



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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### Weekly Newsletter Number 36

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been, full of **smiles, cheers** and **success**. I am delighted to begin by reflecting on our annual **Sports Day**, which finally took place on Monday afternoon after a series of weather-related postponements. Having first moved from Friday afternoon to Friday morning and then again to Monday, we were thrilled that the weather was finally kind to us and allowed **Sports Day 2026** to go ahead. The afternoon began in truly memorable fashion as the children, proudly led by their **House Captains**, processed onto the field. They were greeted by enthusiastic cheers and chants from the many parents, carers and family members who had gathered to support them. The excitement was palpable as the children took their places beneath the gazebos, enjoying some shade while sitting in their house teams.

As **Miss Bennett** made her way to the starting line, a sense of anticipation swept across the field. The competition opened with the demanding **300-metre distance race** for Kestrels Class. Pupils demonstrated impressive pacing, determination and perseverance as they tackled the course, with several races producing remarkably close finishes. Red Kites and Skylarks soon followed, and it was inspiring to see the resilience of every child as they pushed themselves right to (and through) the line.

Following the distance races, all six classes took part in the ever-popular **beanbag-in-bucket** challenge. It was fascinating to watch the variety of tactics on display, with some children choosing to collect the furthest beanbags first while others adopted different strategies. Throughout the afternoon, the atmosphere remained positive and encouraging, with children supporting one another and celebrating each other's achievements. As temperatures continued to rise, the PTA kindly provided refreshments for spectators, helping to keep everyone cool and comfortable. I am extremely grateful for their support and contribution to the success of the afternoon.

The competition then moved on to the **100-metre sprint races**. These events showcased not only speed but also determination, with every child giving their very best effort. Next came the **novelty races**, which always bring a great deal of laughter and enjoyment. Equipped with high-visibility jackets, beanbags balanced on heads, hula hoops and a variety of other items sourced from the PE cupboard, pupils embraced the challenges with enthusiasm and good humour. The afternoon concluded with the world-famous **eight-person relay race**. As always, this event was fiercely contested, with competitors giving everything for their house teams while the crowd cheered them on. The excitement reached its peak as everyone gathered around the scoring table to discover the final results.

Before announcing the overall winners, I was able to present our newly introduced **Sports Day Values Trophy**. This special award recognises a child who demonstrated the values of Waltham St Lawrence Primary School throughout the afternoon. I was delighted to congratulate **Csenge**, this year's deserving recipient, whose attitude, effort and sportsmanship exemplified everything we value as a school community. Finally, it was time to reveal the overall champions. Congratulations to **Yeats House**, who emerged victorious after an outstanding performance across all events.

My sincere thanks go to everyone who made the afternoon such a success: **our supportive families, our fantastic PTA, all members of staff**, and especially **Miss Bennett** for her organisation and leadership. Most importantly, thank you to the **children**, whose enthusiasm, determination and joy created an afternoon full of happiness and achievement.

I hope you have a peaceful, relaxing weekend.

Mr. D. Errington

Headteacher



# Sports Day





## Chicks in Owls Class

A big thank you to **William's mum** in Owls class who bought 10 chick eggs with an incubator and brooder box. Owls class (as well as classes from across the school) have created such wonderful memories, seeing the chicks and in some cases holding/stroking them. Owls class were lucky to see the eggs pipping and chicks hatching!

This week, Owls class have also been busy making '**Do not litter**' posters as well as learning the importance of recycling.



## 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>         | Celeste C    | Dominic W   |
| <b>Nightingales</b> | Yasmin V-D-M | Olivia J    |
| <b>Robins</b>       | Betsy M-P    | Reggie D    |
| <b>Skylarks</b>     | Eduardo H    | Ava-Grace A |
| <b>Red Kites</b>    | William D    | Bailey H    |
| <b>Kestrels</b>     | Ayrton A     | Toby H      |

## House Points

|                        | Weekly Total | Rolling Total |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Brunel (Blue)</b>   | 332          | 1949          |
| <b>Galileo (Green)</b> | 207          | 1498          |
| <b>Redgrave (Red)</b>  | 233          | 1546          |
| <b>Yeats (Yellow)</b>  | 505          | 2189          |

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

## Attendance for the Week

**Owls – 98.9%**

**Nightingales – 93.5%**

**Robins – 98.3%**

**Skylarks – 91.5%**

**Red Kites – 93.3%**

**Kestrels – 95.8%**

**Whole School – 95.1%**



## Habit of the Month

In July, the habit of the month will be:

**“To Embrace Change”**

- **Be open-minded** – Try new ideas and experiences with a positive attitude.
- **Be adaptable** – Understand that change is a normal part of learning and growing.
- **Be confident** – Believe in yourself when facing something new or different.
- **Be positive** – Look for the opportunities that change can bring.

