



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

School Road, West End, Berkshire RG10 0NU | Telephone: 0118 9343248 | Email: office@wslprimary.org | www.wslprimary.com

Weekly Newsletter Number 33

Friday 12th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a thoroughly exciting and rewarding week it has been at school. From scientific exploration to outdoor adventure, and even a little theatrical preparation, the children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and determination. It has certainly been one of those weeks where the phrase "there is never a dull moment" feels particularly apt.

We began on Monday with an exceptionally busy afternoon. Our Year 5 pupils travelled to Holyport College to take part in a Science Outreach Activity afternoon. They immersed themselves in a variety of practical experiments, peering down microscopes, testing materials, and making excellent use of specialist Secondary School equipment. It was a joy to hear how confidently they used such advanced resources. There are definitely some future scientists in the making. My thanks to Miss Hill, Mrs Patterson and Mrs Smyly for organising such a memorable experience.

Meanwhile, back in school, Owls, Nightingales and Robins classes were enjoying energetic sessions with our new P.E. coach, Max Coppock. The focus was on coordination and precision, with the children developing their skills in a way that was both purposeful and highly enjoyable. I know all three classes are looking forward to their Monday P.E. sessions for the rest of the term!



On Tuesday, it was the turn of Year 2 Robins to venture beyond the classroom. Their trip to Waltham Place proved to be a wonderful day of outdoor learning. Despite a few attempts by the weather to interrupt proceedings, spirits remained high and the children made the most of every opportunity to explore and engage with the natural environment. Their excellent manners and thoughtful behaviour were noted throughout. Many thanks to Mrs Brancato, Miss Mackey and Mrs Taylor for ensuring the children were safe, happy and enthused.

By Wednesday, attention had turned to assessment, as Year 4 completed their Multiplication Tables Check while Year 1 finished their Phonics Screening. These are significant milestones for such young learners, and I am delighted to report that they approached these challenges with maturity and resilience. Taking tests is no small undertaking at any age; doing so with such composure at this stage is truly commendable.

Thursday brought a slightly calmer pace, though by no means a quiet one. Our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been diligently rehearsing for their upcoming production of Matilda. There is already a palpable sense of excitement building alongside significant line learning and solo singing.

Finally, Friday saw our Year 4 pupils take part in Bikeability training. This invaluable programme equips children with essential life skills, including safe riding, balance, and clear signalling. It is always reassuring to know that they are gaining confidence and independence in such practical ways.

As the week draws to a close, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all members of staff. Their dedication, care and professionalism ensure that the children not only receive an excellent education but also enjoy a rich and varied school experience.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend. After a week like this, it is definitely needed for teachers and children alike.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. D. Errington
Headteacher

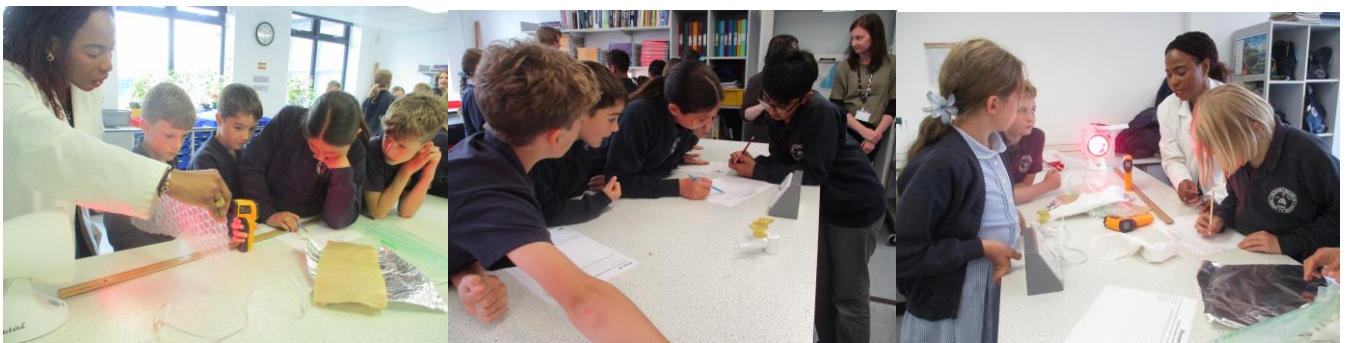
Science Superstars

Year 5 at Holyport

On Thursday, Year 5 attended a Science Outreach day at Holyport College and spent the afternoon getting hands on experience of scientific investigation in a Secondary School setting. In their first experiment, they worked in pairs, using microscopes to view live water fleas (Daphnia) and were taught how to measure their heart rates. They learned that caffeine significantly increases the heart rate of the minute insects by recording and sharing their data.

