



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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### Weekly Newsletter Number 27

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a restful and happy Easter holiday and enjoyed spending quality time with family and friends. We are delighted to welcome everyone back for our final part of the academic year - Summer Terms 5 and 6 - and we are looking forward to an exciting and enriching term ahead.

As always, the Summer Term is a particularly busy one, filled with a wide range of events including: Young Apprentice House competition, Whole School Trips, Sports Day, Transition Week, Village Festival, KS2 End of Year Production, Open Evenings for Parents, Year 6 Activity Day and our special Leavers Assembly. We also have some exciting PTA organised events such as the ever popular Campout. Please see Page 4 of this term's key dates and events. You may wish to take a few moments to transfer these to your diary so you do not miss anything important. More details will follow in upcoming newsletters and letters.

We remain fully committed to maintaining 'Outstanding' standards across all areas of school life and to nurturing confidence, independence, resilience and a strong work ethic in our children. Through our embedded **Growth Mindset** approach, the children understand that mistakes are part of learning and that being brave and willing to take risks helps them overcome challenges they may have previously avoided. As Teachers and Teaching Assistants, we are lifelong learners, too. The school continues to provide all staff with access to high quality **Continuous Professional Development (CPD)**, aligned with both school priorities and national initiatives. This term, we are continuing to strengthen our learner's **Metacognitive Skills** and **Self-Regulated Learning Strategies**, guiding them to '**Plan, Monitor and Evaluate**' their learning. This approach empowers children to take ownership of their progress and become effective, independent learners. We value your great support and partnership in all that we do.

As we begin the final two terms of this academic year, we would expect **ALL children, including those in Reception, to come into school independently**. Please use our **Stop and Drop Zone** and allow your child/ren to walk into the school on their own. This helps promote **independence, builds confidence and supports a smooth start to the day**. Thank you, as always, for your support and cooperation.

### Site Improvements Over the Easter Break

During the Easter holiday, we took the opportunity to complete some important site improvements.



Contractors and electricians were on site to carry out inspection and maintenance work, ensuring everything remains safe and up to standard. Our dedicated handyman, Andy, has also been busy around the school—maintaining the grounds, completing various repairs, and helping to move in new desks and chairs for Red Kites Class. The children have really enjoyed returning to a refreshed classroom and are loving their new furniture!



Behind the scenes, our teachers have also been working hard to get everything ready for the new term—planning exciting learning opportunities, preparing classrooms, and ensuring a smooth start for all our pupils.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to getting the school ready for a positive and productive Summer Term!

During the first week back, we were delighted to have **two brand-new Teaching Walls** installed—one in Robins Class and another in the new building. These high-quality installations have already made a big difference, creating a sleek, tidy, and smart learning environment for both children and staff. The integrated storage solutions help keep classrooms organised, while the large working areas support interactive teaching and learning. Children have already begun using the new learning space with great enthusiasm. It has been wonderful to see them making the most of the inviting, well-structured classroom layout. As seen in the photos, the new Teaching Walls are already becoming a valuable feature in our everyday learning environment.



The children in Kestrels are absolutely thrilled to have new tables and chairs, perfectly sized for their heights, eagerly exploring their refreshed classroom with bright smiles and boundless enthusiasm!



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

## What have we been learning in school?

### Understanding Autism – A Special Talk for Red Kites Class

This week, children in **Red Kites Class** took part in a thoughtful and engaging session led by Amanda, SHINE Outreach Worker, focusing on understanding **Autism** and celebrating neurodiversity. The session helped children learn that everyone is different—and that includes how our brains work, how we experience the world, and how we communicate and interact with others.

Through stories, discussion, and interactive activities, the children explored the idea that just like we all look different on the outside, our brains can work differently on the inside too. Amanda helped the class understand that autism is just one of the many ways our brains can be different, and that those differences are something to respect, appreciate, and embrace.

The children were incredibly engaged, asking lots of thoughtful questions and sharing their own ideas and experiences. It was clear they were keen to understand and support one another better. The talk encouraged empathy, kindness, and inclusion—key values we hold dear. It gave children the language and understanding to support one another and recognise the unique strengths that each person brings to our school community. We also took time to emphasise an important message: while differences in how we think and feel are natural and should be understood with compassion, this does not mean certain behaviours are excused. Instead, we talked about how understanding one another helps us all make kind, respectful choices and support everyone to do their best.

We are proud of how open-minded and curious the children were, and how they reflected with maturity on what they had learned. It was a powerful step in building an even more inclusive and empathetic school community.