Please continue to support us by having high expectations for your children and help them to form good habits.

## PSHE – The Big Think

Next week, we will continue with the core value of **Kindness to Others**. Children will consider the question ‘Can you show kindness to others even when you feel worried?’ Here is a quote *‘Try to be a rainbow in someone else’s cloud.’* Perhaps you could spend some time exploring the meaning.

## 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](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=wl_share)

## Upcoming Events (Next Two Weeks)

|                                             |                             |               |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Saturday 4th                                | Party in the Parish         | 17.30—21.30   |
| Mon 6th                                     | KS2 Matilda Dress Rehearsal | 13.30—14.45   |
| Tues 7th                                    | KS2 Matilda - Parents       | 13.30—14.45   |
| Wed 8th                                     | KS2 Matilda - Parents       | 18.00—19.15   |
| Wed 8th                                     | Berkshire School Games      | All Day       |
| Thurs 9th                                   | KS2 Matilda - Parents       | 18.00—19.15   |
| Fri 10th                                    | Pupil Reports Home          | 15.10         |
| Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> /Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> | Transition 2026-2027        |               |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>                   | Transition Owls 2026-2027   | 09.00 – 12.00 |
| Friday 17th                                 | Trip to Windsor Castle      | All Day       |
| Friday 17th                                 | PTA CAMPOUT ON SCHOOL FIELD |               |

## Parent Governor Election Update

I am delighted to announce that **Mrs Irwin** will be joining the WSL Governing Board as **Parent Governor** from September 2026. Mrs Irwin has a background in finance and has also worked to improve services for children with special educational needs and disabilities. I look forward to working with Mrs Irwin and would like to formally welcome her to the Governing Board. **Congratulations, Mrs Irwin.**

## IMPORTANT REMINDER - Party in the Parish

At 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. All you need to do is buy a ticket for the event, come along at **5.30pm** and your child will be automatically included.



The PTA will also be running a games and crafts stall.

**We still need parents and carers who can spare just one hour to help with setting up, running activities, or closing 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](mailto:wsl.pta@gmail.com) if you are able to help.

## Contact Details Update

If you have changed your home address, email address or phone numbers recently, please make sure that you inform the School Office ASAP, so we can make any changes we need to ensure the data we collect is accurate and up to date.

### Transition Arrangements – Mon13th/Tues 14<sup>th</sup> July

All children will receive their Statutory End of Year Reports and End of Year Assessments on **Friday 10th July** as usual. However, in a change to our usual procedures, the envelope **will not** include information about their class allocation for the next academic year.

On the afternoon of **Monday 13th July**, all children will attend a short assembly focused on Growth Mindset and the positive opportunities that come with meeting new teachers and classmates. Following this, they will return briefly to their current classrooms, where teachers will share the new class lists for 2026–2027. Children will then move directly to their new classrooms and spend time getting to know their new **Class Teacher, Teaching Assistants, and Classmates** through a range of fun, planned activities. At the end of the day, they will return to their 2025-2026 classes and take home a letter outlining the new class structure, including staffing.

On **Tuesday 14th July**, all children will spend the full day with their new class, continuing to build relationships and becoming familiar with expectations for September 2026.

We recognise that change can be challenging for some children, and staff will be particularly mindful of this, offering additional support where needed to ensure all pupils feel secure, supported and ready for the next stage of their learning.

Thank you, as ever, for your ongoing support and understanding.

*(Please see attached letter for additional information)*

### Whole School Trip to Windsor Castle – Reminder

On **Friday 17th July** we will be embarking on the end of year whole school trip to **Windsor Castle**.

This will be a very worthwhile trip for the children as it will not only consolidate and extend their learning related to their topic work at school, but also give them the opportunity to interact with peers from different year groups, enjoying collaborative learning as a whole school. **To cover all the costs, we would ask for a contribution of £15.00 per child.** This includes entrance fee, coach transport and insurance. Please note that whilst this is a voluntary contribution, if there are insufficient contributions, then sadly the trip may have to be cancelled. You can pay via SCOPAY which has been set up for you.

