

# Watlington Newsletter - February 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to term 4! It has been a very positive week with smart children and super attitudes to learning.

On Wednesday we hosted an Acer Trust school review. This involved Nathan Thomas (CEO), Mat Hunter (ICC Headteacher) and a group of other Head and Deputy Headteachers in the trust working with us on a teaching and learning focus for the day. It included lesson observations, book looks, pupil interviews and discussions with teachers. The team did a fantastic job representing the school, the feedback was extremely positive and we have a clear picture of how to continue to develop our school further.

We continue to work behind the scenes on the drain situation and our school business manager is working to move this forward. To date, we have contacted South Oxfordshire District Council,

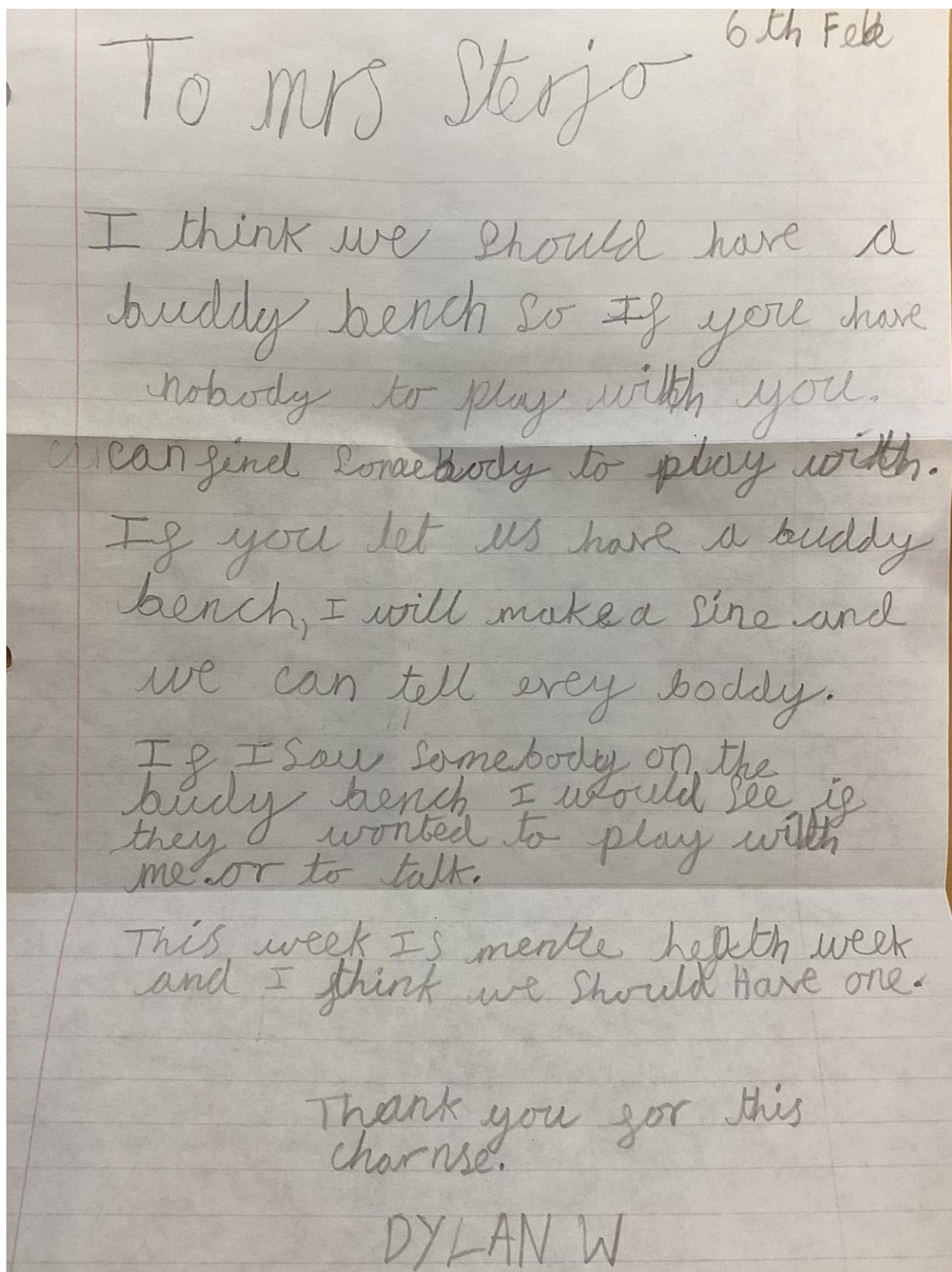
Environmental Health and Highways Agency who are aware of the issues. In the meantime plans are in place to ensure that our community are kept safe. For parents using WASPs there are alternative options in place for drop off and pick up. For whole school events, we continue to communicate plans with you. Thank you again for your understanding and if you have further concerns, please get in touch.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

