



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 32

Friday 6th June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a fabulous break. It is with great pleasure that we welcome you back to the final term of this academic year and what an exciting term we have in store for everyone! It was delightful to see the children back on Tuesday, refreshed and full of energy. The children have all settled back well into Term 6.

The final Term 6 of this academic year promises to be just as busy and eventful - We are excited to be able to host many of the traditional end-of-year events. There will be Transition Week, when we welcome new Reception children and their parents for visits and children meet their new Class Teachers, and Whole School Trips, Sports Day, Year 6 Graduation Ceremony, Leavers' Party and Award Ceremony etc. We are also very much looking forward to the KS2 End of Year Production '**A-la-la-la-laddin**' on 8th 9th and 10th July 2025. All the children in KS2 will be taking part in this wonderful performance. A letter with more information about this will be sent home soon. There are many other occasions when you will be invited into school. A list of new dates has been added for this term which can be found on the Dates for Your Diary section of this Newsletter. Please make a note of them so that you will not miss out.

KS2 Class Organisation Information Meeting took place on Tuesday this week. The session was designed to give parents a clearer understanding of how we organise mixed-year classes in KS2, as well as the key factors we take into consideration during this process. We hope you found the session informative and that it helps you support your child through this important transition. A positive attitude and the language we use can make a big difference. Let's continue to work together to encourage our children to embrace change with a Growth Mindset and look forward to the new academic year with excitement and confidence.

Year 5 children enjoyed an exciting **Science Outreach Day at Holyport College** yesterday afternoon. They spent the afternoon immersed in hands-on scientific investigations within a secondary school setting.

In their first experiment, the children worked in small teams using microscopes to observe live water fleas (*Daphnia*). They learned how to measure the heart rates of these tiny creatures and discovered, through data collection and analysis, that alcohol significantly slows their heart rate. The second experiment focused on the principles of thermal insulation. Our learners were challenged to design their own thermal cups. Using heat lamps and digital thermometers, they tested a variety of materials to determine which were most effective at preventing heat transfer. They then applied their findings to create and test their own thermal cup designs—with some impressive results! **Congratulations to Group 1**, who won with their outstanding thermal cup design and were awarded a prize for their achievement.

The children were fully engaged throughout the afternoon, relishing the opportunity to use specialist equipment and tackle real-world scientific challenges. The staff at Holyport College were full of praise for our children, commenting on how **well-behaved, enthusiastic, and curious** they were throughout the session. We are incredibly proud of them for representing our school so positively. To celebrate their participation and enthusiasm, **every child was presented with a certificate. Well done to our budding Year 5 scientists!**

We would also like to thank all the parents for their support in transporting the children to and from the college—it was greatly appreciated



“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

Celebrating Sporting Success!

We are proud to share that several of our girls from Red Kites and Kestrels played brilliantly as part of the **Twyford Comets U10s Girls Team**, who recently won the final of the Berkshire County Girls Football League Trophy! The team triumphed over several strong regional opponents to claim the title. Representing our school in the final were: Charlotte, Matilda, Lowry, Florentina, and Sophie. They shared the great news with the whole school at the Celebration Assembly this morning, inspiring everyone with their achievement. A huge well done to all the girls for their fantastic teamwork and determination – what a wonderful achievement!



What have we been learning in school?

Last term, the children in **Red Kites Class** worked incredibly hard to create their very own **historical fiction stories set in Victorian London**. They followed the story mountain structure of Opening, Build-up, Dilemma or Problem, Resolution and Close, to create their wonderful stories. They carefully selected vocabulary appropriate to the time period and ensured the historical details were correct to make their stories as authentic as possible. Many even gave their characters distinct Victorian speech patterns to help bring them to life. Some chose to write murder mysteries, while others focused on harsh realities faced by poor orphans in the Workhouse or street children surviving through pickpocketing. Each story is unique, imaginative and full of character. Well done Red Kites – you should be very proud of your work!

Here are a few fantastic examples... **Historical Fiction Stories**

Opening and Build up

Grace

It was a normal, packed London-like day, urchins begging on the sides of the streets, horse carriages taking whoever their owner was to wherever they wished to go, people running into butchers' shops trying to get a nice, mouthwatering pie before they were all gone. It was absolute chaos! You could smell the bloody meat slices dripping cold, vampire-like blood onto the sawdust and it immediately absorbing into it. But everyone could sense the low-spirited children in the workhouse. The taste of the cold, salty and crisp air made your mouth all dry, horrible and rigid which made the poor kids living on the side of a scrawny street beg for food even harder, imagining the taste of rich people digging into a warm pie, taking big chunks of pastry and drowning it in thick, heavy gravy.

Toby L

What do you think of when you think about a normal Victorian carriage horse? A pampered, plump pony strutting about as proud as a peacock? Well, I am not one of those horses. I'm a "wretched little devil" as described by The Daily Times. I'm an "out-of-control hag of a horse" pictured by The Victorian Prophet. You get the point; I am not at all a horse the rich kids and people want to mess with. If you want to be inspired but also spooked, then read on. I am Falafel and this is the incredible story, full of surprises and tension. This is the unpredictable story of my freedom!