For our Relationship and Health Education Curriculum this term via **The Big 3 and Me for Reception and The Big 5 for KS1 and KS2**, we will be focusing on the Core Value of **Community** and its related values of **Non-violence, Kindness to Animals and Celebrating Difference**. We will spend two weeks on each related value this term. At the assembly on Tuesday we introduced the first related value of **Non-Violence**. Next week we will continue with **Non-Violence**. Children in their class will have a discussion on this topic and are encouraged to think about 'Can you control your anger? Or Can you stay in control when provoked?' Children are encouraged to stay calm and peaceful when resolving conflicts. You may want to spend some time at home with your child/ren exploring the meaning of this quote '*In a gentle way, you can shake the world.*' – Mahatma Gandhi (Indian Activist 1869-1948) What might he mean?



Having social events throughout the year is a real highlight for our children, parents and teachers, especially now that the weather is warming up! As we wait for our **next PTA to form**, we wondered if any parents or friends would like to get together to organise one off events, big or small! The previous PTA members are very happy to share experiences from past events. One of the main events that parents and children would love to see happen this year is the campout. Your involvement is crucial to making these events successful and enjoyable for everyone. If you would like to get involved in organising the campout or any other events, please get in touch. Many thanks for your wonderful support!

### Reminder and Upcoming Event

- This afternoon, **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April**, our children will be taking part in the **Mini London Marathon** challenge by running, jogging or walking 8 laps around the school playing field! Each child's laps will be recorded on the sticky name label and signed off by their Class Teacher, and this will be used to help collect sponsorship money in support of our school. All funds raised will go directly towards upgrading and adding to our active lunch hour equipment—helping to make break times even more fun, energetic, and inclusive for everyone. Thank you in advance for your support and encouragement. Let's cheer our runners on!
- **Bag2School Collection on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 9.00am next week.**
- **Owls Class Assembly** will take place on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm**. Family and friends are welcome to attend.
- **Year 4 Bikeability Training Course Level 1** will start on Friday 2nd May next week. Each child will require a roadworthy bike, a helmet, suitable clothing for the day. Please refer to the letter sent home on 28<sup>th</sup> March for more details.

The staff, governors and I look forward to working with you and achieving our goals in what should be an exciting Summer Term!

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Li-Juan Ellerton  
Headteacher

## Sunshine Book

Congratulations to all the children for demonstrating the School Values, following the School Golden Rules and going above and beyond with their learning throughout this week.

|              |           |          |
|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Owls         | Charlie P | Wren G-J |
| Nightingales | Harper R  | Fergus G |
| Robins       | Oakley T  | Nael A   |
| Skylarks     | Emily C   | Riley W  |
| Red Kites    | Zamin M   | Grace O  |
| Kestrels     | Lottie L  | Thomas E |

## House Points

|                 | Weekly Total | Rolling Total |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Brunel (Blue)   | 152          | 152           |
| Galileo (Green) | 165          | 165           |
| Redgrave (Red)  | 216          | 216           |
| Yeats (Yellow)  | 255          | 255           |

The Winning House's for this week is **Yeats**. Well done.

## Attendance for the Week

Excellent attendance and punctuality maximise potential! *Every day and every lesson counts!*

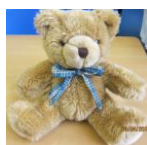
Class Attendance: 22-04-25 to 25-04-25

Owls 97.2% Skylarks 99.2%

Nightingales 99.4% Red Kites 96.4%

Robins 98.7% Kestrels 98.7%

Whole School 98.2%



## Habit of the Month

In **May**, children will continue to focus on **Only My Best Will Do – Showing respect and responding to all adults in the exactly the same way**. This is part of daily routines, please continue to support us by having high expectations for your child/ren and helping them all form good habits.

## Termly Curriculum Overview

Termly Curriculum Overview for each Year group gives you a broad overview of what your child will be studying at school in Term 5 and 6 and how you might support in their learning. The Overviews will be uploaded on to our school website - any questions? Please see your child's Class Teacher.

## Expectation for Morning Drop-Off

As we enter the final terms of this academic year, **we would expect ALL of the children from Reception to Year 6 to come to school independently**. Please say good bye to your child at the entrance gate or use Stop and Drop Zone and let your child/ren walk into the school by themselves. This will encourage children to **develop self-help skills and independence** and settle in quickly to the day ahead. Thank you for your support.

## Amazon Wish List

We regularly update our **Amazon Wish List** and would appreciate your continued support. If you would like to purchase something for the school, please click the link [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=wl_share) Thank you.

## Class Assembly



Owls Class Assembly will take place on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm** in the School Hall. Children will be sharing what they have been learning in school. Family and friends in Owls Class are welcome to join us.

## Key Text Books for Term 5 and 6

As part of our English Curriculum, we have key text / story books for each term. we would appreciate it if you could purchase the book for your child:

**'How to Train Your Dragon' Book 1 by Cressida Cowell – Skylarks**

**'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty - Red Kites Class**

**'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by J.K Rowling – Kestrels Class**

Thank you for your support.

## Woodpeckers Club Booking and Collection Reminder

All Extracurricular Clubs will commence next week for in Term 5. If you require any childcare, please use our After School **Woodpeckers Club**. Please **book in advance to help us ensure appropriate staffing, maintain correct staff-to-child ratios, and uphold our safeguarding procedures**.

