



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 04

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our **Harvest Festival** will be celebrated in Waltham St Lawrence Church this afternoon at 2:00pm and we would welcome you to join us in the Church. Please refer to the separate letter sent home last week with all the detailed arrangement for the day. Parents are requested please to remember the following housekeeping rules, in order that everyone can appreciate the hard work that the children and staff have put into the service:

- **The door will be open at 1.45pm. Parents will be allocated to sit in the front part of the church** whilst KS2 children will be sitting at the back, KS1 children will be sitting in Choir Stalls and EYFS children will be in the vestry.
- All mobile phones must be on mute or switched off.
- If pre-school children attend, please ensure they stay with you, quietly, and are not allowed to wander around the Church.
- Once children in Owls Class finished their performance, they can be collected to go home early if you so wish. Please collect them from the side door of the vestry.
- Photos may be permitted during the service but for the safety of our children all images must not be published on social networking sites, they are for your own purposes only.

We all hope you will enjoy our first whole school event of this academic year. We had a lovely display of all the Harvest donations in the School Hall. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.



### Governors Open Morning

We were delighted to welcome our school governors for their Open Morning on Tuesday this week. They spent time visiting every class, observing children engaged in their learning and seeing high-quality teaching in action across the school.

Following their classroom visits, the governors joined us for a whole school assembly where they introduced themselves to the children and shared their individual roles and responsibilities. It was a lovely opportunity for children to understand how governors support our school community. The role of the governors is to provide strategic leadership and accountability in the school. They help set the vision and ethos, ensure financial stability, and monitor the school's performance.

We also took the opportunity to thank Mrs Fionna Edwards for her dedicated contribution to the school in her role as Chair of Governors. Sam Teague, the new Chair kindly presented her with flowers as a token of appreciation from us all.

The morning concluded with tea and coffee with staff – a chance to reflect, connect, and celebrate the fantastic work happening throughout the school. We are grateful to our governors for their continued support and involvement. We look forward to a productive and successful year ahead, working together to achieve the best outcomes for our children.

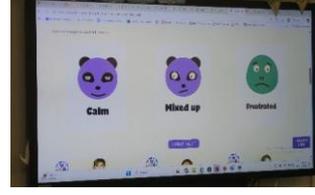


“TOGETHER WE INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE”

Thank you to those parents who attended the **RWI Phonics Workshop for Year 1 Parents** on Wednesday this week. We hope the session gave you valuable insight into how we teach reading at school and how you can use the same strategies at home. By working together, we can lay strong foundations in both reading and writing, helping your child become a confident and capable learner. Your support makes a real difference—thank you! If you were unable to attend and would like some information, please speak with Miss Bennett at the end of the day.

### What have we been learning in school? – Learning Highlights

In the **Values** lesson this week, the children in **Owls Class** explored feelings such as being “**mixed up**” or “**frustrated**” using **The Big 3 and Me** programme. Through storytelling, Mrs Whyte shared examples of characters who faced tricky moments and didn’t feel calm inside. The children were encouraged to notice these feelings, name them, and talk about times when they have felt the same. They then discussed simple strategies for “getting out” of these feelings – taking a deep breath, asking for help, finding a quiet space, or using kind words – so they could return to feeling **calm** and ready to learn. The lesson gave children the chance to practise recognising emotions in themselves and others, and to see that everyone can make positive choices to manage big feelings.



**Miss Li**, our new **Chinese Language Assistant (CLA)** has started teaching the **Mandarin Curriculum** this week. Miss Li spent last week in school, receiving induction, visiting every class, observing lessons and learning about classroom management from our experienced teachers. Miss Li has planned lessons carefully from children’s starting points to ensure continuity. The children have done some revision work this week, using the correct tones and intonations, very impressive, well done, children.



**PEACE-** Next week we will focus on the related value of **Resilience**. The children in their classes will discuss and reflect on what Resilience means “Have you ever had to be resilient to get through something hard?” Resilience is when you can bounce back from something hard. It often means asking for help or support. Perhaps you can have further discussions with your child/ren at home and ask your child/ren – ‘How do you feel when you are worrying about something hard? How do you feel when you get the help you need? You may also want to explore the meaning of this quote *“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”* — Thomas Edison (February 11, 1847 – October 18, 1931), an American inventor and businessman.

### Upcoming Events Reminder:

- **KS2 Reading Workshop** will take place on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm** in the school Hall. Important strategies will be shared. We would encourage and expect as many parents to come as possible as your involvement and engagement play a vital role in your child’s progress.
- Parents in Robins are invited to attend **Year 2 Reading Comprehension Workshop on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm in Swallows Learning Space**. Mrs Brancato will share some strategies on how we support children with their reading and reading comprehension.
- **Owls Class - Diwali Learning and Coconut Barfi Making**  
During the week commencing **6<sup>th</sup> October**, Owls Class will be learning about the Hindu and Sikh festival of **Diwali**, exploring how it is celebrated and its cultural significance. As part of the celebrations, it is traditional to exchange sweets.  
In the week beginning **13<sup>th</sup> October**, the children in Owls Class will make **Coconut Barfi**, a sweet treat made using desiccated coconut and condensed milk.  
If your child has any allergies or dietary requirements, please let us know as soon as possible so we can make appropriate arrangements.

### Reminder – Cauliflower Christmas Cards

If you have not yet viewed your child’s Cauliflower Christmas Card design, please take a moment to do so and place your order using the QR code provided. Orders will be collected on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**.



Waltham St Lawrence PTA is creating our very own school cookbook - all recipes are welcome! If you would like to contribute, please share them, including a photo of the dish or of your family cooking together, adding a personal touch to each page. You can **send your recipe (and optional photo) to [wsl.pta@gmail.com](mailto:wsl.pta@gmail.com)** by today, **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

The finished cookbooks will be available to order via the PTA Events website and will be ready by the end of November – just in time for Christmas! If you are interested in **purchasing copies of the cookbook**, please place your order as soon as the link is available (an alert will be sent). This will help the PTA estimate how many to print and keep costs and waste as low as possible.

Thank you for being part of this fun and meaningful project. We can’t wait to see – and try – your delicious recipes!

Please find below a weblink to our **Maidenhead Big Read Newsletter**, and attached a copy of a poster detailing our **MBR**

**Bookmark Drawing Art Competition** for our students to take part <https://mailchi.mp/08a8ae541a5e/mbr-newsletter-18095904>

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Li-Juan Ellerton  
Headteacher

# Maidenhead's Big Read

presents a Bookmark Drawing Art Competition



Theme: "Get Moving!" — Active Adventures in Books

## About the Theme

Books don't just take us on mental journeys – they inspire us to move! This year's theme is "Get Moving!". We invite you to design a bookmark that captures the energy of being active, to explore how stories encourage physical activity, sports, and energetic adventures.

Think of:

- Characters running through magical forests 🌲
- Athletes chasing dreams on the field ⚽
- Explorers hiking mountains or sailing seas 🏔️🚤
- Book heroes who inspire you to get up and move 🛡️



## How to Participate

- Who: Open to all students upto 14 years of age
- What: Create a drawing (hand-drawn or digital)
- Format: PDF or JPEG or PNG
- Deadline: 24th October 2025
- Submit to: [hello@maidenheads-big-read-org.uk](mailto:hello@maidenheads-big-read-org.uk)



## Prizes & Recognition

- Winning entries will be printed on a bookmark during MBR2026
- Top artists will receive exciting prizes
- Selected entries will also be showcased at Maidenhead Library, MBR website & MBR social media
- Judging will be undertaken by local Children's Author & Poet Simon Mole

## Why Join?

- Celebrate the power of books to inspire action
- Share your creativity with the community
- Be part of a fun and imaginative festival to celebrate love of reading



## Let Your Art Move the Story Forward!

Whether it's a wizard sprinting through a spellbound maze or a soccer star from your favorite novel scoring the winning goal – show us how books get us moving!

## 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	Winnie B	Frederick P	
Nightingales	Millie W	George O	
Robins	Lily E	Betsy M-P	
Skylarks	Mia P	Oliver B	
Red Kites	Imogen H	Samuel W	Jenson G
Kestrels	Ethan C	Harlow L	

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	190	1275
Galileo (Green)	277	930
Redgrave (Red)	<b>278</b>	1131
Yeats (Yellow)	268	1066

The Winning House 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:** 29-09-25 to 03-10-25

Owls 98.9%      Skylarks 96.2%  
Nightingales 94.6%      Red Kites 95.8%  
Robins 96.7%      Kestrels 94.6%  
Whole School 96.1%



## Habit of the Month

In **October**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do – Showing Appreciation**. 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. Thank you.

## Supporting Children's Emotions Workshop for Parents

We will hold a very important Workshop for parents - **Supporting Children's Emotions through Zones of Regulation and Emotion Coaching on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm in the School Hall**. Please confirm your attendance by contacting the School Office so that we can make necessary seating arrangements. We look forward to welcoming you and seeing as many of you as possible. please refer to the letter sent home for details.