Dilemma or Problem

Alanna

"Lola, Lola, there's a rich man. Do you see? We can get money! We'll get food for days! Come on Lola!" said Jake.
 "Excuse me sir, will you tell me the time kind sir?" said Lola
 "Yes of course I will"
 Jake snuck behind the rich man while Lola was distracting him so that Jake could pick pocket him. When Jake got into the perfect position, he slowly put his hand in the rich man's pocket. Jake wiggled his hand through the pocket, trying to be as gentle as possible, then Jake got hold of his wallet and ran.
 His chest was pounding as he looked back. Footsteps were running behind him, he needed to go faster! Then his vision went blurry. He heard shoes tapping on the pavement, the horses clattering their hooves on the road, and then his vision went black...

Oscar

I was rumbling with emotions, scared, shocked, raging, all of them! My life flashed before my eyes. I had no clue what had happened to that innocent person. It felt like I was melting because of how much sweat was on my body. I dived from the underground in shock, screaming my way up the cobbled chipped stairs into a recess and the murderer walked straight past me like I was an unknown spirit. My chest was beating like a spirit box! I ran out of the alleyway and followed the killer. He looked behind him and I saw his face...



Resolution and Close

William

The man held out a bowl of soup to the two young orphan brothers, "Why aren't you going to hurt us?"
"I'm not mean like all those other men. I may be the richest, but I am the kindest. I will build you a home, I'll build you a life, I'll even build you a universe, but I would never leave you," said William

Ethan

I'll never forget that day in that dark, damp, cold alley, but was that figure we saw at Tower Bridge really a murderer? Did my Mum actually die of shock, and was that figure the man who saved our lives? Who knows – maybe some questions will stay unanswered, but I'll make it my life's mission to find this out.

Notification of Vacancy for Parent Governor

A vacancy has arisen for a Parent Governor on the School's Governing Board. Nominations are invited from anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil currently registered at the School. If you would like to stand for election as a Parent Governor, you should complete the **Nomination Form** that was sent home yesterday. please return the Form to the School, clearly marked **for the attention of the Returning Officer**, so that it is received by **12 noon on Tuesday 24th June 2025**. Please note that **nominations received after this deadline will not be accepted**. For further information, including key dates and a copy of the **Governor Job Description**, please refer to the letter sent home yesterday.

Reminder and Upcoming Event

- Next week all the Year 1 children will complete **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check**. **Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) will be taking place between Monday 9th June to Friday 20th June**. It is vital that your children are in school every day during this very important period.
- The photographer will be in school on **Monday 9th June** next week to take the **Whole School and Class Group photographs**. Please make sure your children look smart in their School uniforms.
Please note: Children in **Owls Class** should come to school in their **school uniform** and bring their **PE kit** with them. They will change into their PE kit later for their **Balanceability sessions**.
- Official Opening Ceremony of the New Learning Space , Swallows will take place on Wednesday 11th June at 1.30pm
- Saturday 7th June 2025 - WSL Village Festival**, taking place at the WSL Cricket Club. We would love to see you, please come along to support our school and have fun! Tickets are available on www.wslsrevents.com
- PTA Class of '25 Campout** - Ticket sales have officially opened. You can buy your tickets via www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta



Barracudas Maidenhead Summer Camps

Save on summer childcare with Barracudas Camps. Barracudas activity camps are back this summer with 80+ exciting activities for children aged 4½–14! Barracudas offers flexible, fun and Ofsted-registered childcare from 8.30am - 5.30pm (with Early & Late Clubs available from 8am to 6pm) - perfect for working parents.
Book now to secure your space and enjoy a summer full of fun and peace of mind!"

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	Nancy DLP B	Roman R
Nightingales	Betsy M-P	Phoebe P
Robins	Ava-A	Keenan K
Skylarks	Rafe S	Isobella W
Red Kites	Kamran S	Lowry J
Kestrels	Caitlin C	Alexandra G

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	308	1500
Galileo (Green)	273	1489
Redgrave (Red)	285	1707
Yeats (Yellow)	231	1453

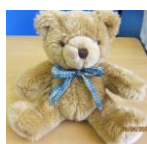
The Winning House's for this week is **Redgrave**. Well done.

Attendance for the Week

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

Class Attendance: 02-06-25 to 06-06-25

Owls 95.5% Skylarks 94.9%
Nightingales 97.0% Red Kites 89.5%
Robins 93.9% Kestrels 91.7%
Whole School 93.5%



Habit of the Month

In June children will focus on **Only My Best Will Do – Using our hands in kind, respectful, and helpful ways.**

This reminds us that **our hands should be used to help, not to hurt.** This includes:

- Using gentle hands during play and teamwork
- Helping others when they need support
- Taking care of our belongings and classroom materials
- Keeping our hands to ourselves

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. Let's all work together to make our school a safe, caring, and positive place by showing kindness through our actions every day!

