



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 09

Friday 14th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wow! What a fantastically successful, fact-filled, fun-filled first week. From learning about World War I, to buying poppies on the playground, the children have settled down wonderfully well in Term 2. All after school clubs are back in full flow and with fantastic football matches and marvellous Mandarin there is lots to look forward to. I have been particularly impressed with the children following our "Steps" and "Stars" guidance and it's lovely to hear so many children saying "please", "thank you" and "sorry" without being prompted by others. I would also like to mention the amazing support that we have received from the community this week. "Meet the Headteacher" on Wednesday was very well attended and it was great to hear so many passionate voices with thoughtful suggestions about the way forward for WSL. We also had an excellent PTA AGM and I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all PTA members, past and present, for the amazing work they have done. We really couldn't provide the education and experiences that we do for the children without their help.

And so, looking forward to next week, please help us by talking about the "Steps" and "Stars" messages at home and remember the habit of the month... KEEP SMILING!


Mr. D. Errington
Headteacher

STEPS

- Smile
- Thank you
- Excuse me
- Please
- Sorry



STAR

- Sit/Stand up straight
- Track the speaker
- Ask politely
- Respond thoughtfully




On Tuesday the whole school took the time to pause and reflect as we observed a two-minute silence to pay our respects to our Armed Forces community, past and present. The children read the poem "In Flanders Fields" and described what life would have been like in the trenches. All children were very respectful, honouring members of the armed forces who served and sacrificed in the line of duty during the First World War. Kestrels Class produced some impressive posters and Nightingales Class created some amazing Art



What have we been learning in school?

Owls Class

This week, Owls Class have been using actions and songs (to the tune of 'Ten in a Bed') to tell the story of 'The Enormous Turnip'. They also used musical instruments to represent each character. In Maths, they have been learning about 4 and 5 and were introduced to a '5-frame' in a game (first to collect the animals to 5 wins!) In P.E. they have been learning how dinosaurs move and made their composition with a partner.



Robins Class

The children in Robins Class have been using a range of resources in Maths to help partition two-digit numbers into tens and ones. They used impressive speaking and listening skills when working with a partner to answer calculations on their whiteboards. Magical Maths Robins class!



Kung-Fu Club

The children in Kung Fu Club have been working very hard at developing their balance and posture. They have also been learning sequences of movements involving spins and kicks. Well done to all of you for your commitment and determination.



Mad Science

In Mad Science Club, the children had lots of fun this week. They carried out an experiment investigating how to separate a range of solids. They also dissolved solids in water and investigated what would happen if they passed the solution through filter paper.



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	Elóra S	Dominic W
Nightingales	Henrietta B	Kai S
Robins	Harper R	Freddie N
Skylarks	Ava M	Csenge K-B
Red Kites	Wilf P	Eva S
Kestrels	Finn H	Keira E

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	320	2802
Galileo (Green)	247	2184
Redgrave (Red)	267	2309
Yeats (Yellow)	374	2563

The Winning House for this week is **Yeats** . Well done.

Attendance for the Week

Owls 100%	Skylarks 95.8%
Nightingales 94.6%	Red Kites 98.1%
Robins 100%	Kestrels 99.2%
Whole School 98%	



Excellent attendance and punctuality maximise potential! Every minute counts.

Habit of the Month

In **November**, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do – Smiling**. It is so important to “pass on” a smile to others. Did you know... it is almost impossible not to smile back if someone smiles at you! Go on.... Pass on a smile today!



World Prematurity Day – Monday 17th November

This term we will be raising money for World Prematurity Day which aims to raise global awareness of premature birth and its impact on families. The day highlights the challenges faced by preterm babies, advocates for quality care and support, and promotes initiatives to prevent premature births.



Did you know, around 90,000 babies are born sick or premature every year in the UK? In exchange for a £1 donation (payable via Scopay) the children will be allowed to come to school on **Monday 17th November** wearing as much **PURPLE** or **BLUE** as possible. (The colours of World Prematurity Day). Thank you so much for your support – It WILL make such a huge difference.

Governors Meeting and PTA AGM



As a school we are extremely grateful for all the hard work the PTA has put into organising so many fun events enjoyed by all children over the past year. An enormous amount of money has been raised and so many children's lives have been made happier through the efforts of all those involved. From all staff, children and parents to everyone who has helped a huge **THANK YOU** for everything you have done.

So, it's a sad goodbye and **thank you** to our outgoing PTA committee.

