

Watlington Newsletter February 2



Friday 28th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a positive start to term 4, with children looking smart, full of energy and ready to learn! A warm Watlington welcome to the new families joining our school community this term. I look forward to getting to know you better over the coming weeks.

The Key Stage Two trip to Neasden Temple was a hugely enriching experience for our children. I was so proud of the respect shown by our pupils on the day, and was impressed by the comments made and questions asked. Thank you to the staff for arranging such an interesting visit that I know the children will always remember.

I hope you found the residential and SATS meetings informative. Thank you again to the team for organising such wonderful experiences for our pupils.

Thank you for your patience during the work on the drainage systems at the side of the building. We are pleased to say that the area is now fully accessible.

As Miss Harman prepares to go on maternity leave at the end of next week, I wanted to share the staffing plans for the Badgers class. For the remainder of term 4, myself, Mr Gale and Mrs Heycock will be teaching Year 4. In term 5, we are pleased to announce that Mrs Nandre will be the newly appointed class teacher. Mrs Nandre is an experienced teacher currently working in Buckinghamshire. Behind the scenes, a detailed handover process has already started to ensure a smooth transition for the class. Mrs Nandre will run a 'meet the teacher' session in the first few weeks as an introduction to you all. If you have any questions in the meantime, do get in touch.

New website launch! I am pleased to let you know that we have upgraded our website. New features include accessibility tools such as a translation option into a large number of languages, it's easy to use on a phone and has direct access to class pages and school news. Click here to [access](#) the site.

Let's have a great term.

Best wishes,

Gemma Sterjo



1 - Congratulations to Nate for running the cross country events at Shiplake and the Oratory.







Jigsaw Topic this term



We use 'Jigsaw' as a way of supporting the children's Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. We aim to equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills to successfully and safely manage their lives now and in the future. Lessons happen across the school every week and are delivered in an age-appropriate manner.

This term in Jigsaw our whole school focus is on: **Healthy Me**

If you would like more information on what we will be covering in lessons, we can provide you with access to the Jigsaw Parent Portal, which allows parents and carers to view the standard lesson plans for their child's year group. Due to copyright reasons, we are unable to

send out a blanket login code to parents, but we are able to set up individual parents with access, should they wish to view the materials.

If you would like to have access to this, please email the school office (admin.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk) and we can arrange this for you.

Year 1 and 2 Maths Workshop for parents, with your children

Would you like to learn more about how maths is taught in school and how you can support your child at home? We are offering two sessions where parents may join their child for a maths lesson.

Year 1: Thursday 27th March 9am – 10am

Year 2: Friday 28th March 9am – 10am

During this session, you will learn about the Mastering Number Programme which is a national programme, based on research into what is important in early maths education. It supports pupils to understand the relationships between numbers and to develop their 'number sense'.

You will participate in games and activities with your child and also receive further activities you can try at home for 5 weeks.

If you attend, you will also receive:

- **£30 Amazon voucher**
- **Notebook**
- **Maths guide**
- **White Rose Maths subscription**
- **Calculator**

If you would like to attend, you **must** complete the online form via the link below by Thursday 13th March.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe3nc37mCCDjB4dpeKDxIIRi9FhC9Urlp6he-Gqf4a4WWNObA/viewform?usp=dialog>

School Nurse coffee morning drop in

On Tuesday 18th March from 9-10am we have arranged for the school nurse to come in for a drop in session. This is an opportunity to ask questions on sleep, oral health, toileting, emotional wellbeing, puberty and hygiene. Please click [here](#) to confirm your attendance.



Super fundraising efforts!



2 - Inspired by a class activity before half term, Lily & Ella decided to sell some of their toys, to raise money for a charity of their choice. They chose Children in Need. Over 2 days during half term they braved the cold and wind to raise money. They managed to raise £86.81, thanks to buyers and also generous donations from the wonderful community of Watlington.

We are so proud of the girls for using their initiative to raise money for charity! Well done!

