



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 22

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,



As we reach the end of the first week of **Term 4**, it is wonderful to see that **spring** has finally decided to make an appearance. The bulbs planted by the children during the PTA Plantout before Christmas have now pushed through the soil and burst into **glorious colour**. Overnight, the school grounds have transformed from “grey February” to “garden-centre-showroom,” and it has lifted everyone’s spirits. There’s something magical about seeing the children proudly point out a flower and confidently claim, “*Yes, I planted that one,*” even if five others say the same thing about the same daffodil!

Inside the classrooms, things have been equally as cheerful. The children have returned from the half-term break with enthusiasm, energy and an appetite to work hard. A particular highlight of the week was the **Big60 Sports Festival** at Braywick Leisure Centre. The children in **Year 1** and **Year 2** took part in a full programme of energetic and engaging activities, including **cycling, archery, volleyball** and skills-based challenges. All children approached every opportunity with exemplary **enthusiasm, confidence** and **determination**. Throughout the afternoon, they demonstrated impressive coordination, strong teamwork and, most importantly, a wonderfully positive attitude that placed enjoyment, participation and personal growth at the heart of their efforts. Their conduct was a credit to both the school and their families. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to **Miss Bennett, Mrs Brancato, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Newell** and **Mrs Sinibaldi** for their dedication and support in accompanying the children and ensuring the day ran smoothly. **I would also like to thank all parents and families for their support.**



This week also marked the grand finale of the PTA half-term **Smarties** fundraiser — and what an incredible achievement it was. Together, you raised a staggering **£1121.85**. **Red Kites** deserve a special round of applause for collecting the most, earning themselves a Friday non-uniform day. I continue to be amazed by the generosity of our families. Every penny collected goes directly towards enriching the children’s experiences, and **I truly cannot thank you enough**. Our brilliant PTA also deserve a medal for everything they do to support the school so tirelessly.

We are all looking forward to another busy week ahead,

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. D. Errington
Headteacher



Big 60 Festival





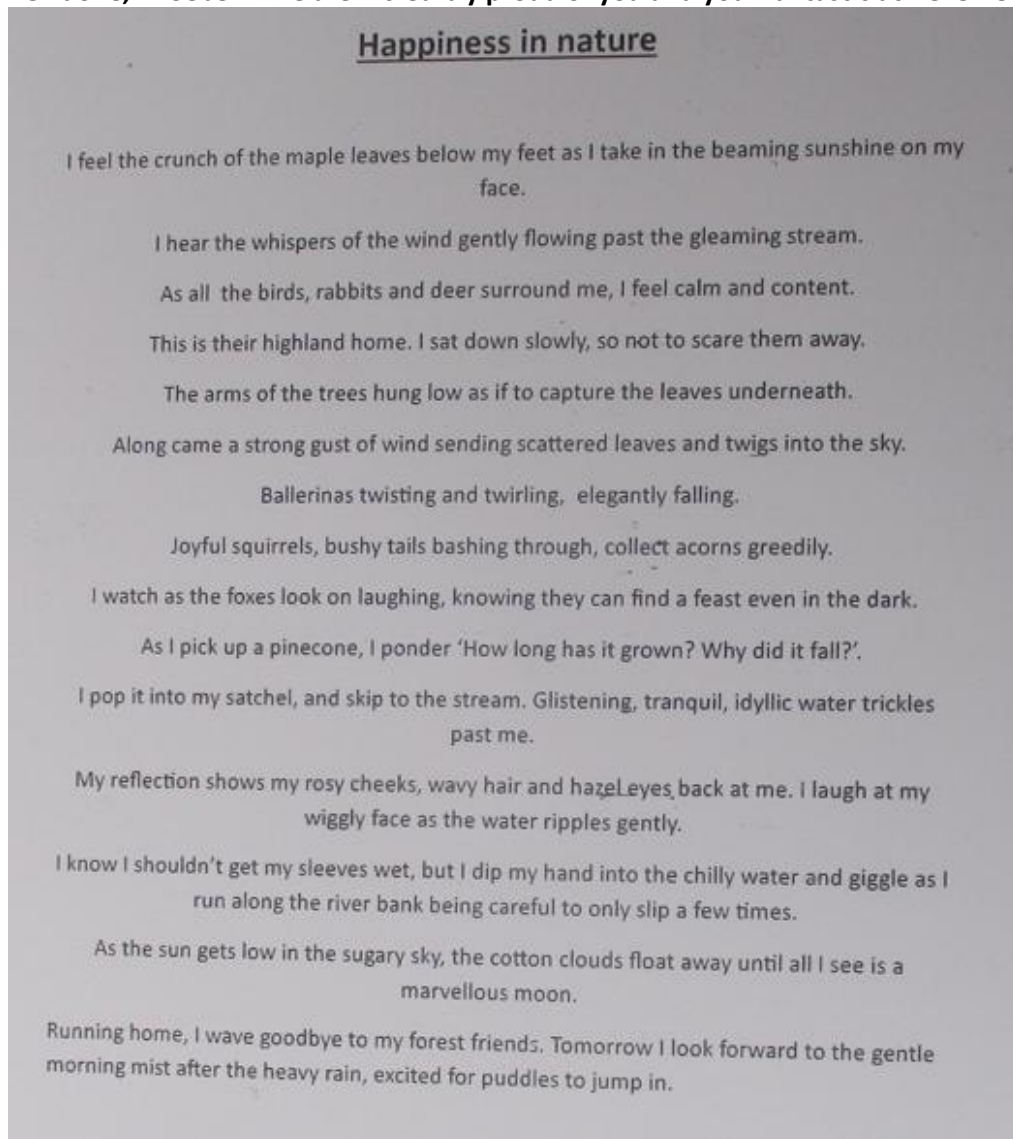
RBWM Rotary Writing Competition Success

On Thursday, **Phoebe** from **Kestrels Class** proudly represented Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School at the annual Rotary Writing Competition prize-giving evening. Held at All Saints Junior School in Maidenhead, the event brought together talented young writers from across the area. Phoebe read her piece with confidence and enthusiasm, clearly impressing both the judges and the audience. Her work, written on the theme of **"Happiness in Nature,"** earned her a £20 book voucher, and I am delighted to be able to share that she achieved second place in the grand final.



All finalists read their entries to an audience of parents, teachers and headteachers, with the Mayor and the Head of the Maidenhead Rotary Club also in attendance. In addition to Phoebe's personal award, our school received a £30 prize.

Well done, Phoebe — we are incredibly proud of you and your fantastic achievement



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	Jack L	Gracie M
Nightingales	Kai S	Octavia A
Robins	Lily S	Emilie W
Skylarks	Finley A	Ava M
Red Kites	Keira T	Jenson G
Kestrels	Kamran S	Zamin M

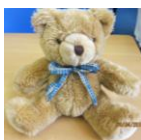
House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	339	2335
Galileo (Green)	235	1601
Redgrave (Red)	215	1291
Yeats (Yellow)	316	2110

The Winning House for this week is. Well done.

Attendance for the Week

Owls – 94.9% Skylarks – 91.3 %
Nightingales – 98.3% Red Kites – 98.6%
Robins – 99.4% Kestrels – 94.6%
Whole School – 96.0%



How much learning time do you miss when you are off?

Half day absent = 3 hours of learning missed.
1 day absent = 5 hours of learning missed.
3 days absent = 15 hours of learning missed.
5 days absent = 25 hours of learning missed.
10 days absent = 50 hours of learning missed.

Please help us to help your children
Every minute 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 11th March – Nightingales Class
Wednesday 18th March – Red Kites Class
Wednesday 25th March – Owls Class



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.

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 Thank you for your support.

Thank You

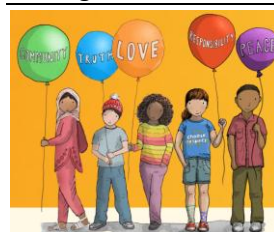
A huge thank you to everyone who has donated books, tents and items requested over the past few weeks – Your generosity will make a huge difference. In particular, a **“Thank-You”** to **Mrs Roylance** for the colossal lego donation. Many children will share many smiles thanks to your care and support for the school.

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 Tuesday 3rd March 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.

The Big Think



This term, the focus of The Big Think is **Responsibility** and we will be working on the related values of ‘Time Well Spent, **Courage, Teamwork, and Hard Work.**

This week we have focused on Time Well Spent and shared

stories about how children can make good use of their time with their families.

Next week we are working on **Courage** and the children will discuss “Can you ask for help when you really need it?” Perhaps you could discuss with your children what helps they they feel unhappy about something and how they can find the courage to seek help from others.

Break Time Snacks

We are a healthy School and have a simple rule for break time snacks – **fresh fruit or vegetables ONLY**. Children in EYFS and KS1 (Year 1/2) do not need to bring a snack as they are provided with fruit or vegetables each day. All children in KS2 can bring their own healthy snacks.

Correct School Shoes and Labels

Please could you ensure that your son/daughter wears the correct school shoes to school that meet the uniform policy – **NOT trainers.**

Please make sure **every item of clothing is clearly labelled with your child’s name and class.** We have a significant amount of lost property, none of which is named, which makes it very difficult for us to find out who it belongs to. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Primary Dance Festival DVD / USB ORDER Link

Primary Dance Festival DVD or USB stick are available to buy on line. It costs **£12.00 for DVD**, or **£16.00 for USB stick** and **orders received before 16th MARCH will receive FREE DELIVERY** as these will be delivered to our school to distribute in one go. **Orders received after this time will be charged £2.50 postal and admin fee. Here is the link <https://www.picoproductions.co.uk/> - scroll to bottom of page and you will see the link for either day.**

World Book Day 2026 – Get Cozy with a Book

Celebrating **World Book Day** is one of the highlights of the School Year at WSL. To mark the **World Book Day on Thursday 5th March** this year, we will have a Non-Uniform Day when children are invited to come to school in (warm) pyjamas and a dressing gown or a onesie. (No teddies or pillows please!) We would also love the children to bring a book that they enjoy reading to themselves or with an adult at bedtime.

The Maidenhead Big Read Event will take place throughout March in and around Maidenhead.

We are pleased to be able to announce that we will be welcoming **Sue Palmer and James Carter** into school to work with the children as part of this year's festival.

Great Athletes 2026



We are very excited to be welcoming Olympic cyclist **Kelly Murphy** to the school on **Wednesday 4th March**

Kelly will be leading a sponsored fitness circuit with all pupils, followed by a motivational assembly, and Q&A session.

The aim of the event is to inspire the pupils to be more physically active, but just as importantly, encourage them to discover and pursue their passion in life.

Your child will have brought home a sponsorship form to help raise money for the event.

You can also sponsor your child by visiting: www.greatathletes.org and clicking on the button "Set up a Fundraiser Page".

As a thank you, pupils will receive the following thank-you gifts for meeting these milestones:

- **Raise any money: an A5 sheet of motivational stickers**
- **Raise £10 or more: a blue Great Athletes wristband**
- **Raise £25 or more: a blue wristband, and a red wristband with Kelly's signature**
- **Raise £50 or more: all of the above, plus a signed Kelly Murphy poster**

Please ensure that the sponsorship form and money are returned to the school office one week after the event (Wednesday 11th March) has taken place unless you have used the QR code to setup an online fundraising page.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

PTA – POWER UP WEEKEND – 7th / 8th March

Power-up weekend is approaching quickly and with only 8 days to go we are looking to secure your support.

Thanks to our wonderful PTA team, we have many plans and have already sourced lots of the materials.

What we need now is PEOPLE POWER!

Please help us to make the School environment special for all children by popping on Saturday 7th or Sunday 8th March and lending a hand for an hour or two.

DONATIONS

If you have any of the following items they would also be extremely useful.

- **Plastic storage boxes**
- **Large external storage containers**
- **Roofing felt**
- **External garden screens (bamboo / wicker)**
- **Outdoor paints / Fence paints (Cuprinol etc)**

We are looking forward to a hugely successful weekend.

Thank You from the PTA

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Tim Lavers for his generous donation to our school through **Benevity**. Contributions like this make a meaningful difference to our students and help us continue to provide enriching opportunities and resources across the school.

Many companies offer workplace giving or donation-matching programs through platforms such as Benevity. We encourage parents and carers to check with their employers to see if they participate in a similar scheme. It's a simple way to further support our school community, and in some cases, donations may even be matched by the employer.

In addition, some employers provide paid volunteer leave days in lieu of volunteering. If your workplace offers this benefit and you're able to take the time, we would love your support at our upcoming Power Up Weekend. Extra helping hands make a big difference, and it's a wonderful way to contribute to our school community.