**We would appreciate it if the payment of £15.00 per child can be made by Friday 3rd July 2026**



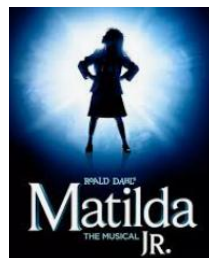
### KS2 Production – Matilda – Final Arrangements

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> / Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

***It Is Expected That ALL KS2 CHILDREN will be present for ALL THREE performances***

This fabulous production Matilda will be staged on the following dates and times, tickets are required for all performances.

|                                                     |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Tuesday 7th July                                    | 1.30pm– 2.45pm |
| Wednesday 8th July                                  | 6.00pm--7.15pm |
| <b>(KS2 Children to return to School at 5.30pm)</b> |                |
| Thursday 9th July                                   | 6.00pm-7.15pm  |
| <b>(KS2 Children to return to School at 5.30pm)</b> |                |



Payment of £5.00 per ticket can be made via SCOPAY. We would appreciate it if the payment can be made by **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026**. Once payment is received, it will serve as the register for entrance to each performance, and attendance will be recorded

accordingly. No physical tickets will be issued.

Please note: Each child in Years 3, 4, and 5 is allocated **two tickets across the three performances**. Children in Year 6 are allocated **three tickets per child**, as this will be their final performance at the school.

Due to limited space in the School Hall, a maximum of **80 seats** will be available per performance. To ensure fairness, ticket purchases will be monitored, and parents will not be able to book more than the allocated number of tickets (2 or 3, depending on the year group).

*All proceeds will go towards covering the costs of the production, including the performance licence, photocopying, props and costumes and drama related activities.*

### After School Clubs – Last Sessions

#### Monday

Athletics Club – Monday 13th July

Performance Club – Monday 6th July

#### Tuesday

Sewing Club – Tuesday 14th July

Cricket Club – Tuesday 7th July

#### Wednesday

Dance Club – Wednesday 15th July

#### Thursday

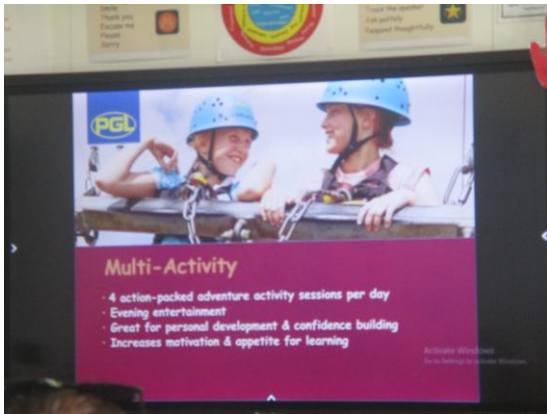
Chinese Club – Finished

Athletics Club – Thursday 16th July

*If you require child care after school, please use our Woodpeckers Club. Please book a slot in advance using SCOPAY. Thank you.*

## PGL Update Meeting

Monday 19th October–Friday 23rd October



Thank you so much to Miss Hill for running a very informative Kit List meeting on Wednesday afternoon.

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

**Please check the payment schedule below.**

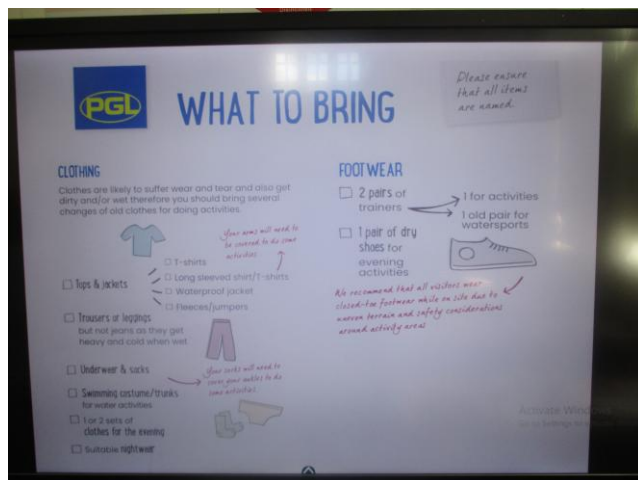
Deposit £88

By 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026 – Payment 1 - £150

By 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – Payment 2 - £150

By 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – Payment 3 - £100

Grand Total £488



## Summer Reading Challenge

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](http://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk).

