounding the leaf which made a lovely picture with the natural pigment.



One of our Grandparents came to talk to the children about his broom making business which the family have run since the 1800's and demonstrated how the straightest twigs would be selected to make a wonderful wooden broom.

We have also been whittling sticks safely and making stars with sticks and string using shear lashing. Some of the small stars can be spotted in the gym on on our Christmas hoop.



CLASS 5

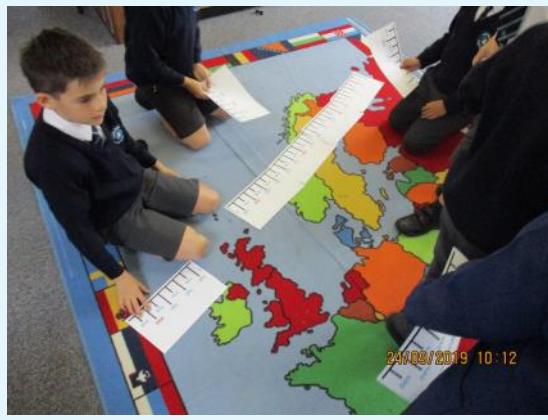
What a busy half term Class 5 have had! We have shared many learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom. Here are our highlights:

Class 5 have spent time creating settings for stories and role-playing to develop and explore vocabulary and language and to support their creative writing. They have learnt the art of critiquing each other's work sensitively and are growing as independent learners.

In Science, we have been exploring sound. The class have made their own musical instruments. They have been able to explain how sound is produced, what causes changes in volume and pitch and how sound travels to the ear and on to our nervous system.

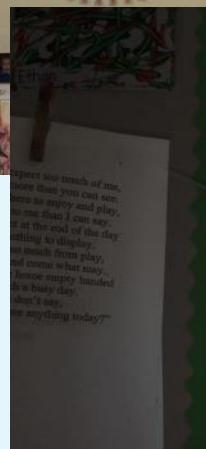
As part of our Greek theme day, Class 5 learnt about Greek food, art and pottery. They designed their own Greek plate and enjoyed a Greek banquet, where they were able to sample a selection of Greek delicacies. Although sweeter treats seemed to be more to their liking, I was impressed with their willingness to try the full range of food on offer - particularly the olives and stuffed vine leaves!

In the afternoon, Class 5 enjoyed a workshop hosted by the Theatre Exchange Company. With their actor counterparts, they learnt to listen and debate as Athenian citizens in the Pnyx – working out solutions to the problem Sparta and their army. They re-enacted the Battle of Marathon as Athenian soldiers. They marched into battle to face the enemy head on and learnt to form a Trireme out of their bodies to sail away from danger.



NURSERY

Nursery have been very creative and enjoying Christmas fun and loved their Christmas songs.



CLASS 6 & 7

Ancient Mayan Workshop

Class 6 & 7 thoroughly enjoyed the Ancient Mayan workshop by Theatre Exchange. They worked chronologically through this time period acting out the social hierarchy; playing the ball game pok-a-tok and re-enacting the Spanish invasion. The children worked in groups developing their drama skills with freeze frames and had the opportunity to ask questions to experts.



The Rainforest Project

In Geography, the classes have been studying South America this half term. In particular, the children have been learning about the features of the Amazon Rainforest. Their diorama homework was fantastic and we were incredibly proud of the children's creative skills and how hard they worked. The children judged each other's against given criteria giving four winners - one was just not enough! Congratulations to Rana, Harry, Emma and Joshua. They are currently displayed outside Class 6 so please come and see them.



REMEMBRANCE DAY



The school came together to commemorate World War 1 & 2 and become aware of the sacrifices that are made now. All the children decorated a poppy which is proudly on display in our entrance corridor. Thank you to all those who joined in the Remembrance Day Service and parade in Warlingham Green. Thank you to Arthur and Harry from Class 7 also respectfully laid a wreath for those who we will never forget.

Each child made a poppy using a whole range of different art techniques from finger painting to sticking on various materials and then they created a special large poppy on display in the school.



LANTERN PARADE

Classes 6 & 7 had a brilliant day applying their technology learning and created their very own lanterns with the Warlingham Christmas Lights Committee. They proudly led the school on the Lantern Parade at Warlingham Green, while following the band and singing Christmas songs after the lights were turned on.



CHILDREN IN NEED

For Children in Need, the children and staff came to school in their pyjamas to raise awareness for those children and families who are less fortunate than ourselves. The children learned a lot about where the money goes and about the history of Children in Need.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Across the school, we are have got in the festive mood with glitter, tinsel and sparkle everywhere! This included each class decorating a hula hoop with a Christmas theme, which we hung in the school hall ready for the Pre School Nativity.

We also held a Christmas Shopping Morning where the PTA supplied goodies for the whole family, including your pets! The children had the opportunity to buy from and have their gifts wrapped by the professional elves.

A big thank you to everyone who decorated a Christmas jumper for our charity. These are proudly hanging in the corridors. We also had the opportunity to raise more money in the final week of school, when we enjoyed a festive feast while wearing our Christmas jumpers.

Father Christmas took time out of his busy schedule to visit each class and wishes you all a very Merry Christmas!

The Christmas Decorating Biscuit Competition was a huge success again this year with tasty and creative designs. Our very own judges: Mrs Buist, Mrs Hills and Mrs Lambert had the difficult process of selecting a winner from each class and the overall winners. Congratulations to Lilly who won in the Pre-School; Blake who won in the Infants and Freddie who won in the Juniors!



A big thank you to our amazing chefs who cooked up a fantastic Christmas dinner and to all the parents and staff who helped to serve and happy Christmas and New Year to everyone.