PTA Quiz Night - Friday 13th 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 30th April

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

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

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



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

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

March

Tuesday 3 rd	Bags2School Day	08.30—10.00
Tuesday 3 rd	Sue Palmer – Maidenhead Big Read – KS2	13.00—14.30
Wednesday 4 th	Great Athletes Activity (Kelly Murphy)	13.00 -- 15.00
Wednesday 4 th	Nightingales Phonics Workshop (Year 1)	14.30 – 15.00
Thursday 5 th	World Book Day – Get Cozy with a Book	All Day
Sat 7th/Sun 8th	WSL POWER UP WEEKEND	All Day
Monday 9 th	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK	All Week
Monday 9 th	Fire Safety Talk (Year 5)	10.30 – 11.30
Tuesday 10 th	Year 5 Maths Competition (Team of 4)	
Wednesday 11 th	Nightingales Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Thursday 12 th	James Carter – Maidenhead Big Read – KS1	09.30—10.50
Friday 13 th	PTA Quiz Night	19.00—22.00
w/c Monday 16 th	Last Week for Teacher Led Clubs	15.10—16.10
Wednesday 18 th	Red Kites Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Friday 20 th	Kestrels Class Fundraiser	15.10
Monday 23 rd	Parents Evening – KS2	15.30 -- 17.30
Tuesday 24 th	Parents Evening – All Classes	17.00 – 19.00
Wednesday 25 th	Owls Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Wednesday 25 th	Parents Evening – All Classes	15.30 -- 17.30
Thursday 26 th	Easter Egg Hunt and PTA Easter Hat Parade	14.50—15.10
Friday 27 th	End of Term	13.00

Spring Holiday: Monday 30th March 2026 to Friday 10th April 2026
(Good Friday 3rd April 2026, Easter Monday 6th April 2026)

Term 5(29 days)

April	Monday 13 th	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
	w/c Monday 13 th	All teacher Led Clubs start this week	15.10--16.10
	Friday 17 th	Joshua Reynolds (MP) Assembly	10.30—10.50
	Friday 24 th	Road Safety – Skylarks	13.15-- 14.05
	Thursday 30 th	PTA Swap N Shop	19.30—21.00
May	Monday 4 th	May Day Bank Holiday	All Day
	Thursday 7 th	Road Safety – Red Kites	13.15—14.05
	Mon 11 th -Thur 14 th	KS2 SATs Week	09.00—11.00
	Wednesday 20 th	No Pens Day	All Day
	Thursday 21 st	Young Apprentice Competition	13.00—15.00
	Friday 22 nd	Red Kites Fundraiser	15.10
	Friday 22 nd	End of Pupil Term	15.10

May Holiday: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026

Term 6 (38 days)

June	Monday 1st	Staff Inset Day	All Day
	Tuesday 2 nd	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
	Tuesday 2 nd - Friday 12 th	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	
	Wednesday 3 rd	KS2 Class Organisation Information Meeting for Parents	14.15—15.00
	Thursday 4 th	It's Your Move – Year 6 Transition Talk	13.00—14.00
	Thursday 4 th	Mathemagenius – Year 4 Competition (Team of 3)	16.15—18.00
	Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	
	Tuesday 9 th	Year 2 Trip to Waltham Place	All Day
	Friday 12 th	Year 4 Bikeability – Level 1	All Day
	Saturday 13 th	Village Fete	13.00—17.30
	Monday 15 th	Book Fair Arrives	
	Tuesday 16 th	Road Safety – Kestrels	13.15—14.05
	Tuesday 16 th	Mighty Maths Year 2 Competition (Team of 3)	16.15—18.00
	Thursday 18 th	Year 1 Trip to Waltham Place	All Day
	Monday 22 nd	Book Fair Leaves	
	Friday 26 th	Sports Day	13.00--15.10
	Tuesday 30 th	Reserve Sports Day	13.00 –15.10
July	Saturday 4 th	Party in the Parish	
	Mon 6 th	End of the Year Production Dress Rehearsal	13.30—14.45
	Tues 7 th	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	13.30—14.45
	Wed 8 th	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	18.00—19.15
	Thurs 9 th	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	18.00—19.15
	Friday 10 th	Pupil Reports Home	15.10
	Friday 10 th	PTA CAMPOUT ON SCHOOL FIELD	
	Monday 13 th	Transition to New Classes for 2026-2027	
	Friday 17 th	Whole School Trip to Windsor Castle	All Day
	Monday 20 th	Year 6 Graduation Ceremony in School Hall	09.30—10.30
	Wednesday 22 nd	End of Pupil Term	13.00

Summer Holiday: Thursday 23rd July 2026 – Monday 31st August 2026

The Academic Year 2026-2027

Term 1 (39 days)

September	Tuesday 1st	Staff Inset Day	All Day
	Wednesday 2 nd	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
October	Fri 23 rd	End of Pupil Term	15.10

October Holiday: Monday 26th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026

Please do not book family holidays during term time. Dates are on the school website www.wslprimary.org