## PTA England Football Event

Thank you to all families who came to School on a warm Wednesday evening to support England in their exciting World Cup match against **DR Congo**. For a long time, the result looked like it was going to spoil the fun, but just as hope was beginning to fade **Captain Kane** saved the day. I'm pleased to say that a very impressive **£117.50** was raised.



## PTA Camp Out 2026

Class of 2026 Campout will be held on Friday 17th July 2026 from 5.00pm. Please join us to celebrate another wonderful year at WSL, say farewell to our beloved Kestrels class as they head onto their next adventure, and give a warm welcome to some of our new Owls families. Evening and camping tickets are available at [www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta)

## Donations

**Hard Wood logs** – Almost Sorted – We could do with a few more if anyone has a free supply.

**Food containers** - If you have any catering contacts, these would be great.

**People Power** – If you are free to lend a hand, we would love to hear from you. [wsl.pta@gmail.com](mailto:wsl.pta@gmail.com)

## Attachment Aware School Award



I am delighted to be able to announce that on Thursday 2nd July Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School was officially recognised as an **Attachment Aware School**. This year-

long initiative has included all staff and involved training on Zones of Regulation, Emotion Coaching and Trauma. As a result, we have improved our lunchtime provision, supported children with regulation strategies and re-written our Behaviour and Relationships Policy. Many thank to all staff for their ongoing commitment to ensuring that all Children at WSL feel supported, happy and safe.

**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**

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](mailto:clerk@wslprimary.org)

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

### Term 6 (38 days)

|             |                            |                                             |               |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>July</b> | Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>   | Party in the Parish                         |               |
|             | Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>        | End of the Year Production Dress Rehearsal  | 13.30—14.45   |
|             | Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>       | End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents | 13.30—14.45   |
|             | Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>        | End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents | 18.00—19.15   |
|             | Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>        | Braywick Berkshire School Games             | All Day       |
|             | Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>      | End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents | 18.00—19.15   |
|             | Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>    | Pupil Reports Home                          | 15.10         |
|             | Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>    | Transition to new classes for 2026-2027     |               |
|             | Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Transition Morning for new Owls 2026-2027   | 09.00 – 12.00 |
|             | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>    | Whole School Trip to Windsor Castle         | All Day       |
|             | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>    | PTA CAMPOUT ON SCHOOL FIELD                 |               |
|             | Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>    | Year 6 Graduation Ceremony in School Hall   | 09.30—10.30   |
|             | 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**

### The Academic Year 2026-2027

### Term 1 (39 days)

|                  |                                             |                                  |                |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>September</b> | <b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>               | <b>Staff Inset Day</b>           | <b>All Day</b> |
|                  | Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>                   | Start of Pupil Term              | 08.30          |
| <b>October</b>   | Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Year 5 / Year 6 Residential Trip |                |
|                  | Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>                     | End of Pupil Term                | 15.10          |

**October Holiday: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2026 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

### Term 2 (35 days)

|                 |                              |                        |                |
|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>November</b> | <b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>Staff Inset Day</b> | <b>All Day</b> |
|                 | Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>      | Start of Pupil Term    | 08.30          |
| <b>December</b> | Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>      | End of Pupil Term      | 13.00          |

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2027**

### Term 3 (30 days)

|                 |                               |                        |                |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>January</b>  | <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Staff Inset Day</b> | <b>All Day</b> |
|                 | <b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Staff Inset Day</b> | <b>All Day</b> |
|                 | Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>     | Start of Pupil Term    | 08.30          |
| <b>February</b> | Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>       | End of Pupil Term      | 15.10          |

**February Holiday: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2027**

### Term 4 (24 days)

|                 |                           |                     |       |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| <b>February</b> | Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>   | Start of Pupil Term | 08.30 |
| <b>March</b>    | Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> | End of Pupil Term   | 13.00 |

**Spring Holiday: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2027**

**(Good Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2027; Easter Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2027)**

### Term 5 (34 days)

|              |                         |                      |         |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------|
| <b>April</b> | Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> | Start of Pupil Term  | 08.30   |
| <b>May</b>   | Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | May Day Bank Holiday | All Day |
|              | Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> | End of Pupil Term    | 15.10   |

**May Holiday: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2027**

### Term 6 (33 days)

|             |                              |                        |                |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>June</b> | <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Staff Inset Day</b> | <b>All Day</b> |
|             | Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>      | Start of Pupil Term    | 08.30          |
| <b>July</b> | Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>   | End of Pupil Term      | 13.00          |

**Summer Holiday: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2027**

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

**“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”**