For their second experiment, Year 5 learned about the principles of thermal insulation and were given a challenge of designing their own thermal cup. In teams, they tested a variety of materials using a heat lamp and a digital thermometer and investigated which ones stopped the most heat from escaping. They then used this knowledge to design their own thermal cups.

The children enjoyed the opportunity to experiment with different pieces of equipment in the Secondary School laboratory, and loved the real-life scientific challenges. Well done to our Year 5 scientists!



Roving Robins

Year 2 at Waltham Place



Brilliant Balanceability

Year 4 got on their bikes (more pictures to follow next week)



Headteachers Award this week....



Tidying our P.E. Shed

Many thanks to our fantastic Year 6 children who made the P.E. shed sparkle



and going above and beyond with their learning throughout this week.

Owls	Dominic W	Ottile R-C
Nightingales	All of Nightingales	
Robins	All of Robins	
Skylarks	Rafe S	Irina K
Red Kites	Riley W	All of Year 5
Kestrels	Dorothy M	Tilly P

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	490	858
Galileo (Green)	393	601
Redgrave (Red)	420	704
Yeats (Yellow)	538	827

The Winning House for this week is **Yeats**

Attendance for the Week

Owls –	97.7%
Nightingales–	92.9%
Robins –	97.7%
Skylarks –	94.0%
Red Kites –	97.1%
Kestrels –	95.8%

Whole School – 95.9%



Habit of the Month

In June, the habit of the month will be:

“To show an appreciation of nature”

• **Be observant** – Look at the wonderful trees, plants, birds and animals all around.

• **Be thoughtful** – Remember, there is only one planet Earth.

• **Be careful** – Treat the natural world with the respect it deserves.

• **Be happy** – Enjoy the sights and sounds of our beautiful village.

This is part of our daily routine. Please continue to support us by having high expectations for your children and help them to form good habits.

Upcoming Events (Next Two Weeks)

Monday 15 th	Book Fair Arrives	
Tuesday 16 th	Road Safety – Kestrels	13.15–14.05
Tuesday 16 th	Mighty Maths Year 2	16.15–18.00

Tuesday 16 th	Bags to School	09.00
Thursday 18 th	Year 1 Trip to Waltham Place	All Day
Monday 22 nd	Book Fair Leaves	
Tuesday 23 rd	Year 6 Activity Day	All Day
Wednesday 24 th	PGL Update Meeting	15.30–16.30
Thursday 25 th	Year 6 Leavers Party	16.30–19.30
Friday 26 th	Sports Day	13.00–15.10

PSHE – The Big Think

During the next two weeks, we will be focusing on **Community** the related value of being a **Caring Citizen**. Children in their class will be discussing the question ‘What small act can you offer to make a difference to another citizen?’

‘Are you an active citizen?’

Ultimately, we want the children to understand that a small act of kindness can make a big difference to another citizen. Together we can change the world, one small, caring act at a time.

Here is a quote ‘No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.’ - Aesop, Greek fabulist and storyteller (620BC – 564AD)

ATTENTION ALL CHILDREN -IMPORTANT REMINDER

Waltham St Lawrence and Shurlock Row Fete

At the Fete on Saturday 13th June and Party in the Parish on Saturday 4th July the voices of The Waltham St. Lawrence Church Choir and Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School children will come together to sing a host of classic hits.

Timings for this Saturday 13th June:

- Arrive at the Fete by 2.30pm
- Take to the Stage: 2.45pm



All you need to do is buy a ticket for the event, come along at the right time and your child is automatically included. Looking forward to seeing you there!

NEW... Amazon Sport Wish List

Please check out our new Amazon Sport Wish List containing lots of wonderful new resources for PE and the Playground.

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

Many thanks for your generosity

PGL Update Monday 19th October–Friday 23rd October

There will be a brief “Kit List” meeting for all Year 4 and Year 5 parents of children who are going



Please note the “final arrangements” PGL meeting with take place in September. This meeting is for those “keen” parents who would like to start getting the “kit” sorted over the summer. Many thanks.

Deposit £88

By 23 rd January 2026	– Payment 1 - £150
By 17 th April 2026	– Payment 2 - £150
By 10 th July 2026	– Payment 3 - £100
Grand Total	£488

If you have any questions regarding PGL or the payment schedule, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Monday 15th to Friday 19th June

We are very excited to inform you that we shall be running the second Scholastic Book Fair from Monday 15th to Friday 19th June **after school every day** in the School Hall or Outside, weather permitting, from 3.10pm to 3.40pm.



If any parents can help, please contact the School Office.

Parent Governor
Vacancy

Following the notification of a Parent Governor vacancy sent home earlier this week, I would like to inform you that Mrs Fi Edwards has made the difficult decision to step down from her role as a Parent Governor. Her resignation will take effect from 1st July.

We are incredibly grateful for the time, dedication, and valuable contributions Fi has made during her tenure. She will be greatly missed by the Governing Board and the school community.

We are now inviting applications for the vacant Parent Governor position. If you are interested in applying, please submit your application by noon on **Monday 22nd June 2026**. In the event of a ballot, notice of election will be given to parents on Wednesday 24th June. Please refer to the letter and job description for governors for more details.

Our **Annual Sports Day** will be taking place on Friday
26th June 2026
from 13.00 to



15.10 on the school field. Children will have their lunch early that day. All parents are welcome to this event and PTA will provide refreshments. Please make sure your children come to school in their PE kits on the day. Thank you. (more details to follow)

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 16th June 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 to store them. Thank you.

The **Summer Reading Challenge** is back at all RBWM Libraries from **Saturday 11 July**. It's a brilliant way to keep children motivated, engaged, and excited about reading during the summer holidays.

This year's theme is **"Read to the Beat"**, and there are plenty of fun activities and **lots of prizes** for everyone who takes part.

www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

DUCK DERBY
RAY MILL ISLAND - MAIDENHEAD
SUNDAY 14TH JUNE | 12PM - 5PM

FREE ADMISSION + DUCK RACE
KAYAKS, CRAFTS, FOOD & DRINK
CHAMP STALLS & CUP WINNER
ENTERTAINMENT

£250

Headphones on the left

The Maidenhead Lions have arranged their annual Duck Derby on Ray Mill Island on the Thames below Boulter's lock on **Sunday 14th June from 12.00**, culminating with the Duck race at 4.30pm.

This popular event starts at 12.00pm with a wide variety of stalls and local organisations.

The Sea Cadets will release the ducks and up to 3000 bright yellow ducks will be seen racing along the Thames at the end of the day. Entry is free but tickets for the duck race will be on sale on the day at £1. Each ticket has your duck number on it. There are cash prizes for the first 3 places, the first prize is £250, second £100 and third £50.

Come along and join in the fun.

Year 6 Fundraiser

Many, many thanks to Mrs. Hassell who has made some wonderful Waltham St. Lawrence hair bands and clips. (Please see below)



The clips are a bargain price of £2 per pair and the bands are only £3 each.



If you would like to buy these very special accessories, they are available from the Second-Hand Uniform Sale on the Playground on a Friday afternoon.

P.T.A. Ball!

The PTA love the idea of organising a **WSL Christmas Ball** and know it could be a fantastic event for our school community. However, for this to go ahead, we would need a dedicated committee to organise and run it. If anyone would like to come forward and take the lead, or be part of the organising team, we'd love to hear from you. Please email us at wsl.pta@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.



Want to run a stall? – The Village Fete

The Village Fete is **Saturday 13th June from 1-5pm**. Each class will be running a stall, please contact your stall organiser if you can spare an hour to run the stall. The stall organisers are as follows:

- Crockery Smash - Lizzie (Owls)
- Raffle - Olivia (Nightingales)
- Nerf zone - Tam/Carl (Robins)
- Wheel of Fortune - Sarah (Skylarks)
- Coconut Shy - Jess (Red Kites)
- Inflatable Obstacle Course - Ginny (Kestrels)

As always, these events rely entirely on the support of our wonderful volunteers, and every hour of help really does make a difference.