Please ensure your child is collected promptly at the end of their session, no later than 6.00pm. **A standard late collection charge of £20 will be issued for delays**, as this impacts staff working hours. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Summer School Uniform

As we are now in Summer Terms, Summer uniform can be worn:

**Girls:** pale blue gingham dress or grey skirts with School's logo polo shirt, white socks;

**Boys:** School's logo polo shirt with trousers (long or short), grey socks.

**Black**, hard wearing shoes must be worn, trainers, plimsolls open-toe sandals, and shoes with inappropriate heels may not worn. **No make-up or nail varnish are allowed.**

All the children are expected to have their PE kit in school every day. Please make sure that **ALL ITEMS must be clearly labelled**. Children with shoulder length hair or longer should have it tied back using plain hair-ties, hair bands or clips please. Not only will this contribute to their smartness but will also keep tackle the ongoing head lice problems.

## Bag2School Collection

This event raises a considerable amount for School Fund whilst helping others less fortunate. We will be paid from the bags of **old clothes, handbags, jewellery and shoes** we collect. Please bring as many bags to school as you can on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 9.00am** when they will be collected. You may use ordinary bin bags or plastic carriers.

**Please DO NOT bring bags to School before the date as we have no places in School to store them. Thank you.**

Our mission is to provide inspiration and opportunities for all children to achieve their potential and become confident, independent individuals with key skills for lifelong learning

School Values: Truth Love Peace Responsibility Community

Staff and Governors of Waltham St Lawrence Primary School are committed to the safeguarding of children

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Li-Juan Ellerton (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr David Errington (Deputy Headteacher)

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Harmit Kaur Thiara (Parent Governor)

Governors can be contacted via email to [clerk@wslprimary.org](mailto:clerk@wslprimary.org)

## Dates for Your Diary

### The Academic Year 2024-2025

#### Term 5 (23 days)

##### April

|                                    |                                                            |             |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup>               | Start of Pupil Term                                        |             |
| Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>             | Football Matches at Holy Trinity Primary                   | 3.30pm      |
| Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>               | Mini London Marathon fundraising Event – details to follow | 1.00-3.00   |
| w/c 28 <sup>th</sup>               | All clubs start this week                                  |             |
| Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>               | Bag2School Collection                                      | 9.00am      |
| Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>               | Owls Class Assembly                                        | 2.30pm      |
| May                                |                                                            |             |
| Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>                | May Day Bank Holiday – School is closed                    |             |
| Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>              | Performance Workshop for EYFS & KS1                        | 10.30-12.00 |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>               | Year 4 Mathematical Competition (Team of 3)                | 4.30-6.00pm |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> | KS2 SATs Week                                              |             |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>               | EYFS Health Screening (Height and Weight) in School        | 9.30am      |
| Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>             | Young Apprentice Competition                               | 1.00-2.30pm |
| Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>               | End of Pupil Term                                          | 3.10pm      |

May Holiday: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

#### Term 6 (38 days)

##### June

|                                    |                                                           |               |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>                | Staff Inset Day                                           |               |
| Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>               | Start of Pupil Term                                       |               |
| Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>                | Road Safety Workshop for Kestrels Class                   | 1.15pm        |
| Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>              | Year 5 Science Day at Holyport College – detail to follow | 1.00-3.00pm   |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>                | It's Your Move – Year 6 Transition Talk                   | 1.15pm        |
| Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>                | Village Festival                                          | 1.00-6.00pm   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check                            |               |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> | Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check                        |               |
| Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>             | Year 2 Mighty Maths Competition (Team of 3) at WSL (Host) | 4.30-6.00pm   |
| Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>             | Last Chinese Club                                         |               |
| Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>             | Sports Day                                                | 1.30pm        |
| Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>               | Whole School Trip to Marwell Zoo                          | 8.30am-3.10pm |
| Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>               | Sports Day – Reserve                                      |               |
| July                               |                                                           |               |
| Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>                | Music Party in the School Playing Field                   |               |
| Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>               | Year 6 Leaving Party                                      | 4.00-6.00pm   |
| Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>               | End of Pupil Term                                         |               |

Summer Holiday: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

### The Academic Year 2025-2026

#### Term 1 (38 days)

##### September

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>   | Staff Inset Day     |
| Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> | Start of Pupil Term |
| October               |                     |
| Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>  | End of Pupil Term   |

October Holiday: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Please do not book family holidays during term time. Please note that Staff Inset Days are subject to change.

Dates /times added/changed will be highlighted

All dates to the end of the year can also be found on the school website [www.wslprimary.org](http://www.wslprimary.org)

Information / Letters sent home or can be accessed on the school website last & this week:

After School Care Club Information and Timetable to all

Bag2School collection Reminder to all

Knife Crime Week - Anti-Knife Crime Tagline Voting information to all

After School Club reminder to all

National Child Measuring Programme to Owls Class