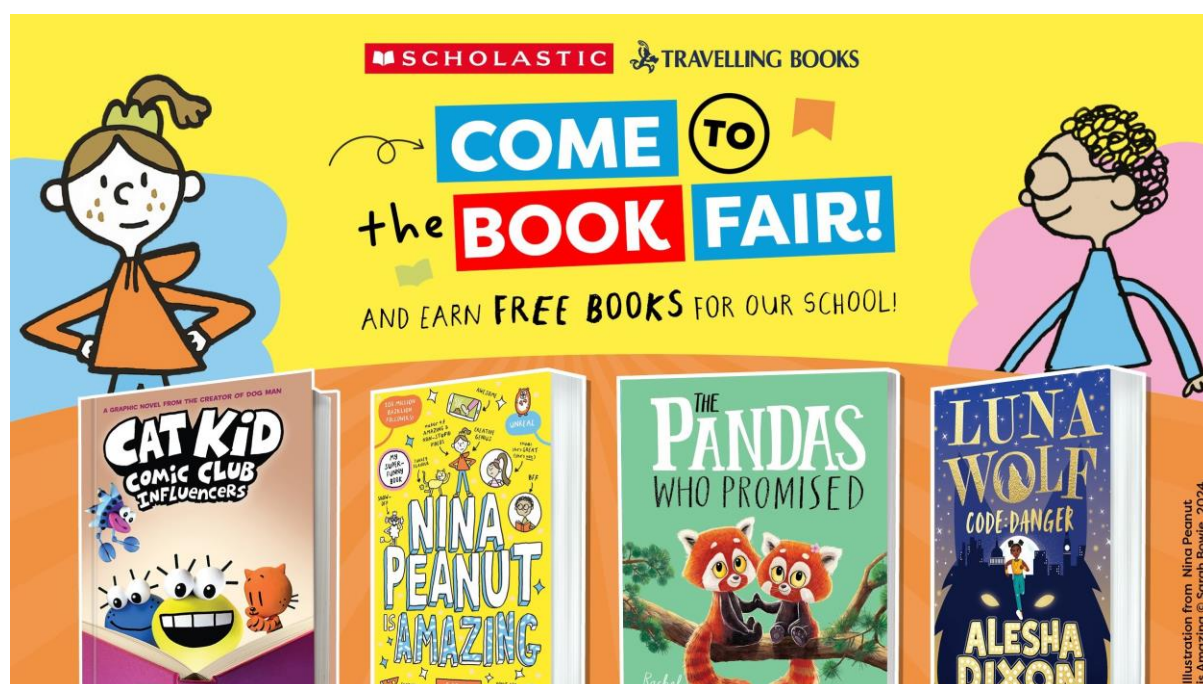
Gemma Sterjo

## Buddy Bench Request



In the final week of term I received the following letter from Dylan in Year 3. He wrote a well thought out letter, with a clear explanation about his request. We are working on this with Dylan and will share the update on benches with the school later this term.

## Library News



The school library is holding it's annual Scholastic Book Fair, the week commencing **4th March**. Please come and visit us to see what exciting new books are on offer.

