

# Watlington Newsletter September 1



BE RESPECTFUL BE RESPONSIBLE BE RESILIENT

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you had a lovely summer break and are ready for the action packed year ahead. We've had a super two days of enthusiasm from the children, which marks a great start of the school year already!

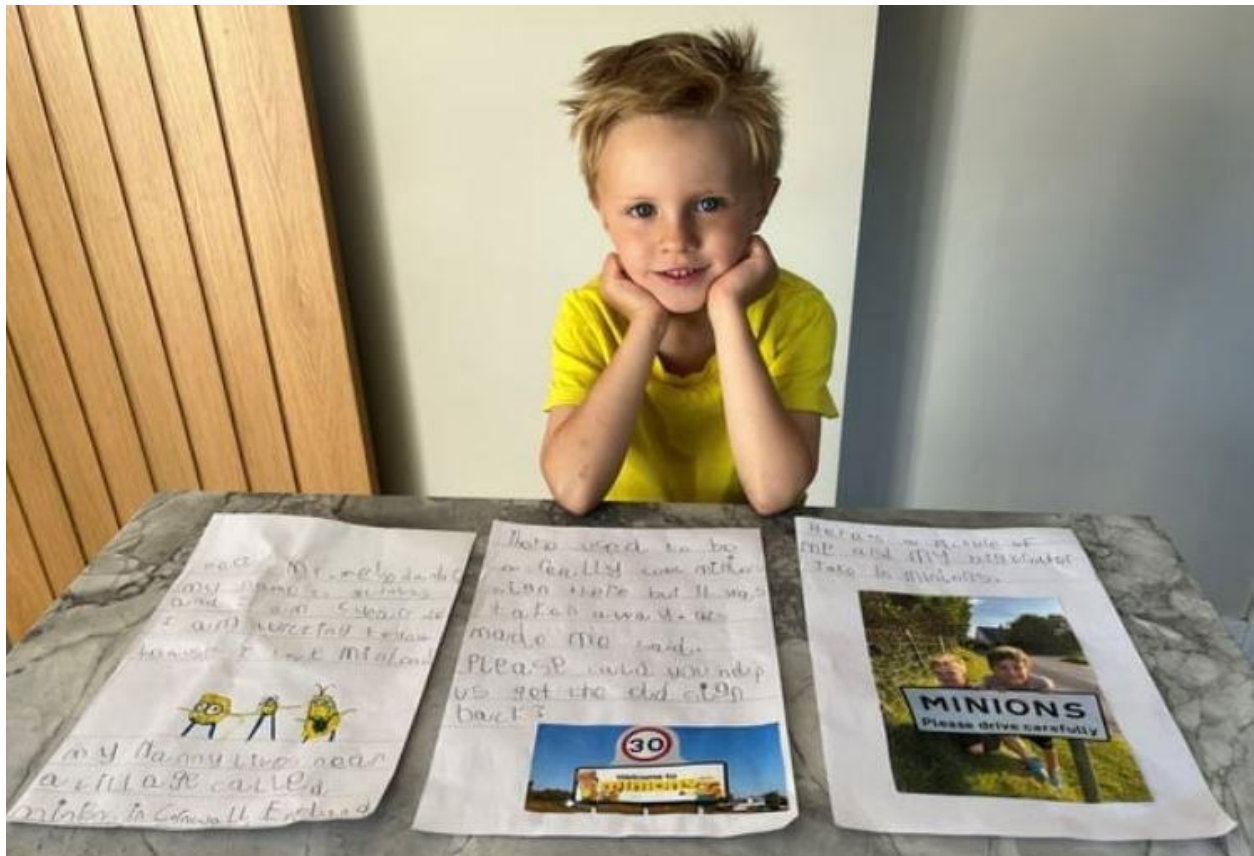
An extended welcome to our new families in Foundation Stage and across the school, and to our two new members of staff, Millie Nightingale (nursery nurse) and Stephen Chadd (Year 5 class teacher). I hope you will be very happy in our community and I look forward to getting to know you and your families this year.

