

# Watlington Newsletter - March 1



Dear Parents and Carers,

Outdoor Learning day was a great success! What started out as a very wet day turned into sunshine and a hive of activity outside, including a treasure hunt planned by year 6 for their buddies, art activities and lots of creativity! Look at the class pages for photos of the day.

As always, World Book Day was fun with lots of creative costumes and boundless enthusiasm, from the staff and children! There has been a 'buzz' around school this week with reading swaps, performance poetry, book fair, reading café and a whole school assembly where all classes performed! Thank you to our volunteers helping with the reading week events.

The next few weeks are busy too, with year 6 residential, STEM week and Hedgehogs class assembly. Check the dates section below for more information.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,  
Gemma Sterjo

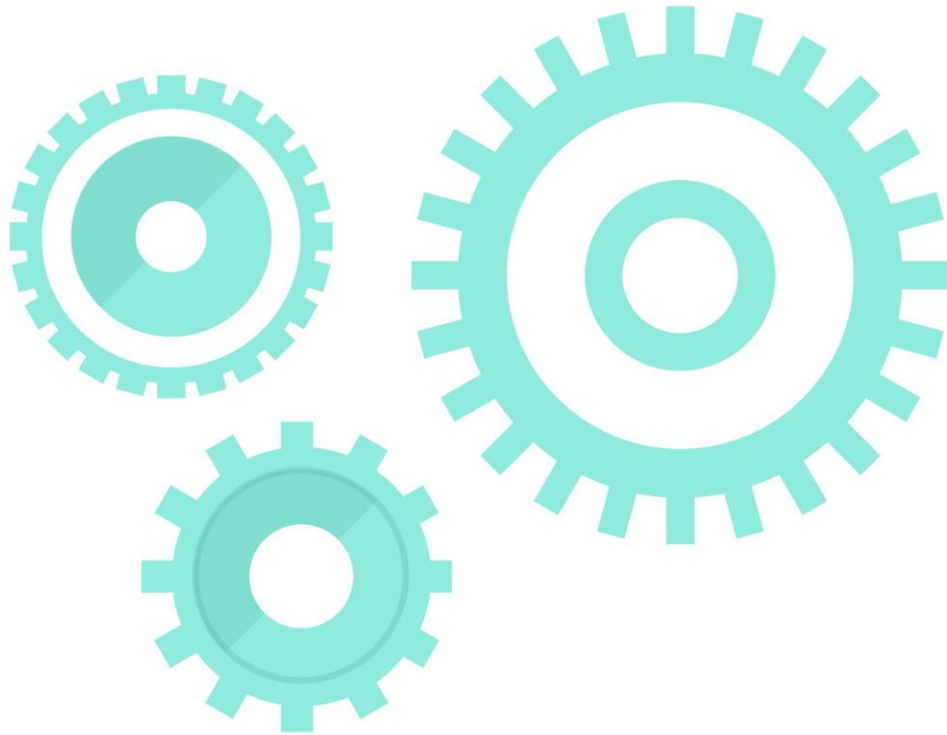
## GOLDS



Bats: Lexie and Rey

Hedgehogs: Reuben, Joss, Hadley, Roman and Nicholas

## STEM Week Experts



In the last week of term we are focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) across the school. At the end of the week you will be invited in to share what the children have been learning. Each class would like to have a visitor during the week to share their expertise on a STEM topic. Here are our requests. Of course, if you have another aspect of STEM you would like to share, please get in touch!

We are looking for vets, doctors, scientists, engineers or any other STEM related profession.

## Watlington Primary Food Bank



As you may recall, prior to the Christmas holidays, we organised a foodbank collection to support families in need within the Watlington community. The response we received from families was fantastic, and I am pleased to share that we were able to make a significant impact in assisting those experiencing hardship.

Due to the successful nature of our previous foodbank collection, we have decided to continue this initiative. We believe that by coming together as a community, we can make a difference in our local community.

With that in mind, we kindly request that you consider again donating any suitable food items such as tins, dried food, and toiletries. Any donations can be placed in the box located in the reception area of the school. By donating what you can, you will directly contribute to supporting families who are in need. Thank you in advance for your support.

If you require assistance, please let us know and we will arrange a bag for you to collect.

## LIBRARY NEWS



Thank you to everyone who supported the annual Scholastic Book Fair at school this week. All proceeds from the sale will go directly back into funding for new library and class books. We are very much looking forward to selecting some exciting new authors and non fiction books!

*Do you love books and have a little time to spare?*

We are looking for new members to join the team and help run the school library.

8.45-9.30 (approx.) on either Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays - jobs including issuing/returning books, helping children to select books etc.