Screen Time Tips



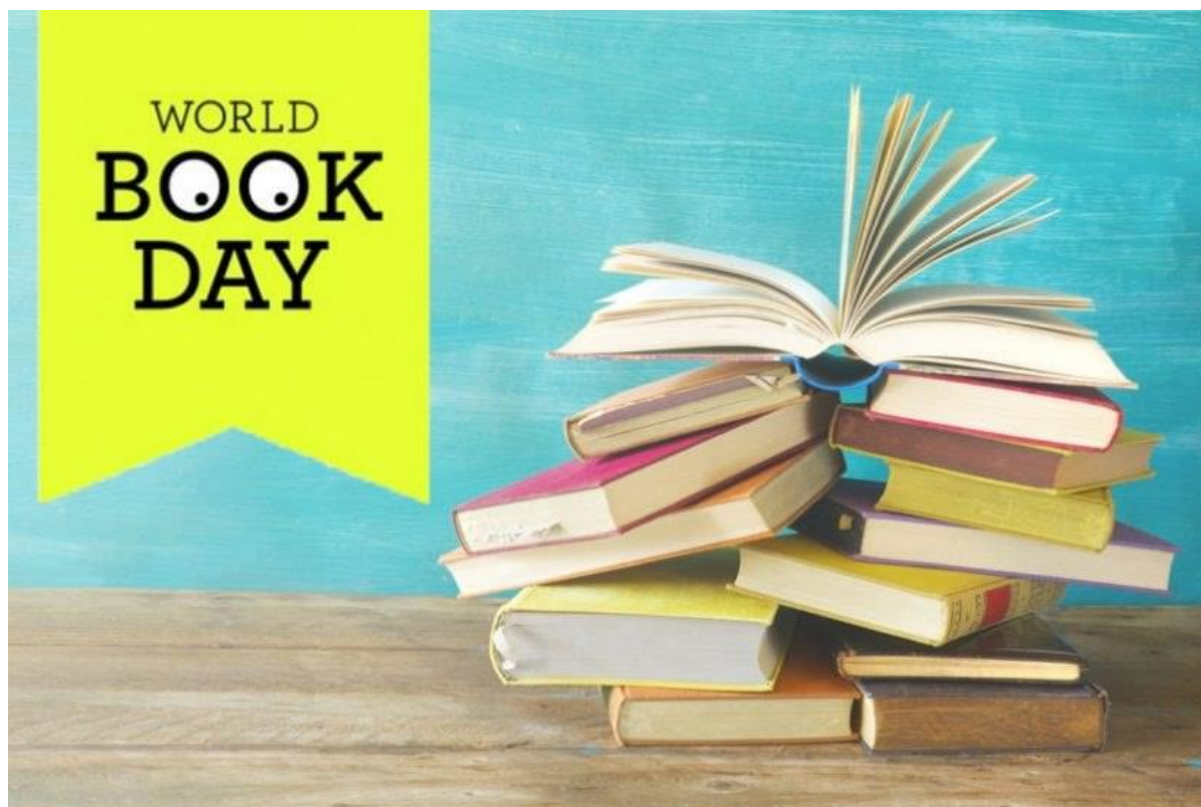
If you are interested, follow the link [here](#) on screen time tips.

Household Support Fund and Food Bank

The current Household Support Voucher scheme has now closed. If another round of support is announced, we will let you know. Please contact us swiftly if you would like a referral for this scheme. The quicker we get a referral to the Household Support Fund the more likely funds will still be available.

Thank you for donating to our school food bank. The box for donations is in reception and we would welcome a top up of supplies if you are able to help. Pasta, cereals, pasta sauces, baked beans, tea and coffee are very welcome, along with toiletries. If you would like a bag of supplies please email, in confidence, office.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk or speak with Mrs Sterjo.

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March



It's that time again, when we get to celebrate our love of books and reading! Our theme this year is illustrations and how they impact reading and book

We have lots of fun activities planned, ending in a whole school reading café in the hall at 3.15pm until 4pm.

We would like children to come dressed up as a book character or wear their pyjamas (with something warm underneath).

Please bring in a book to donate for our book arch – old books (the thicker the better) only as holes will be made in them!

Book themed cake and biscuit donations are very welcome (no nuts) for the café. Please leave in the office during the day.

Our library volunteers are also running a competition - see details below.

We will have the Scholastic book fair running that week, which raises money for more books in school.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Sterjo and Miss Sharman



3 - Watlington School Library will be hosting a book fair next week, March 3rd – March 7th.

In celebration of World Book Day - 6th March 2025.

Come visit and buy a book!

We will be selling lots of fantastic NEW Children's books and authors, as well as a selection of PRE LOVED classics.

COMPETITION TIME!!
WORLD BOOK DAY - MARCH 6TH

Watlington School library invites Years 1-6, to join our WORLD BOOK DAY competition – celebrating the love of books and illustrations.

WIN! - £5 TOKEN to spend at the Scholastic Book Fair

The winners and runners up will also be displayed in the KS1 and KS2 libraries ☺
Entry forms can be found in the school library. All entries must be handed to a class teacher or librarian by Monday 3rd March.

Book Cover Design

Design a new cover for your favourite book.



Let your imagination run free and design a book cover for your favourite book. It can be an original idea OR if you prefer your own interpretation of an existing book cover.

PTA update

Well that half term flew by, but we at your PTA have events ready and waiting to be enjoyed by you and your children.

Monday 3rd March – 24th March. - 21 Day Challenge

The 21 Day Challenge is nearly upon us and is a fundraiser that I'm really excited about. There are so many positive things the children can gain from this and I'm sure they will surprise us along the way.

Sponsored or not, it would be great to have as many children involved as possible.

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

Wonka Bars are being made as I write, ready for the after school sale to celebrate World Book Day. We will also be bringing you Wonka Bars, cakes, teas and coffees in the hall as part of the Reading Café so come and join us.