This summer we have continued to improve the site, with refreshed toilet facilities, and a newly landscaped outdoor area surrounding the pond. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to raise funds for this project, with a special mention to Josh Robinson Ward and the Watlington PTA for their fundraising efforts.

Best wishes,

Gemma Sterjo

## Super star writer!



This summer, Nicholas Brodie summer made it into the Cornish Times! He is a huge Minions fan and had spent most of the holiday drawing pictures of his favourite characters. His nanny who lives in Cornwall happens to live near to a place called Minions. Nicholas has written a letter to the CEO of Illuminations in California, requesting they return the village sign with the yellow characters on it.

The Brodie family are hoping to get a reply!

[Young fan appeals for return of Minions sign](#)

## Jigsaw



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:

### *Term 1: New beginnings*

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](mailto:admin.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk)) and we can arrange this for you.

## Housekeeping Reminders



**Drop off and collection.** Learning starts at 8.45am - please help your child to be on time! Reception to Year 6: School starts at 8.45am (gate opens at 8.40am) and ends at 3.15pm. Nursery: Nursery starts at 9am (gate opens at 8.40am) and ends at 3pm.

**Arriving late for drop off and collection is unsettling for your child.**

**PE kit.** Children are required to wearing their PE kits on PE days. This should be plain PE kit and named. If there is a chance that it may rain or your child will get muddy, please provide further kit or school

uniform for them to change in to. If your child is not wearing correct PE kit, they will be provided with spares.

**School uniform.** Your child should be wearing full school uniform every day, this includes footwear. If you need support with buying items, let us know and we can help. If your child is not wearing correct uniform they will be provided with spares.

We continue to have a huge amount of second hand uniform and we are encouraging families to recycle and reuse, so please get in touch if there are any items you need.

**Devices.** Please be reminded that children should not be wearing watches that have games, access to the Internet or the ability to make calls or send messages. If absolutely necessary, children in Year 6 can bring in phones which will be stored away from use during the school day.

## Summer Reading Bingo Challenge Results



This summer, our children were tasked with taking part in our reading challenge. If you didn't manage to complete it, you still have time! All entries in by Monday 16th September.

We will announce the winners in the next newsletter.

## Photos and videos



We currently allow photos and videos at events to capture your children's special moments however there are some guidelines in place to ensure that we respect the wishes of our school community. We remind you about this at every event.

Just a friendly reminder that photos and videos taken at school events (assemblies, sports events, performances etc.) are not to be shared on social media if they include children other than your own. This includes WhatsApp class groups. You do not have permission to share photos/videos of other children.

This is to protect the safety and privacy of our children and families.

Can I politely ask that any videos including other children in the class are removed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Attendance



**Excellent attendance habits start now! Our target is 97%.**

## Are you a runner?



Do you enjoy the benefits of running? If so, would you be interested in supporting a member of staff with a running club this year? This could be before or after school. If so, speak with Mrs Sterjo for more details!

Dates - this section is regularly updated.



- Monday 10th September: Clubs start this week
- Tuesday 10th September: Swimming starts for Year 6
- Wednesday 11th September: IMPS, Year 6
- Thursday 19th September, 4pm: Welcome to Watlington, online session
- Tuesday 24th September, 4.30pm: Early Years Curriculum Evening, online session
- Thursday 26th September: Day of Languages
- Monday 21st October: Bikeability - Year 5
- Friday 25th October: Term ends at 3.15pm, 3pm (for nursery)
- Monday 28th - Friday 1st November: Half term
- Monday 4th November: INSET (teachers only)
- Tuesday 5th November: Term 2 starts

## Welcome to Watlington Parent Session - Thursday 19th September at 4pm, online.

The senior leadership team would like to invite you to an online session to let you know more about what happens behind the school gates, including our priorities for the year, curriculum, phonics and SEND

A Zoom link will be sent out next week.

Thank you, in advance for your support.

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