## Parking and Safety

We kindly ask all parents to **avoid parking in restricted Zones** i.e. the Zigzag 'Keep Clear' Zone and Stop and Drop Zone in front of the school. Parking in these zones can cause accidents and block other parents from using our Stop and Drop system. Let's work together to keep our school environment safe for everyone. Thank you.

## Bag2School Collection

These bags can be brought into school **at drop off time by 9.00am on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025**. You can use your own bags. Thank you for your support. **Please do not bring any filled bags to school before this date, as we are unable to store them. bags must be dropped off by 9.00am at the latest, only on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025.**

## School Lunches

Please remember - **Lunches for the following day must be ordered and paid for IN ADVANCE by 12.00 midnight every day**. You can order lunches for your children for the whole week or term via ScoPay [www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com) **LATE ORDERS AND PAYMENTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED**. The school kitchen needs to know how many children will be having lunch before they place the weekly food order on Fridays. If you have any problem, please do come and discuss with us. Many thanks.

## Parents Evenings

The online booking for Parents Evenings will be set up next week and go live. You will be receiving an online notification. Please look out for a letter with more details.

Parents Evenings will take place on:

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October      3.30pm-5.30pm  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October      5.00pm – 7.00pm  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October      3.30pm – 5.30pm

## Nasal Flu Vaccinations for All Year Groups

Please ensure the e-Consent form is completed online as soon as possible, indicating whether you wish your child(ren) to receive the vaccination or not. This vaccination will take place on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** in school.

## Class Representatives 2025-26

**Owls**      Stacey Moore & Marie-Francoise Martin  
**Nightingales**      Olivia Bowley & Sarah Irwin  
**Robins**      Lizzie Shuttleworth, Annabel Ganson & Lizzie Lambert-Webb  
**Skylarks**      Sarah Anderson & Vicky Lomas  
**Red Kites**      Deborah Dziedzic & Jess Marshall Pullin  
**Kestrels**      Ginny Lavers & Elaine Harris

## PTA Upcoming Events

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 5:00pm-7:00pm

- **Halloween Fancy Dressing Disco** (tickets are available on PTA-events) at school.

 Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 6:00pm-7:00pm – **PTA AGM** with Governors and School Updates at school.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 3:30pm - Christmas **Fair** at school.

## Secondary School Application

Secondary applications for September 2025 are open. Applications must be submitted no later than the deadline 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025. Please refer to the letter sent home.

## Open Mornings for Prospective Parents Year R Sept 2026

If you have a child due to start school next September, or you know anybody who does, please note that we are holding four Open Mornings when parents/carers can come and look around the school and ask any questions they may have. These will take place from 9.45-10.45am on

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025**  
**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025**  
**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

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 Fiona Edwards (Parent Governor)

### Dates for Your Diary

#### The Academic Year 2024-2025

##### Term 1 (39 days)

<b>October</b>	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Autumn School Census Day	
		Parents Viewing and Ordering Christmas Cards	3.15pm
	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harvest Festival In WSL Church	2.00pm
	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Reading Workshop for Parents in Years 3-6	2.30pm
	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Bag2School Collection	9.00am
		Christmas Cards to be collected today	
	Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Reading Information Meeting for Parents in Robins	2.30pm
	13 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-Loved Halloween Costume Sale collecting at Morning Drop Off	8.30-8.40am
	Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	Zones of Regulation and Emotion Coaching Workshop for Parents	2.30pm
	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-Loved Halloween Costume Sale on the playground	3.10-3.45pm
	Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening for KS2 Classes ONLY	3.30-5.30pm
	Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Parents Evening – for ALL Classes	5.00-7.00pm
	Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Parents Evening – for ALL Classes	3.30-5.30pm
		Flu Immunisation Vaccination for all children in school	8.30-10.30am
	22 <sup>nd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Bikeability Level 2 Course	
	Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PTA Halloween Fancy Dress Disco / Movie – details to follow	5.00-7.00pm
	Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term	3.10pm

**October Holiday: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**

##### Term 2 (35 days)

<b>November</b>	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 4 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
	Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-Bullying Week – Theme ‘Choose Respect’	
<b>December</b>	Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45-10.45am
	Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	Last Swimming Lesson for Robins Class	
	Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term	1.00pm

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026**

##### Term 3 (30 days)

<b>January</b>	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
<b>February</b>	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term	
		Owls Cake Sale	

**February Holiday: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 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](http://www.wslprimary.org)

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

Letter from The Governors to all  
Staffing and Leadership Transition Update Letter to all  
Supporting Children’s Emotions Parents Workshop Letter to all  
Maidenhead’s Big Read Newsletter and Competition Poster to all  
2026 PGL Residential Trip Letter to Year 4 and 5  
Harvest Festival Rehearsal in Church Reminder to all  
Harvest Food Donation Reminder to all