

Watlington Newsletter July 1 2026



Friday 3rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fortnight! Thank you for your support as we dealt with the heat wave and school closures. The staff did a wonderful job, making sure the children were kept calm and cool during the days in school. Another huge thank you to parents and carers for being so flexible with childcare arrangements which I know can present a challenge, as well as moving things around to support sports day. This is not something we have routinely had to manage and we are considering plans for the future to mitigate these circumstances.

The year Year 6 play was a wonderful celebration of the talent in the cohort! Every child made a fantastic contribution to what was an enthusiastic and uplifting performance. Thank

you to Miss Nandhra and Mr Murton for bringing it all together! Thank you to the parents who supported with the costumes too!

As we move into the final two weeks of term, we still have a a number of events planned.

Meet the teacher meetings are planned for next week. You will have received a letter via MCAS, including the Zoom links. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's new teacher/s, to find out about expectations for that year group and to ask any questions you may have. Thank you to the teachers for leading these sessions.

Transition day is an opportunity for your child/ren to experience time in their new classes, to start making connections and preparing for next steps.

The PTA summer fete is next Friday. We look forward to seeing you there.

Finally sports day (years 1 to 6) is planned for Wednesday 15th July. See reminder information below.

Best wishes,

Gemma Sterjo

Schools' Concert



This afternoon we took the choir to the Schools' Concert, at the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford. The children learnt about the different elements of an orchestra, and listened to pieces by composers including John Powell, Bernstein, Holst and Tchaikovsky. The children did a wonderful job representing the school and were captivated throughout.

Summer Term reports

This year, pupil reports will be sent electronically via email rather than as paper copies. Parents and carers will receive an email from our data tracking system, Insight, containing a secure link to access and download your child's report. For security and confidentiality, all reports will be password protected and will only be sent to the parent email addresses we have on MCAS. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date so that you can receive and access your child's report without delay.

Sports Morning

We are looking forward to our Year 1 to Year 6 sports day on Wednesday 15th July. In preparation for the event, please read the following reminders:

- Children should come to school in their **PE kits** on the day (black or navy bottoms only).
- Children should come to school with **sun cream on, a hat and a water bottle**. We are expecting the weather to be hot, so please be prepared.
- Please come to school at the normal time. Drop your child(ren) off at the gate and then come down the side of the building.
- We encourage you to join our PTA AGM meeting at 8.45am in the hall, prior to the event starting.
- Once the PTA AGM meeting is over, we will allow parents to enter the school paddock, where we hope to start sports day at approximately 9.15am.
- The children will compete in two parts for Sports day. They will be competing in their house group teams, with siblings grouped together. Please remain with your child's group throughout and provide lots of support and encouragement.
- Do not remove your child/ ren from the group/ class as we need to know where everyone is!
- The competitive sprint races will complete the event.
- Please remember to only take photos of your own child and do not share photos/video of other children on any form of social media (including WhatsApp).
- Please use the social story to support your child in preparing for the day if needed.

We hope you enjoy sports day – the children are certainly looking forward to it!

PTA Update



A big thanks to all who supported us at the weekend at our Summer Fayre stall. Tamara, Justine and the many volunteers did a great job and made over £200, none of which could've happened without your toy donations so thank you

Friday 10th July – The Summer Fete from 4.30pm to 8pm, a sunny afternoon of stalls, Pimms and delicious pulled pork buns and hot dogs. The weather is on our side and hopefully the fire brigade will be there too to cool us down.

Not one for a queue? Did you know that if you pre book your entrance tickets, food and games tokens you simply head to the pre booked desk at the gate, pick up your envelope and head straight in. And when hunger strikes, take your tokens direct to the kitchen and enjoy. Simple!

You can still buy tickets on the gate, and food at the bar on the day and use tokens or cash for the stalls but pre booking helps keep the queues down.

We have a big field to fill so book now and join us to celebrate the end of the school year!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/watlingtonoxonpta>

Wednesday 15th July

AGM – This has now been moved to the morning of the new sports day from 8.45am in the school hall. Hear what we have been up to this past year.

Still time to put yourself forward for the roles of either Chair, Treasurer and Secretary - great roles which need to be filled to keep the PTA operating.

Ice Pop sale – Red Kites will be holding this one after school in the playground on the 15th July.

Saturday 3rd October – The Circus.

Nearly a quarter of circus tickets have been sold to families from the school but now it's time to open up to other schools and the community at large.

On our doorstep, a Big Top in the paddock, stalls and food beforehand and an incredible 2 hour show to behold – this will be a unique event to have at the school so don't miss out.

Tickets only £11 until the end of July!

Buy your tickets here

[CircusTickets](#)

Watch this space and follow us on the socials for updates!

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

Library Update

Our school libraries are looking fantastic, with shelves full of brilliant fiction, non-fiction, picture books and graphic novels. The **Football World Cup display** is proving a real hit, and it's wonderful to see more children borrowing books every week.

Thanks to your support, **over £600 of brand-new books** have been added this year, along with many lovely donated titles from home and via the Amazon Wish List. These keep our shelves packed with the stories children are most excited to read.

If you'd like to contribute, please browse the **Amazon Wish List** — second-hand books in *Like New* or *Used-Good* condition are very welcome.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3OZD3HHO4INER?ref=wl_share

The Book House in Thame also offers **10% off** any books bought for library donation. We're always grateful for **preloved books** from home too, which we can add to the library or sell at our book sales to raise further funds.

From the Library Team: Liz, Helen, Vanessa and Natalie

Attendance



A reminder that holidays should not be taken during term time, as every day in school is important for children's learning and progress. Leave of absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, and family holidays are not normally considered exceptional. Thank you for your support in ensuring the best possible attendance for all pupils.

The Foxes (year 3) class continue to have the highest attendance, with Golden Eagles (year 6) a very close second! Well done to those classes!

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Golds



Red Kites: Mia

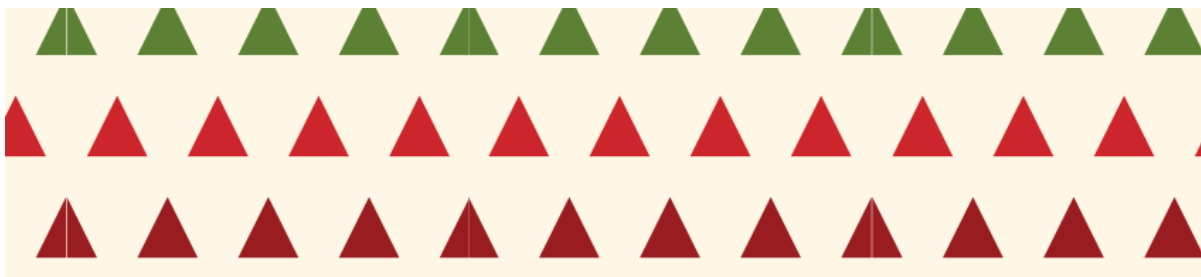
Bats: Charlie, Oliver and Arthur

Owls:

Foxes: Ainsley, Esther, Wills, Peter, Toby and Rocco

Badgers: Samuel and Rose

Dates (this section is regularly updated)



- Monday 6th - 9th July: New class meet the teacher meetings this week (more details sent out via MCAS last week)
- Monday 6th July, 4.30pm: Foundation Stage new parents' meeting

- Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th July: Icknield transition days
- Wednesday 8th July: Whole school transition morning (new classes)
- Thursday 9th July, 2pm: EY beach party
- Friday 10th July: PTA BBQ (all welcome)
- Wednesday 15th July, 9am: Sports morning (years 1 to 6)
- Thursday 16th July, 9.15am: Year 6 leavers' assembly and leavers' party (2-4pm)
- Friday 17th July, 9,15am: End of year assembly

Summer break begins (1.15pm on Friday 17th July)

Tuesday 1st September: INSET

Wednesday 2nd September: INSET

Thursday 3rd September: INSET

Friday 4th September: INSET

Monday 7th September: School starts

Separate arrangements for Foundation Stage pupils