Friday 4th April – Easter Trail

Easter fun in the rec from 1.15 will have you searching for clues and winning an Easter treat all in the glorious sunshine!! Ok, maybe not the last bit but still a great way to kick off the holidays.

Looking ahead...

Saturday 28th June – Watlington Midsummer Event

This is a new Watlington event you may have heard about – think the Christmas Market, but less Christmassy and a lot warmer!! To support, we will be having a stall in the Paddock behind the library along with other children's entertainment and I believe a dog show. More on this to come on the socials but looking like a great event for Watlington.

Friday 11th July – Summer Fete

Yes, we are already planning our last hurrah of the year! Date is set. Bouncy is booked. Beer is brewing.

More details to follow so save the date!!

As always follow us for updates on the socials!!

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

Attendance



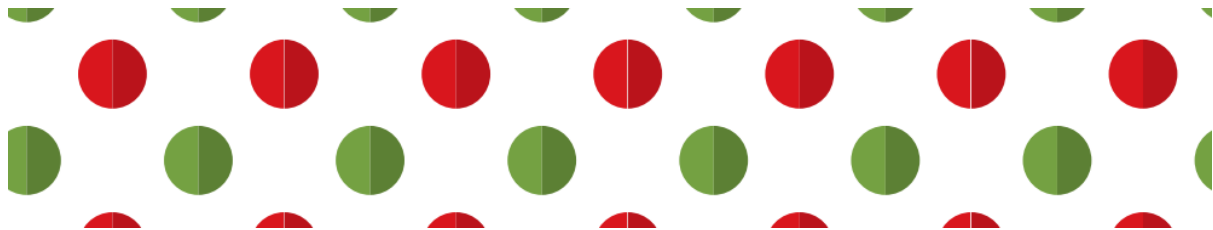
Our target is 97%

We are currently at 95.9%.

Please note we are not able to authorise term time holidays.



Dates (this section is regularly updated)



- Monday 3rd March: Careers Week
- Monday 3rd March: Book Fair arrives
- Monday 3rd - 24th March: PTA 21 day challenge begins!
- Thursday 6th March: World Book Day
- Thursday 6th March, 3.15-4pm, school hall: World Book Day themed reading cafe
- Friday 7th March: Family assembly (years 1 - 6)
- Wednesday 19th -21st March: Year 5 and 6 residential
- Thursday 20th March: Whole school problem solving and team building challenge day
- Friday 21st March, 2.30pm: Hedgehogs class assembly (Reception parents)

- Monday 31st March: STEM week
- Wednesday 2nd April: Vision screening for Reception children
- Friday 4th April: School finishes at 1.15pm
- Friday 4th April: PTA Easter trail
- **Tuesday 22nd April: Term 5 starts**
- Friday 2nd May, 2.30pm: Owls class assembly (Year 2 parents)
- Monday 12th - Thursday 15th May: Year 6 SATS week
- Friday 23rd May, 2.30pm: Open afternoon
- Friday 23rd May: Term 5 ends at 3.13pm (3pm for Robins)
- **Monday 2nd June: Term 6 starts**
- Saturday 28th June: PTA Midsummer event
- Friday 11th July: PTA summer fete

Sheldonian Performance on Thursday 3rd July



Years 4, 5 and 6 will be performing at the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, in the evening as part of an Acer Trust musical collaboration.

Due to the number of children performing it is likely that audience tickets will be limited to two per performer.

More detail to follow closer to the event.




Assemblies and open afternoons 2024-2025

Class	Class assembly date – Friday 2:30pm
Golden Eagles	Friday 15 th November 2024
Red Kites	Friday 7 th February 2025
Badgers	Friday 6 th December 2024
Owls	Friday 2 nd May 2025
Bats	Friday 6 th June 2025
Foxes	Friday 20 th June 2025
Hedgehogs	Friday 21 st March 2025

Open Afternoons linked to theme weeks
Thursday 10 th October
Wednesday 26 th March
Friday 23 rd May 2.30pm


Celebration Assemblies – Friday 2:30pm
Term 1 - Friday 27 th September
Term 2 – Friday 8 th November
Term 3 - Friday 24 th January
Term 4 - Friday 7 th March
Term 5 Friday 25 th April
Term 6 Monday 21 st July
Term 6 Tuesday 22 nd July

Click [here](#) for future term dates.

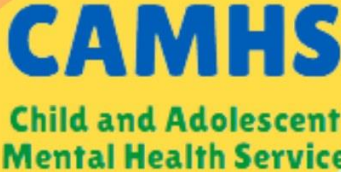


Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

PARENT WEBINAR




Parents are the most important part of young peoples lives and hold the key to helping them. Let us, help you, to help them.



CAMHS
Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Service

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



SUBJECTS INCLUDE

- TEEN ANXIETY
- SELF HARM
- LOW MOOD
- HOW TO TALK TO YOUR DISTRESSED CHILD

WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/OXON/SIR/WEBINARS

Golds



Badgers: Robert and Jake

Owls: Albie C and Lola

Foxes: