



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

School Road, West End, Berkshire RG10 0NU | Telephone: 0118 9343248 | Email: [office@wslprimary.org](mailto:office@wslprimary.org)  
School Road, West End, Berkshire RG10 0NU | Telephone: 0118 9343248 | Email: [office@wslprimary.org](mailto:office@wslprimary.org)

Weekly Newsletter Number 20

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

### What a memorable week we have had in school!

I would like to begin this week's newsletter with one of my many highlights of the week: the **Skylarks Class Assembly** on **Wednesday**. The children delivered a **spectacular** performance that showcased their **confidence**, **creativity** and **impressive learning**. From their detailed knowledge of the Tudor monarchy to their beautifully written setting descriptions, every child **shone brightly** and spoke beautifully. Their costumes were amazing, their teamwork clear to see, and their enthusiastic rendition of "**We Will Rock You**" is something that I will remember for a long time. A heartfelt **thank you** goes to **Mrs Waite, Mrs Ablewhite, Mrs Clark and Mrs Taneja** for their dedication and hard work in preparing such a polished and joyful assembly. It was also wonderful to see so many parents attending and supporting the children — **your presence means a great deal**.



On Monday, **Nightingales Class** hosted their **Open English session**. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities and demonstrated fantastic engagement throughout. **Miss Bennett** delivered an excellent session filled with **enthusiasm** and **creativity** and we are very grateful to all the parents who came along. **Your support is always appreciated and helps to make these events so special.**



Tuesday brought a vibrant celebration as we celebrated **Chinese New Year**. At lunchtime Caterlink preparing delicious Chinese-style meals, including meat and vegetable curry options that the children devoured. In the afternoon, every class took part in a **Chinese Dragon Dance workshop**. The dragons were surprisingly heavy, but the children showed great determination and teamwork — especially our older pupils, who supported the younger classes with kindness and patience. Unfortunately, the planned after-school demonstration had to be cancelled due to rain, as we did not want to risk the dragons getting wet but I'm pleased to say the rainy weather did not dampen the overall enjoyment of the day.

On Thursday, excitement filled the school once again as we hosted our **School Council Movie Night**. Key Stage One pupils enjoyed "Ice Age", while Key Stage Two watched "Zootropolis". Popcorn, pillows and cosy onesies added to the atmosphere and made the evening a relaxed and enjoyable treat for all. **UPDATE – Over £320 raised so far. Thank you everyone.**

Finally, today two of our pupils had the special privilege of becoming **Headteachers for the Afternoon**. To help them look the part, the boys proudly wore a tie! They visited classrooms across the school and took great pride in handing out house points to children who were working hard. They were **enthusiastic, responsible** and **excellent ambassadors**, making this a delightful end to our week.

### Looking Ahead to Next Week

Next week promises to be an extremely busy and exciting one. Throughout the week, the children will be taking part in a variety of **Chinese New Year** craft activities, giving them the chance to explore the traditions and creativity linked to this celebration. On Monday, our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 assemblies will launch our **Great Athletes Initiative**, an inspiring programme that aims to motivate the children to develop resilience, determination and a love of physical activity. On Wednesday, we have our much-anticipated **Dance Festival**, where **Red Kites Class** will be travelling to Braywick Leisure Centre to perform the magnificent dance routine they have been working so hard on — we cannot wait to see them shine. Then on Thursday, all pupils will take part in **Safer Internet Day** workshops, where they will learn about staying safe online, including how to use AI responsibly and wisely. It promises to be an enriching and energetic week for everyone.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting and inspiring week ahead.

**Many thanks for your continued support**

Mr. D. Errington



**No space for words this week... just photos of fun-filled learning**



**CHINESE DRAGON DANCE**





## Perfect Playground Equipment and Plenty of Parents visiting Nightingales







## 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.



|                     |                 |            |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
| <b>Owls</b>         | Dominic W       | Ivy D      |
| <b>Nightingales</b> | Emily V         | Bethan U   |
| <b>Robins</b>       | Harper R        | Abdullah J |
| <b>Skylarks</b>     | The Whole Class |            |
| <b>Red Kites</b>    | Mason W-P       | Sam W      |
| <b>Kestrels</b>     | Cody R          | Tilly P    |

## House Points

|                        | Weekly Total | Rolling Total |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Brunel (Blue)</b>   | 406          | 1561          |
| <b>Galileo (Green)</b> | 261          | 1102          |
| <b>Redgrave (Red)</b>  | 258          | 1121          |
| <b>Yeats (Yellow)</b>  | 350          | 1409          |

**The Winning House for this week is Brunel. Well done.**

## Attendance for the Week

**Owls – 97.2% Skylarks – 92.3 %**  
**Nightingales – 94.9 % Red Kites – 97.1 %**  
**Robins – 94.9% Kestrels – 97.1 %**  
**Whole School – 94.5 %**



**Excellent attendance and punctuality maximises potential! Every second counts.**

## Class Assemblies

Children in each class will be presenting their learning to the school community, with parents invited to attend. The Class Assembly will take place on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 3.10pm.



**The dates for each Class Assembly are as below:**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Nightingales Class

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Red Kites Class

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Owls Class

## Please help



As part of our ongoing commitment to improving learning experiences and wellbeing across the school, we would be grateful for any support families can offer with the following:

**Quiet Area** - We are looking for a small, single-person pop-up tent to create a calm “quiet area” for children who need a comforting space.

**Lunchtime Activities** - Donations of unused Lego or Duplo sets would help enrich our lunchtime provision with creative, collaborative play.

**EYFS & Key Stage 1 Listening Resources** - We are seeking a small CD player or CD Walkman for children to listen to stories, along with any wired headphones.

**Thank you for your continued support—your contributions make a huge difference to the experiences we provide.**

## Dance Festival - Red Kites – Final Reminder

### Arrival

- School staff will be on hand from 8:50am.
- Arrive at Braywick Leisure Centre by 9:00am.

### Costumes and Hair

- Arrive wearing your costume
- Wear school uniform over the top to keep warm.
- Hair must be secured off the face.
- All children with long hair - high pony tail please



### Lunch

- Packed lunch will be required - strict no-nut policy as we have children in school with severe nut allergies.

### Performance and Audience

- Show will start promptly at 1.00pm and will be finished by 2.30pm.

### Parking

- There is a large car park. However, it is a pay and display, so please come prepared.

### Collection

- Collect your child from The Baylis Theatre, Braywick Leisure Centre by 2.30pm.
- For those parents who have any sibling waiting at school for pick up, please let us know and we will arrange for them to be supervised until you can pick them up

**As this is a school day it is expected that all children will be in attendance.**

## Habit of the Month

In February, children will be focusing on:

### “Only My Best Will Do”

- **Be thankful** for the opportunities you have.
- **Be adventurous** with your learning.
- **Be polite** when you have been supported.
- **Be thoughtful**... Have I tried my best?

We would appreciate your support with this when the children are at home, as a consistent approach will lead to positive behaviour in our children, which will last lifetime.

## Zones of Regulation – This week – The Green Zone

**Please help us to support your children by using the language below so that they can recognise when they are in different zones.**

**The Yellow Zone.....during play time, lunch time and even at the end of the day, it's expected for us to be in the YELLOW ZONE!!**



**Safer Internet Day Workshops – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Year 1 – Year 6**

Safer Internet Day 2026 takes place on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February** and focusses on **“Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI”**.

This year we have organised a day of **Safer Internet Workshops** for children from **Year 1 to Year 6** on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**.

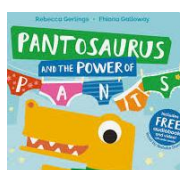


The workshops will be led by **“Perform for Schools”**. They will use movement, discussion, and imaginative role-play to help children understand how smart technology and AI work and – crucially – how their choices, behaviours, and responsibilities matter online.

To cover the expenses associated with the workshops, there will be a voluntary fee of only **£5.00 per child**. You can make the payment via **SCOPAY** which has been set up for you. We would appreciate it if you could complete the payment by **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026**.

We look forward to an interesting, interactive, informative day where the children will develop key skills and understanding to support them in everyday life.

**PANTS - NSPCC Information - <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/schools/pants-teaching>**



Over the next week the children in Owls, Nightingales and Robins Classes will learn how to **“TALK PANTS”**. The TALK PANTS campaign supports parents, carers and schools in introducing important messages about personal privacy in an age-appropriate and child-friendly way. Through these resources, children learn to understand which parts of their body are private and how to speak up if they ever feel unsure, unsafe or uncomfortable.

We kindly ask parents and carers to revisit the **“PANTS”** rules at home to reinforce these key messages. Working together ensures that all children develop a clear understanding of personal boundaries and the importance of keeping certain parts of their body private. Thank you for your continued support.

**Simon Mole – The Great Big Bug Show - <https://norden.farm/events/the-great-big-bug-show>**

Poet Simon Mole has visited us at Waltham St Lawrence many times and is a firm favourite with our children. After its premiere at the Natural History Museum, Simon will be performing his new show with musician Gecko at Norden Farm on Saturday 21st February.

The Great Big Bug Show is packed full of poems, raps and songs about all your favourite bugs (and some you haven't heard of yet!). Expect Minibeasts and Massive Beats. In this show, every tune is an earworm - even the ones about woodlice!



**Great Athletes Initiative Launch**



Next week, we will launch our **Great Athletes** fundraising project for 2026. The Great Athletes Initiative collaborates with more than 50 distinguished sports professionals, each of whom brings an inspiring personal story of resilience, determination, and the value of pursuing one's ambitions. The initiative will support our school in raising essential funds for new sporting equipment while also promoting the importance of physical activity among our pupils.

Our selected athlete for this year is **Kelly Murphy**. Ms Murphy is a two-time elite women's national time trial champion (2018 and 2019) and has represented Ireland at both the European and World Championships. At the 2019 European Road Championships, she achieved a 10th-place finish in the Time Trial, becoming the first Irish woman to place within the top ten at any international road event.

Fancy a cycling challenge? Why not try the Wokingham Bikeathon - <https://www.wokinghambikeathon.co.uk/>



## Fabulous PTA Events....

### 🧠🎉 PTA Quiz Night - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 🎉🧠



Join us for a fun and friendly Quiz Night in support of the PTA! Entry is £10 per person, with teams of up to 8. Create your own team and feel free to invite friends, family, or colleagues — everyone's welcome.

👥 We'd love to see parents from every class taking part.

🍷🍷 This is a BYOB and nibbles event — and don't forget to bring cash or coins 💰 for fun games on the night and our raffle 🎟.

🏆 There's a £100 prize for the winning quiz team!

👉 Get involved, get quizzing, and book your place now!

### 🌸 Spring Swap 'n' Shop – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 🌸



Refresh your wardrobe and support the PTA! Join us for a relaxed evening of browsing & buying pre-loved clothes. 🎟 Tickets available to attend.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=111638>

👕 Donations needed: clean, pressed, good-quality items on hangers — please bring to school by 23rd April.

Sensibly priced items, great finds, and a fun, sustainable way to shop! ✨

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=111623>

This Half Term eat chocolate to help others and raise money for your PTA!

# SMARTIES CHALLENGE

- Eat (or share!) your smarties
- Complete chores or challenges and ask your family/friends to donate silver or gold coins into your tube in return
- Return your tube with your name/class on the label to school in the week after half term.
- The class who raises the most will win a prize!



**Many thanks to the wonderful working party of volunteers who started to plan for our Power up Weekend.**

**A HUGE THANK YOU**

- Liv & Matt Perry
- Dan & Tash Ellery
- Vicky Lomas
- Marie-Françoise Martin
- Olivia Bowley
- Robert Kovacs
- Tom Clyde
- Ian Lambert



Please come along and help in any way you can for a short time or all day!

# POWER UP WEEKEND

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>  
and  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>  
March**



Join us for a hands-on weekend to help spruce up the school and create an even better environment for our children

## **YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!**

We would love some volunteers to help with painting, building, DIY, tidying, or donating materials. Even just an hour of your time will make a huge difference!

Please contact [wsl.pta@gmail.com](mailto:wsl.pta@gmail.com) if you can help

**Thank you**





Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr David Errington (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Katie White (Inclusion Coordinator) / Mrs Giovanna Brancato (KS1 Team Leader) / Mrs Jo Waite (KS2 Team Leader)

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Fiona Edwards (Parent Governor)

Contact the Governing Board: [clerk@wslprimary.org](mailto:clerk@wslprimary.org)

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

## Dates for Your Diary

### The Academic Year 2025-2026

#### Term 3 (30 days)

##### February

|                            |                                        |               |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>     | CHINESE NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES WEEK       |               |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>     | KS1 Assembly - "Great Athletes" launch | 13.10 – 13.30 |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>     | KS2 Assembly - "Great Athletes" launch | 14.40 – 15.00 |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> | DANCE FESTIVAL - Red Kites Class       | All Day       |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>  | Internet Safety Day Activities         | All Day       |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>    | Owls Cake Sale                         | 15.10         |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>    | PTA Half-Term "Smarties" Fundraiser    |               |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>    | End of Pupil Term                      | 15.10         |

**February Holiday: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

#### Term 4 (25 days)

##### February

|                           |                                                           |                |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | Start of Pupil Term                                       |                |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> | Big 60 PE festival at Braywick leisure Centre (Y1 and Y2) | 11.00 -- 14.30 |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> | Rotary Writing Competition Evening                        | 18.00          |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>   | Robins Cake Sale                                          | 15.10          |

##### March

|                                          |                                        |                |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>                  | Bags2School Day                        |                |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>                | Great Athletes Activity in Hall        | 13.00 -- 15.00 |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>                | Nightingales Phonics Workshop (Year 1) | 14.30 – 15.00  |
| Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> | WSL POWER UP WEEKEND                   | All Day        |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK                   |                |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | Fire Safety Talk (Year 5)              | 10.30 – 11.30  |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>               | Nightingales Class Assembly            | 14.30 -- 15.05 |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>                  | PTA Quiz Night                         | 19.00—22.00    |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>               | Red Kites Class Assembly               | 14.30 -- 15.05 |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>                  | Kestrels Class Fundraiser              | 15.10          |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>                  | Parents Evening – KS2                  | 15.30 -- 17.30 |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>                 | Parents Evening – All Classes          | 17.00 – 19.00  |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>               | Owls Class Assembly                    | 14.30 -- 15.05 |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>               | Parents Evening – All Classes          | 15.30 -- 17.30 |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>                | Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Hat Parade  | 14.50          |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>                  | End of Term                            | 13.00          |

**Spring Holiday: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**(Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026, Easter Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026)**

#### Term 5(29 days)

##### April

|                           |                     |             |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Start of Pupil Term |             |
| Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> | PTA Swap N Shop     | 19.30—21.00 |

##### May

|                         |                      |       |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>  | May Day Bank Holiday |       |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> | End of Pupil Term    | 15.10 |

**May Holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

#### Term 6 (38 days)

##### June

|                            |                     |             |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>     | Staff Inset Day     |             |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>    | Start of Pupil Term |             |
| Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>  | Village Fete        | 13.00—17.30 |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> | End of Pupil Term   | 13.00       |

**Summer Holiday: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2026 – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026**

**Dates /times added/changed will be highlighted**

**Please do not book family holidays during term time. Dates are on the school website [www.wslprimary.org](http://www.wslprimary.org)**