

Watlington Newsletter - October 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe that term one is already coming to a close! As always it has been action-packed, with sports tournaments, outdoor learning day, reading cafe, focaccia Fridays, police and fire officer visits, guide dogs and so much more. Do visit the class pages to find out more about what else has been happening. Our cross-phase work continues with Year 5's attending dance classes at Icknield once a week. Next term other classes are taking part including other year groups in Key Stage 2. The project will culminate in a dance presentation at Icknield next year.

Gardening club have been busy this term preparing for the Stonor Park scarecrow competition. I am sure you will agree that the results are fantastic! (See below)

Thank you to Kitty and Al Tait at the Orange Bakery who very kindly donated a bread making kit for every child and staff member in the school yesterday. We hope you enjoy baking these with your children over the half term.

A huge thank you to the staff for their hard work this term, particularly for hosting parents' meetings this week. The school is a vibrant, happy place where pupils are thriving.

Another thank you, in advance, goes to the PTA for organising a Watlington 'Fright Night' this evening. Please support this event which will raise much needed funds for the school. I look forward to seeing you there. ☺

Have a very happy half term, and I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 31st October.

Best wishes,

Gemma Sterjo



Sports



Firstly a huge congratulations to our PE lead, Miss Harman, on completing the Oxford half marathon last weekend! She is an inspiration!

Well done to our new Sports Captains who were voted in by their peers. To be considered each pupil had to create a video, poster or speech on why they should be Sports Captain. Congratulations to the following pupils who will help out in PE lessons, lead our cross country event and will help to organise clubs and tournaments.

Well done, Maddie, Margot, Calum, Griff, Dima, Harriet and Marley.

We hosted our first football tournament of the season with RAF Benson and Chalgrove Primary schools. We came a respectable second, showing super sportsmanship and teamwork.

We have an action packed year full of sports events. Watch this space for the Watlington wins!

Helping your child with their worries



- * How can I tell if my child is worried about something?
- * How can I help my child to talk about their worries?
- * What can I do to help?
- * How can I build a stronger connection and communicate more easily with my child?

Come along and find out!

This workshop is led by our School Counsellor, Julie Watt, for parents on Monday 6th November, from 5-6pm at school.

This workshop is fully funded by us, as we believe it is an important area for parents to learn more about.

If you would like to attend, please email admin.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you there.

School Council Update from Clem (Chair) and Lucas (Secretary)



Our first event that we have organized was a non- school uniform day to raise money for My Vision Oxfordshire which is a charity that raises funds for people who are blind or have visual impairments. We were visited by two of the charity's representatives called Devante and Nathan, who bought their lovely guide dogs called Mac and Maisie. They spoke to us about what guide dogs do, how to

look after our eyes and also about the sports they can do. It was so interesting and a good reminder than you can still do lots even if your vision impaired or you are blind.

The whole school had the chance to stroke Mac and Maisie as we left assembly. We are so proud to have raised almost £140 for MyVision Oxfordshire. Thank you to all those families who donated!

School librarian session



The first pupil-led librarian session was a huge success. The library was buzzing with pupils choosing books and being helped by the new (very keen) team of librarians. Well done and thank you!

Dates, including Christmas dates



- Term finishes at 3pm for nursery and 3.15pm for Reception to Year 6.
- Half term
- WR holiday sports camp (Monday - Thursday)
- Monday 30th October: INSET (teachers only)
- Tuesday 31st October, 8.45am (9am, nursery) - term starts
- Wednesday 1st November: Year 5 trip to the Chiltern Open Air Museum
- Monday 6th November, 5-6pm, Helping children with their worries workshop
- Wednesday 8th November: Individual and sibling photos
- Friday 10th November, 2.30pm: Whole school assembly
- Monday 13th November: Anti-bullying week
- Friday 17th November: 2.30pm, Golden Eagles class assembly (Golden Eagles parents only)
- Tuesday 21st November: Foundation Stage open evening for new parents
- Thursday 30th November: Big Christmas Sing (choir only)
- Friday 1st December: PTA wreath making event
- Wednesday 6th December: Years 1-3 theatre trip (Jack and the Beanstalk)
- Friday 8th December: 2.30, Red Kites class assembly (Red Kites parents only)
- Wednesday 13th December: Foundation Stage Nativity (time tbc)
- Wednesday 13th December: 5.30pm, Christmas Church service (years 1-6 taking part) all welcome to attend.
- Thursday 14th December: PTA Christmas discos (Year 1 to Year 6)
- Friday 15th December: Christmas jumper and festive lunch day
- Wednesday 20th December: Term ends at 1.15pm (all year groups)

More Christmas term dates to follow, with more details next term.

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

Attendance



We are currently at 96.7! I'm sure we will be able to reach our target of 97% after half term.

Thank you again for your ongoing support with keeping our attendance achievements high.

Please remember that every day really does count.



1 - GOLD AWARDS (Click here to see who has reached GOLD this term!)

Badgers: Arthur, Belle, Logan

Bats: Eliza, Charlie, Phoebe, Clara, Eddie, Phoebe F

Owls: Aiden, Dolly, Nate, Darcy

Hedgehogs: Miller, Hazel, Jonah, Leo, Cianan, Lily, Bella,