School Photographs



The photographer will be in school on **Monday 9th June** to take the **Whole School and Class Group photographs.**

Please make sure your children look smart in their School uniforms.

Scholastic Book Fair

We are very excited to inform you that we shall be running the second **Scholastic Book Fair from Monday 16th to Friday 20th June after school every day in the Dining Hall or Outside if weather permitting from 3.10pm to 3.40pm.** More details will follow. If any parents can help man the store, please contact the School Office

NHS Guidance for Diarrhea

[Diarrhoea and vomiting - NHS](#)

Year 6 Writing Assessment

Writing is assessed via moderation within the school, so we will still be compiling evidence to support each child's attainment and progress in this area.

Primary Assessments Dates 2025

KS1 Year 2 Optional SATs will take place throughout **May and June 2025**

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check will take place in **w/c 9th June 2025.**

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check will start in **w/c 2nd June to 13th June 2025.**

It is vital that the children are in school during these very important periods

Summer School Uniform

Please support us in ensuring that all our children maintain the highest standards of personal appearance in line with our high expectations. This includes no hooped earrings, trainers (even if they are black). Plimsolls open-toe sandals, and shoes with inappropriate heels are not acceptable. No nail varnish are allowed.

Summer Uniform are as below:

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 school shoes must be worn.

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child/ren's PE kits are in school every day (Monday to Friday) and that **ALL ITEMS must be clearly labelled.** As the weather is now getting better, PE lessons will most likely be outdoors and there may be additional learning activities in which PE kits are required.

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.

As health and safety is very important when taking part in physical activities; watches or jewellery should be removed; long hair must be tied back and ear studs need to be covered or removed, so it is more convenient if children don't wear them at all.

PTA Fundraising Events for Term 5 & 6

Saturday 7th June 2025 - WSL Village Festival, taking place at the WSL Cricket Club, tickets are available on www.wslsrevents.com

Friday 18th July 2025 Class of 2025 Camp Out. You can buy your tickets via www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta

Resources Provision SEN Unit Consultation

The RBWM has proposed that the Resourced Provision at Hilltop First School becomes an SEN Unit on 1st September 2025. This provision will continue to cater for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans that identify Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) as their primary need which may or may not occur alongside an autistic profile. The consultation has gone live which you can see here: <https://rbwmtogether.rbwm.gov.uk/hilltop-first-school-sen-unit> and it closes **Friday 13th June 2025.**

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

Dates for Your Diary

The Academic Year 2024-2025

Term 6 (38 days)

June	Mon 2 nd	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 3 rd	Start of Pupil Term	
	Tues 3 rd	KS2 Class Organisation Information Meeting for Parents	2.15pm
	Thurs 5 th	Year 5 Science Day at Holyport College	1.00-3.00pm
	Fri 6 th	It's Your Move – Year 6 Transition Talk	1.15pm
	Sat 7 th	Village Festival	1.00-6.00pm
	Mon 9 th	School Photos – Whole School and Class Group	9.00-11.00
	9 th – 13 th	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	
	2 nd – 13 th	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	
	Thurs 19 th	Year 2 Mighty Maths Competition (Team of 3) at WSL (Host)	4.30-6.00pm
	Thurs 19 th	Last Chinese Club followed by performance to parents	3.45pm
	Thurs 26 th	Sports Day	1.30pm
	Fri 27 th	Whole School Trip to Marwell Zoo	8.30am-3.10pm
	Mon 30 th	Sports Day – Reserve	
July	Fri 4 th	Year 6 Activity Day at Dinton Pastures	All Day
	Sat 5 th	Music Party in the School Playing Field	5.30pm to late
	Mon 7 th	KS2 End of the Year Production Dress Rehearsal	1.30pm
	Tues 8 th	KS2 End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	1.30pm
	Wed 9 th	KS2 End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	6.00pm
	Thurs 10 th	KS2 End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	6.00pm
	Wed 16 th	Transition morning for new children in Owls Class	9.00am-12.00pm
		Information Meeting for New Parents	11.00am-12.00pm
	Fri 18 th	PTA Class of 2025 Camp Out	5.00pm onwards
	Mon 21 st	Year 6 Graduation Ceremony in the School Hall	9.30am
		Year 6 Leaving Party	4.00-6.00pm
	Wed 23 rd	End of Pupil Term	1.00pm

Summer Holiday: Thursday 24th July 2025 – Tuesday 2nd September 2025

The Academic Year 2025-2026

Term 1 (38 days)

September	Wed 3 rd	Staff Inset Day
	Thurs 4 th	Start of Pupil Term
October	Fri 24 th	End of Pupil Term

October Holiday: Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st 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

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

Whole School Trip Letter to all

New Intake Welcome and Confirmation Letter to new parents

Notification of Vacancy for Parent Governor June 2025 to all

Governor job Description to all

IAS Newsletter - Transition Special June 2025