

Watlington Newsletter October 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are approaching the end of a very busy term 1. Well done to the Robins and Hedgehogs classes for completing their first full term!

We marked poetry day last week, which culminated in all classes performing their poems in a variety of ways including performance poetry, whole class recitals and a song!

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the open afternoon. If you were unable to join us, we do vary the days so hope you can make the next one.

We look forward to seeing you at parents' evenings next week. There will be a second hand uniform sale during both evenings, so do bring some change.

Best wishes,

Gemma Sterjo





The Snowman



Message from Robert Legg, Assistant Headteacher at Icknield CC

As part of the Acer Trust's festive celebrations this year, we're planning a special musical project focused on Howard Blake's music for *The Snowman*. We're bringing together a group of students, staff, parents, carers and friends of the Acer Trust schools to perform this wonderful music live, while the critically acclaimed film is projected. There will be a spectacular performance at Watlington Primary School, provisionally scheduled for Wednesday 11 December during the afternoon, and the piece will also be performed at the other schools of the Acer Trust's South Hub – Icknield, Chalgrove and Stadhampton – throughout the week beginning Monday 9 December.

If you can read music and play flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, descant recorder, treble recorder, tenor recorder, alto saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion, violin, viola, cello, double bass, acoustic guitar, or bass guitar, we would love you to join us. I'm really keen to have Watlington parents and staff involved in the orchestra! Please email me (robert.legg@icknield.oxon.sch.uk) for more information. There will be an opportunity for Watlington students to sing 'Walking in the Air' as part of the project – but if your child plays to around a Grade 4 standard and is interested in joining the instrumental ensemble, please do contact me.

Welcome from our School Council



School Council this year consists of Jonah, Joshua, Aiden, Libby, Logan, Heather, Margot and Theo. Margot and I share the roles of Chair and Secretary, this means we have lots of duties including, help run the meetings and organise events. We will also get to decorate the school Christmas tree in December. We have plans to help different charities and challenge the school. We would also like to include climate or eco week.

Written by Heather and Margot

Welcome from our Sports Captains



Monday 7th October 2024

Football tournament year 5-6 2024-25

By Adam (blue sports captain), Ronnie (green sports captain) and Georgia (yellow sports captain)

First, we would like to say a well done to the amazing team. Everyone was encouraging each other, everyone was playing as a team and everyone was cooperating. We played three other schools, Lewknor, RAF Benson and Chalgrove. Each match was 15 minutes long. We started off against Lewknor and we won 2-0 with an own goal. We took a 15 minute break whilst the other schools played each other, and we were back on the pitch, playing RAF Benson. Although we were 1-0 down, 2 team goals were scored and we ended up winning 2-1. We saw Chalgrove win 5-0 against RAF Benson, and our next opponents were the menacing Chalgrove. This was the game which would decide who wins. After what seemed like a year, Ronnie played it through to Adam who shot with his left foot and slotted it past the keeper. Near the end of the game, Adam took a shot from outside the box and the keeper could not save it so we won 2-0. We ended up winning the tournament. Thank you to the whole team: Ronnie, Adam, Patrick, Josh, Lucia, Georgia, Ava, Logan, Dexter and Freddie and a huge thank you to Miss Harman and all the other teachers involved.

Congratulations to Ronnie, for winning the Year 6 primary schools cross country race in Henley last weekend!

Are you interested in running a 10k for Maggie's charity, Oxford? If so, click [here](#) to find out more.



Holiday Camps



ACTIVE COMMUNITIES
October half term
activities
27 October – 1 November

Xplorer

Yoga

Born to Move

For more information and to book, visit
southandvale.gov.uk/holidayactivities or scan the QR code

 /SouthandValeActiveCommunities



 South Oxfordshire
District Council

 Vale
of White Horse
District Council

 YOU MOVE





Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!

YouMove is brand new for Oxfordshire, providing low cost and free fun activities for families including weekends & school holidays.

Enjoy a fantastic range of activities including swimming, badminton, activity packs, children's holiday activities & so much more!

Find out more here:



YouMove is here to offer free and low cost activities for children on benefit related free school meals and their families.

YOUMOVE



It's quick and easy to sign up for YouMove:



1 Visit www.getoxfordshireactive.org/you-move to register or call your local Activator for more information (numbers below)

2 We'll send you a YouMove Welcome Pack and membership cards

3 Your local Activators will be on hand to provide lots of support & advice

4 Enjoy getting active together!

Contact your local Activator today:

Oxford City: [07485 311346](tel:07485311346)

Cherwell District: [01295 221980](tel:01295221980)

West Oxfordshire: [01993 861561](tel:01993861561)

Vale of White Horse: [07801 203571](tel:07801203571)

South Oxfordshire: [07717 225679](tel:07717225679)

YOU MOVE

YouMove is funded by Oxfordshire County Council Public Health and co-ordinated by Active Oxfordshire in partnership with district councils.