Full training given!

If you think you can help, please contact Sunny Britt or email the school office:

[admin.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:admin.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk)

Thank you!

The Library team

(Sunny, Ellen, Kate, Helen B, Liz, Helen T and Claire)

## Gardening Club

Our next community Gardening Club is Sunday 17th March 10.30- 1pm. All welcome, no gardening skills required, please pop along and be part of growing and developing the school's wonderful outdoor learning space.

Join the gardening WhatsApp group to keep up to date with plans:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/L5tFI2ZvjGWEzR5LQ2jgXt>

Also join the school Gardening Club's 2nd Sunflower Competition 2024!:



Enter this year's competition by buying your sunflower seeds at our stall at the Easter Trail on 28th March. This year's seed sale will also include a surprise lucky dip... details to follow 🌻.

Thanks

Sophie

## Catch Up on the Latest with the PTA Newsletter

Spring into our March 2024 PTA Newsletter available at [here](#)

We are getting ready for our Easter Trail event on the 28th: check out how you can sign up or get raffle tickets. You can also learn more about the Pre-Loved uniform sales happening on the 27th as well as other information on how you can get pre-loved uniforms.

## Dates

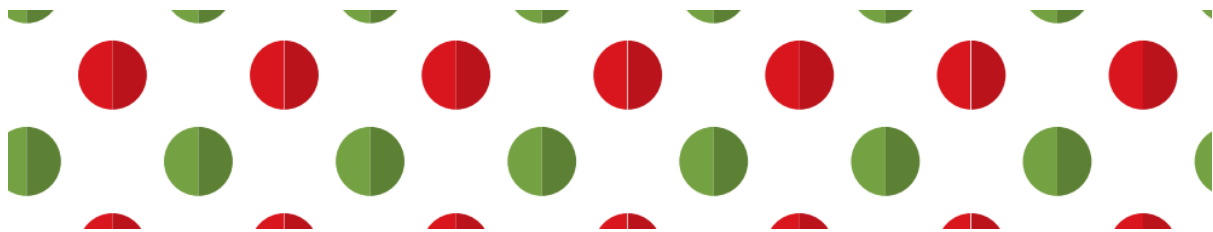


- Friday 8th March, 2.30pm: Whole school assembly, Hedgehogs to Year 6 sharing their whole class poems.
- Thursday 14th March (Years 3 and 4): Football tournament (selected pupils) - postponed
- Sunday 17th March, 10.30-1pm: School gardening club
- Monday 18th March (Year 6): PGL residential
- Friday 22nd March (Reception), 2.30pm: Hedgehogs class assembly
- Monday 25th March: STEM week
- Wednesday 27th March: STEM open afternoon (more details to follow)
- **Thursday 28th March: Break up at 1.15pm (nursery to Year 6)**
- Thursday 28th March: Easter trail (PTA event)
- **Monday 15th April: Term 5 starts**
- Friday 26th April, 2.30pm: Whole school assembly
- Friday 3rd May, 2.30pm: Owls class assembly
- Monday 6th May: Bank holiday
- Wednesday 8th-10th May: Year 5 residential

- Monday 13th May: Year 6 SATs
- Monday 13th May: Bikeability (year 5)
- Friday 17th May, 2.30pm: Bats class assembly
- Wednesday 22nd May, 3pm: Careers event (whole school)
- Friday 24th May: 150 year celebration day
- **Friday 24th May: Break up for half term. (Robins at 3pm, Reception to Year 6 at 3.15pm)**
- **Monday 3rd June: Term starts**
- Year 4 Multiplication check window opens
- Year 1 Phonics screening window opens
- Friday 7th June: Watlington Cross Country races
- Monday 17th June: Rounders tournament
- Thursday 20th June (choir): Festival of Voices, Dorchester Abbey
- Friday 21st June, 2.30pm: Foxes class assembly
- Wednesday 26th June (Foundation Stage): Early Years Olympics
- Friday 28th June: (Years 1 to 6): Sports day

Class	Class assembly date – Friday 2:30pm
Golden Eagles	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
Red Kites	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Badgers	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Foxes	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024
Owls	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024
Bats	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Hedgehogs	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024

## Attendance



**We are currently at 96%. The highest rate of attendance in the Acer Trust! Let's get closer to our target of 97%!**

Please remember that every day really does count.

Here is some useful information from the NHS around 'is my child too ill for school?'

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

<b>Minutes late per day</b>	<b>Equivalent of missing</b>
5 Minutes	3.4 school days a year
10 Minutes	6.9 school days a year
15 Minutes	10.3 school days a year
20 Minutes	13.8 school days a year
30 Minutes	20.7 school days a year