Party in the Parish

The PTA will be running a games and crafts stall at this year's **Party in the Parish, Saturday 4th July**

5:30pm, and we're looking for volunteers to help make it a success! We need parents and carers who can spare just one hour to help with setting up, running activities, or helping close down the tent at the end of the evening.

Volunteer slots are available from **4:30pm** (set up), with the event starting at **5:30pm**, and the stall closing down at approximately **9:30pm**. Please email wsl.pta@gmail.com if you are able to help.

Camp Out 2026

Camp out 2026 is quickly approaching and the organising committee are in need of some generous donations to ensure the evening goes as planned. Do you have (or can you source) a free supply of **Hay Bales** for the children and adults to sit on whilst listening to their bedtime stories? We would also love to boost our small supply of **Hard Wood** logs so that we can keep the fire pits burning warmly and brightly late into the night. If you think you can help in any way with either of these things please, please contact the PTA via the email. wsl.pta@gmail.com

Maidenhead Half Marathon

Attention all runners. The P.T.A. have decided to raise much needed funds for the School by taking part in the Maidenhead Half-Marathon on 25th October 2026. If you have already entered to run, please contact the PTA if you would like to be part of the WSL team. If you haven't entered and would like to, places are still available via this link. <https://www.runthrough.co.uk/event/maidenhead-half-marathon-october-2026>

Adults FUN Rounders Competition

Do you remember playing rounders at school? Do you fancy an evening of enjoyable competition? Why not put a team together and sign up for our first ever Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School rounders competition.

When: Friday 26th June

What time: 3.45-6.00pm

Where: School Field

Who: Teams of 10-12 adults (Must be 18+ for insurance purposes)

How do I sign up? Please contact the PTA if you are interested wsl.pta@gmail.com

Cost: £5 Per Adult

I want to play but I am not in a team. **No problem. Just let us know and we will find other similar players and build a team of "all stars".**

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr David Errington (Headteacher)
 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Giovanna Brancato (KS1 Team Leader) / Mrs Jo Waite (KS2 Team Leader)
 Inclusion Coordinator: Miss Chelsea Painter
 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

Term 6 (38 days)

June

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	
Tuesday 23 rd	Year 6 Activity Day	All Day
Wednesday 24 th	PGL Update Meeting	15.30 –16.30
Thursday 25 th	Year 6 Leavers Party	16.30–19.30
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
Wed 8 th	Braywick Berkshire School Games	All Day
Thurs 9 th	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	18.00—19.15
Friday 10 th	Pupil Reports Home	15.10
Monday 13 th	Transition to new classes for 2026-2027	
Thursday 16 th	Transition Morning for new Owls 2026-2027	09.00 – 12.00
Friday 17 th	Whole School Trip to Windsor Castle	All Day
Friday 17 th	PTA CAMPOUT ON SCHOOL FIELD	
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 1 st	Staff Inset Day	All Day
Wednesday 2 nd	Start of Pupil Term	08.30

October

Mon 19 th – Fri 23 rd	Year 5 / Year 6 Residential Trip	
Friday 23 rd	End of Pupil Term	15.10

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

Term 2 (35 days)

November

Monday 2 nd	Staff Inset Day	All Day
Tuesday 3 rd	Start of Pupil Term	08.30

December

Friday 18 th	End of Pupil Term	13.00
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Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January 2027

Term 3 (30 days)

January

Monday 4 th	Staff Inset Day	All Day
Tuesday 5 th	Staff Inset Day	All Day

Wednesday 6 th	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
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February

Friday 12 th	End of Pupil Term	15.10
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February Holiday: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027

Term 4 (24 days)

February

Monday 22 nd	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
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March

Thursday 25 th	End of Pupil Term	01.00
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**Spring Holiday: Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027
 (Good Friday 26th March 2027; Easter Monday 29th March 2027)**

Please do not book family holidays during term time. Dates are on the school website <https://wslprimary.com>

“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”