This links in with World Book Day and also the school Reading Café which are both on 7th March.

All proceeds from the sale go directly back into much needed funding for new library and class books.

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](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3OV8WH7TKOHZZ?ref=wl_share)

Donations of these books can be left in the box by the school office. Of course books from other sources are most welcome.

Thank you!

The Library team

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

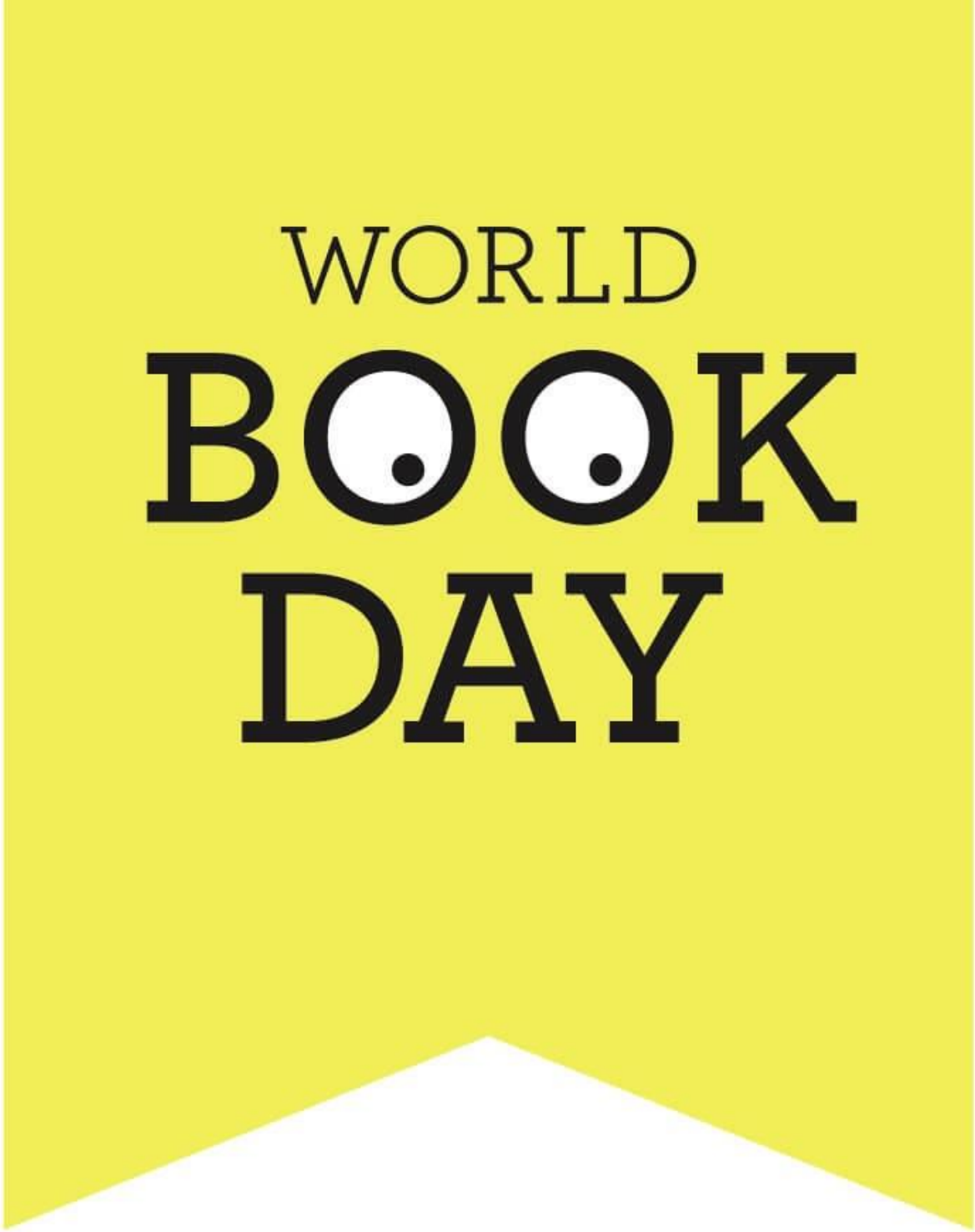
## Free School Meal and Pupil Premium

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for Universal Infant School Meals. Free School Meals are also available to pupils in Year 3 and above whose parents or carers receive certain benefits, and who register using an application form.