- ▶ **Chair:** Phillippa Pitt
- ▶ **Secretary:** Nicole Jahanshahi
- ▶ **Treasurer:** Rachel Johnson
- ▶ **Fundraising Co-Ordinator:** Keri Alveraz (July 2024)

And an excited **hello** and welcome to our new PTA committee.

- ▶ **Co-chair:** Marie-Francoise Martin / Vicky Lomas
- ▶ **Secretary:** Olivia Bowley
- ▶ **Treasurer:** Dan Ellery
- ▶ **Fundraising Co-Ordinator:** Tash Ellery

Keep your eyes peeled for the fantastic, fun PTA events coming up before Christmas

Also at the AGM, Mrs Teague (Chair of Governors) highlighted the governors' strategic roles and responsibilities and how governors act as a critical friend to support and challenge the school. Everyone was very enthusiastic about our school and we all want to work together to ensure the best possible education for our children.

Open Mornings

Thursday 27th November 2025

9.45am-10.45am

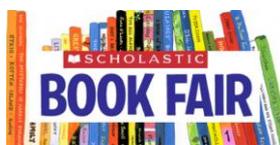
Tuesday 13th January 2026

9.45am -10.45am



This is a wonderful opportunity to see our school in action and learn more about what makes our community so special. Please do help spread the word to friends, neighbours, and anyone who may be looking for a place for their child - whether for Reception next September or an in-year transfer, as we currently have spaces available in certain year groups. We would love to welcome them to our school family!

The Book Fair



Hooray – It's time for the book fair! From Tuesday 18th November until Tuesday 25th November you will be able to purchase books every day in the School Hall. Come along and browse or buy an early Christmas present that will last a lifetime.

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

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr David Errington (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Katie White (Inclusion Coordinator)

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Fiona Edwards (Parent Governor)

Dates for Your Diary

Term 2 (35 days)

November	Monday 3 rd	Staff Inset Day	
	Tuesday 4 th	Start of Pupil Term	
	Wednesday 5 th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45am-10.45am
	Friday 7 th	RWI Phonics Workshop for EYFS Parents in Swallows	2.40pm
	Monday 10 th	Anti-Bullying Week – Theme ‘Choose Respect’	
	Tuesday 11 th	PTA AGM	6.00pm
	Wednesday 12 th	Meet the Headteacher	8.45am
	Monday 17 th	World Prematurity Day: Non–Uniform - Wear purple or blue	
	Tuesday 18 th	Book Fair Arrives	
	Wednesday 19 th	SPaG Strategies Workshop for Robins Parents in Swallows	2.40pm
	Tuesday 25 th	Book Fair Leaves	
	Thursday 27 th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45am-10.45am
	Friday 28 th	Robins Cake Sale	3.10pm
	December	Monday 1 st	Simon Mole, Poet in Residence Arrives (Information to follow)
Thursday 4 th		Last Swimming Lesson for Robins Class	
Friday 5 th		Simon Mole, Poet in Residence Leaves	3.00pm
Friday 5 th		Skylarks Cake Sale	3.10pm
Mon 8 th		KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal to whole school	2.00pm
Tues 9 th		KS1 Nativity Performance to Parents in the School Hall	2.00pm
Wed 10 th		KS1 Nativity Performance to Parents in the School Hall	2.00pm
Thurs 11 th		PTA Christmas Fair in School	1.00pm-3.00pm
Friday 12		Owls Christmas Concert	2.40pm
Wednesday 17 th		Christmas Jumper Day	
Wednesday 17 th		Christmas Lunch	12.00pm
Thursday 18 th		Christingle at Waltham St. Lawrence Parish Church	2.00pm-3.00pm
Friday 19 th		End of Pupil Term	1.00pm
Christmas Holiday: Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026			

Term 3 (30 days)

January	Monday 5 th	Staff Inset Day	
	Tuesday 6 th	Staff Inset Day	
February	Wednesday 7 th	Start of Pupil Term	
	Friday 13 th	End of Pupil Term	3.10pm
	February Holiday: Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026		

Term 4 (25 days)

February	Monday 23 rd	Start of Pupil Term	
March	Fri 27 th	End of Pupil Term	1.00pm
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	Mon 13 th	Start of Pupil Term	
May	Mon 4 th	May Day Bank Holiday	
	Fri 22 nd	End of Pupil Term	3.10pm
May Holiday: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026			

Term 6 (38 days)

June	Mon 1 st	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 2 nd	Start of Pupil Term	
July	Wed 22 nd	End of Pupil Term	1.00pm
Summer Holiday: Thursday 23rd July 2026 – Monday 31st August 2026			

Please note that Staff Inset Days are subject to change. Please do not book family holidays during term time.

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

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