Attendance



Excellent attendance habits start now! We are currently at 96.3%

Please ensure you arrive on time in the mornings, and on time for pick up after school. It is unsettling for your children if they or you are late!

Our target is 97%.

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



PTA Update

A big thanks to all who came to our 'Welcome Bake To School' event – it was great to see so many parents and children there.

PTA fundraising has officially started with our first Movie Night of the year!

We have a 'Preloved Uniform' sale on Monday 21st October straight after school.

Alex Browne is back with her Ceramic Bauble Painting Workshop after school on Thursday 14th November – a popular event and a great idea for Christmas gifts.

Right after that on Friday 15th November we have our Quiz Night. Hosted by Mat Van de Pette, give those brain cells a workout and reward yourself with nibbles and drinks from the bar.

The kids hit the dancefloor on Wednesday 27th November for the Christmas Disco.

December starts with the Advent Window Trail on the 1st and Santa's Grotto at the Xmas Market on the 7th December.

Events for everyone so keep a look out for the posters!

Advent Window Trail

This festive season, we're bringing the magic of Christmas to Watlington with an enchanting Advent Window Trail, and we need **YOU** to make it happen!

What is it? Each evening from December 1st to 24th, a new window in our town will be beautifully decorated and illuminated, creating a magical walking trail for everyone to enjoy.

How can you help? We're looking for 24 enthusiastic volunteers to **decorate a window** in their home. Please contact Amy on asmwilliams2012@gmail.com if you can help.

Library Update

We have been busy behind the scenes buying new books for both the KS1 & KS2 libraries. The children's 'book wish list' is a great source of inspiration and I am pleased to say that we have managed to buy most of the titles that have been requested, as well as some exciting new authors and non fiction educational books. Hopefully the children have been bringing some of the new books home to read!

Also, a new addition to the school library is our AudioBook section. This has been set up to hopefully excite and inspire reluctant readers. These can also be borrowed over the holidays, helpful if you are travelling on long car journeys or if your child likes to go to sleep listening to a storybook. We also have a portable CD player that is available to borrow, if needed.

If you would like to donate any pre loved books, audiobooks or purchase new books we would be delighted to receive them.

Here is the link to the recently updated children's 'Wish List' - select 'unpurchased items'.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3OV8WH7TKOHZZ?ref_=wl_share

For anyone who would prefer to shop local we have a new online account with Thame Bookshop. Here is the link for your donation page on The Book House website and QR code for the same

<https://shop.thebookhousethame.co.uk/collections/watlington-school-library-donations>

Donations of these books can be left in the box by the school office

Thank you!

The Library team

(Sunny, Liz, Helen, Lynette and Vanessa)

Golds



Hedgehogs: Bella, Ruby, Finley Lawrence, Charlie,

Foxes: Bonnie and Dolly

Owls: Jude, Lexie, Clara and Phoebe F

Golden Eagles: Rex

Dates - this section is regularly updated.



- Monday 21st October: Bikeability - Year 5
- Monday 21st October: Pre loved uniform sale (after school)
- Monday 21st October, 3.45pm-4: Choir showcase (choir parents)

- Tuesday 22nd October: Watlington Arts Trail project (selected pupils)
- Tuesday 22nd October: Red Kites start swimming
- Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October: parents' evenings
- **Friday 25th October: Term ends at 3.15pm, 3pm (for nursery)**
- **Monday 28th - Friday 1st November: Half term**
- **Monday 28th November - Thursday 31st November: WR Sports camp**
- **Monday 4th November: INSET (teachers only)**
- **Tuesday 5th November: Term 2 starts**
- Thursday 7th November: Year 5 trip to the Chiltern Open Air museum
- Friday 8th November, 2.30pm, Years 1-6: Family assembly
- Tuesday 12th November 5-6pm, Foundation Stage Open Evening
- Thursday 14th November: Individual and sibling school photographs
- Thursday 14th November: PTA event: Ceramic bauble painting workshop
- Friday 15th November, 2.30pm, Years 1-6: Golden Eagles assembly
- Friday 15th November: PTA event: Quiz night (more details to follow)
- Thursday 21st November, 3.15pm: reading café in the hall - all year groups welcome
- Wednesday 27th November: PTA event: school disco - more details to follow
- Thursday 28th November: Big Christmas Sing, Oxford (choir only)
- Sunday 1st December: PTA event: Advent window trail
- Friday 6th December, 2.30pm, Years 1-6: Badgers class assembly
- Saturday 7th December: Watlington Christmas market (choir) and PTA Santa's grotto



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.