Pupil Premium is a government scheme that provides extra funding to schools for each pupil whose parents receive qualifying benefits. This funding can make a significant difference to raising the attainment of any disadvantaged pupils, and to close the gap between them and their peers.

If you think either of these might be relevant to your child(ren), please complete the attached form and return to the office. We also have paper copies in the office if you do not have access to a printer. If your child is already in receipt of free school meals then you do not need to complete another form.

If you have any questions please contact Suzie Bradley in the school office on [office.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk)



WORLD  
**BOOK**  
DAY

This year, World Book day is on Thursday 7th March. Our theme is poetry. Children can come dressed up as a book character, or be creative with a poetry theme. We urge you not to spend lots of money to dress up.

At the end of the day you are welcome to join us for our reading café, in the hall, straight after school. On Friday 8th March our whole school assembly will have a poetry focus and the children will perform the poems they have learnt during the week.



GOLDS!

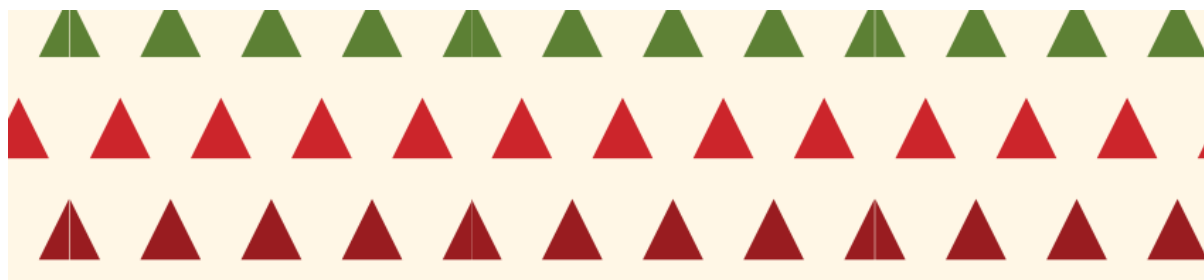
Bats: Wills

Hedgehogs: Charlotte, Chloe and Jenny

Owls: Kit, Lucy

Red Kites: Griff, Harriet, Heather, Margot

## Dates

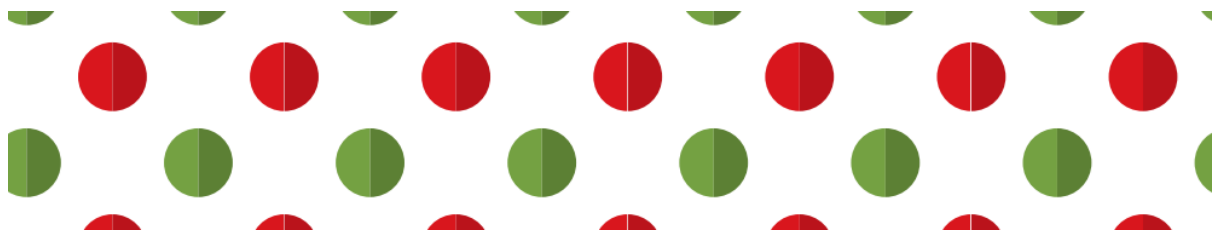


- Friday 8th March: Whole school assembly, Year 1 - 6 sharing their whole class poems.
- Thursday 14th March (Years 3 and 4): Football tournament
- Monday 18th March (Year 6): PGL residential
- Friday 22nd March (Reception), 2.30pm: Hedgehogs class assembly
- Monday 25th March: STEM week
- **Thursday 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 celebrations
- **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/>



