

Watlington Newsletter January 1



Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a well deserved rest over the holidays and are refreshed ready for 2025!

On behalf of myself and the whole team, thank you for the kind and generous Christmas gifts, although not expected, they are very much appreciated.

Some general reminders:

Ensure that your child has suitable clothing for the weather. A school fleece is not a replacement for a coat! This includes, hats, gloves and wellies when needed. As always, do ensure that all items are clearly labelled. Also, do make the most of our PTA second hand sales and extensive amount of good quality second hand uniform.

- Check your class newsletter to find out when your child's PE days are. Your child should wear PE kit on that day. Please note, they should wear a school jumper or fleece for PE, not a hoodie or 'home' jumper. If it is raining/ muddy, please provide additional clothing to change into after the lesson (PE kit or school uniform).

- Your child should be wearing full school uniform.

- Continue to support your child/ren with home learning.

- Please arrive on time in the mornings, and after school - including clubs. Traffic, including the coaches in the car park, is not a valid excuse for late collection!

Let's have a great term.

Best wishes,

Gemma Sterjo

Jigsaw Topic this term



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: **Dreams and Goals**

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) and we can arrange this for you.

Food Bank



Our food bank is running low. If you have any non perishable items to donate, please leave them in the office.

This service is used regularly by a number of families in our community.

If you would benefit from support from the food bank, please let Mrs Sterjo or Mr Gale know and we will arrange a collection.

Suggested items to donate...

- Cereals
- Tinned soups and stews
- Pasta, rice and pasta sauce
- Tinned meat and fish
- Tinned beans and vegetables

- Tinned fruit
- Condiments and spices
- Cooking oils
- Broth and stock
- All-natural juice (long-life)
- Toiletries

Careers Week



At Watlington Primary School, we are keen to utilise the expertise of our parent / carer community to support our curriculum and inspire children. One of the ways we do this is through inviting visitors with expertise in to school to help to bring topics to life. This may be to talk about careers, or simply to share their work-specific knowledge and skills with children.

This March, we will be having our first careers week, so would like to utilise our parent expertise during the week to inspire our children.

If you would be willing to be added to a 'contact list' of people who are can come in to share your experiences with the children, please complete this survey. We will keep this information for internal use only. We aren't asking for you to be regular volunteers - this may be on a one-off basis to support a topic that is being delivered in school. For example, we will be holding a 'careers' week later in the spring term, so we may ask you to be involved with that!

<https://forms.gle/LBHky9meKHbBRg4v5>

Shiplake Schools' Cross Country



Boys and girls in Years 1 to 6 from any primary or prep school are invited to the Shiplake College Schools' Cross-Country Competition on Saturday 1 February 2025. No pre-registration required (please arrive 15 minutes before race time). The first race (Year 1 boys) is at 9.00am, with the final race (Year 6 girls) at 10.15am. A full break down of race times and distances is at www.shiplake.org.uk/schoolscrosscountry. Hot drinks and refreshments available to purchase from 8.30am. See you there!

Let me know if you are attending and I will be there to support you!

The Oratory Cross Country



The Oratory School is delighted to be hosting a Prep and Primary School Cross Country event. They are really excited to welcome runners from Years 1–6 on Saturday 25 January. Please see the attached flyer for more information and race start times.

No pre-registration is required, just come along on the day.

Once again, let me know if you are attending and I will be there to support you!



CROSS COUNTRY



SATURDAY 25 JANUARY

We're delighted to be hosting a cross country race on Saturday 25 January for children in Years 1-6 from any prep or primary school.

Approximate Race Timings:

- Year 1 – 9.00am
- Year 2 – 9.15am
- Year 3 – 9.30am
- Year 4 – 9.45am
- Year 5 – 10.00am
- Year 6 – 10.15am

Please arrive **at least** 15 minutes before your race starts.



Please note that by competing in the race, you give consent for your child to be photographed and shared on social media and in any associated press coverage.

**The Oratory Senior School
Woodcote
Oxfordshire
RG8 0PJ**

- Car parking and start line will be signposted.
- Refreshments available throughout the morning.
- No need to pre-register, we look forward to welcoming you on the day!

FOR ANY QUERIES, PLEASE EMAIL S.TOMLINSON@ORATORY.CO.UK

Attendance



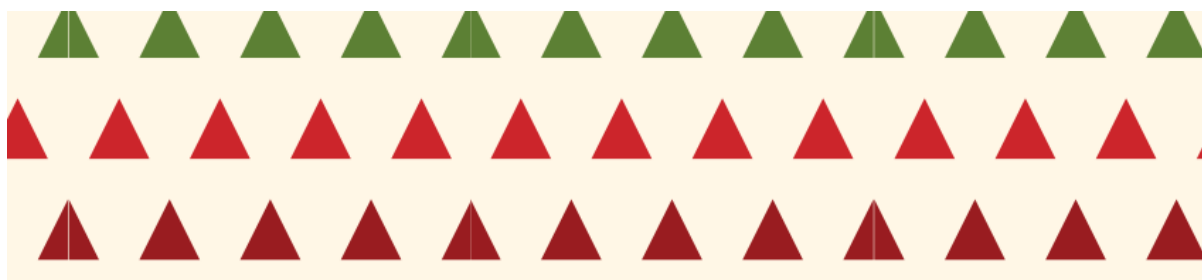
Our target is 97%

We are currently at 95.7%. Owls continue to be in the lead and now have the highest attendance so far this year, with Red Kites remaining a close second.

Please note we are not able to authorise term time holidays.



Dates (this section is regularly updated)



- Monday 13th January: netball tournament (selected pupils)
- Tuesday 14th January, 4.30-5.30pm: Foundation Stage Night Explorers event
- Wednesday 22nd January: Sports hall athletics (athletics club members)
- Friday 24th January, 2.30pm: Whole school family assembly (Years 1 - 6)
- Monday 3rd - Friday 7th February: Children's mental health week
- Friday 7th February, 2.30pm: Red Kites class assembly
- Friday 14th February: Foxes (year 3) class trip to the Ashmolean, Oxford
- Friday 14th February: Break up for half term (Reception to Year 6 at 3.15pm, Robin at 3pm)

HALF TERM

- Monday 24th February: Term starts - all year groups



Assemblies and open afternoons 2024-2025

Class	Class assembly date – Friday 2:30pm
Golden Eagles	Friday 15 th November 2024
Red Kites	Friday 7 th February 2025
Badgers	Friday 6 th December 2024
Owls	Friday 2 nd May 2025
Bats	Friday 6 th June 2025
Foxes	Friday 20 th June 2025
Hedgehogs	Friday 21 st March 2025

Open Afternoons linked to theme weeks
Thursday 10 th October
Wednesday 26 th March
Friday 23 rd May 2.30pm

Celebration Assemblies – Friday 2:30pm
Term 1 – Friday 27 th September
Term 2 – Friday 8 th November
Term 3 – Friday 24 th January
Term 4 – Friday 7 th March
Term 5 Friday 25 th April
Term 6 Monday 21 st July
Term 6 Tuesday 22 nd July

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