



WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 15

Friday 19th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

"So here it is Merry Christmas, everybody's having fun!" That's certainly been true in School this week with Christmas Jumpers of all shapes, sizes and colours filling every classroom with festive cheer. We also enjoyed a delicious **Christmas Lunch** on Wednesday, with the whole school, including teachers and TAs, squeezed perfectly into the dining hall accompanied by the merry singing of Mariah Carey and Shakin' Stevens to name just a few.

Then there was our wonderful **Whole School Christingle Celebration** at the village church. As a Headteacher, a parent of two grown up children and a lover of all things Christmassy, I have to say, the moment when the Church is lit by the Children's candles and **"Light 1000 Christmas Lights"** echoes around the pews never fails to bring a small tear to my eye. As always, our children were magnificent. The confident speaking, enthusiastic singing, imaginative poetry and thoughtful prayers flowed from the children's hearts and provided the glue that binds our community, past and present, young and old together. It was also lovely to see and hear the children reflecting our school values of **Love, Responsibility, Truth, Peace** and **Community** through their calm listening and support towards each other. I lost count of the number of children who said **"Well Done"** to each other or **"Thank You"** to an adult who had helped them during the service.

Term 2 draws to a close with many, many achievements to be proud of and celebrate. A **huge** well done to all of our amazing children for battling hard and overcoming all the academic and personal challenges that they have faced in the last term. For so many children in so many different ways, school can be hard work – But, through **determination, perseverance** and **growth mindset**, as the children have showed ... **ANYTHING** and **EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE!**



THANK YOU to **All Staff** for the most amazing Whole School Christingle Service. I enjoyed every minute. Thanks to everybody's hard work and commitment my first Christingle as Headteacher will be one that I never forget.

Thank you to **parents** and **families** for your wonderful support this term. Everything we do has to be supported by "home" in order to maximise the impact on the lives of the children we teach and guide.

Thank you to **Clare** and **Ramela** in the kitchen for a delicious Christmas Lunch. The children had the most amazing time and it was wonderful to hear so much laughter and happiness.

Thank you to our magnificent **PTA** – So much money has been raised this term. Thank you to **everyone** who has contributed or helped out at any of our fantastic PTA events.



Thank you to our **"Stop and Drop"** helpers, **volunteer readers** and **uniform sellers**. Come rain or shine, car doors are always opened, books are always read and uniform is sorted, always with a smile and a happy greeting.

As always, the biggest **THANK YOU** of all is for our **amazing children!** I feel proud to be the Headteacher of such an outstanding school, guiding happy, caring children who consistently push themselves to meet every challenge set.

On behalf of all the staff, I would also like to say a big THANK YOU to **Class Representatives, parents** and **children** for the many generous words and thoughtful gifts and cards you have given to us for Christmas. They are very much appreciated.

The children will return to school for the start of Term 3 on **Wednesday 7th January 2025.**

Staff Inset Day will be on Monday 5th January and Tuesday 6th January 2025.

And finally, a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year from all of us at WSL!

STEPS

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

Mr. D. Errington
Headteacher

STAR

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

Making Christingles



Christmas Art



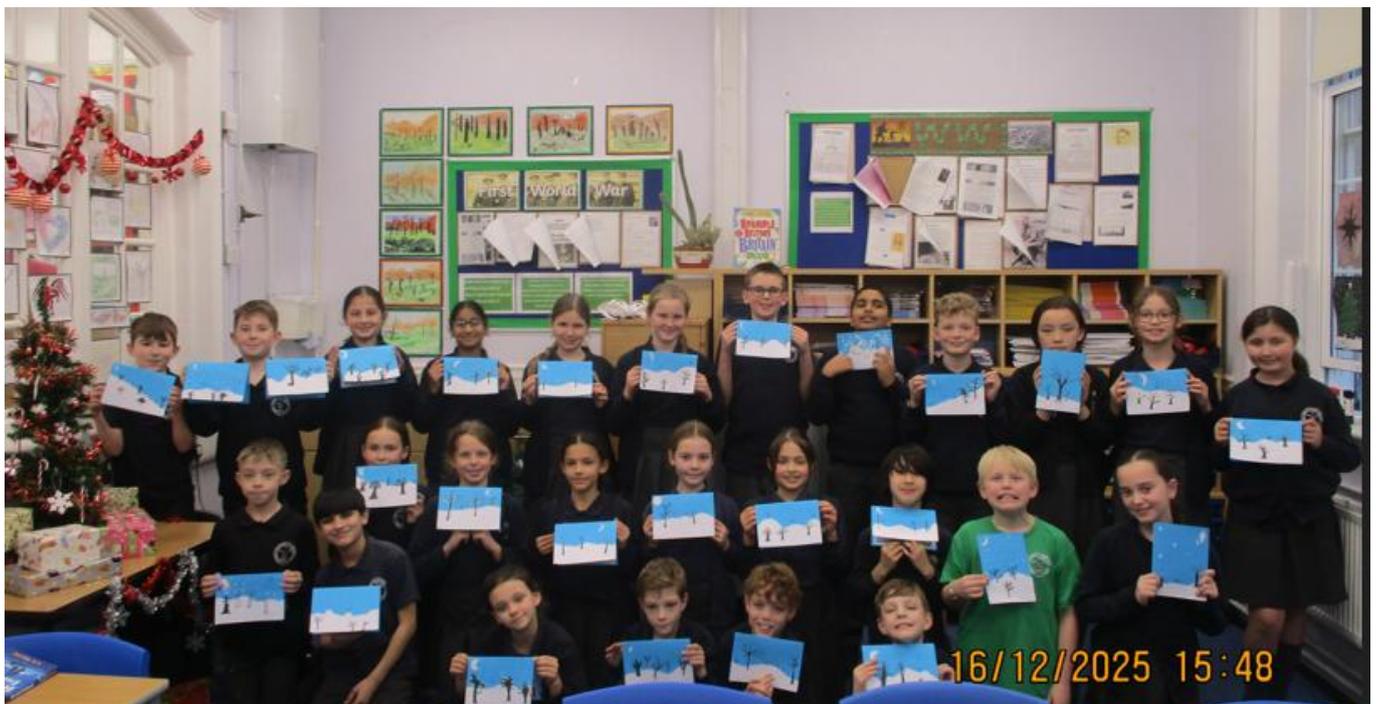
Christmas DT



Christmas Lunch



Whole School Christmas



Star Pupils of Term 2

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been outstanding role models and consistently demonstrated our School values throughout Term 2. Their photographs are displayed on the Star Pupils Board.

EYFS: Leo M Gracie M
Year 1: Emily V Roman R
Year 2: Betsy M-P Phoebe P
Year 3: Nicolas C Csenge K-B
Year 4: Blake R Cooper G
Year 5: Lowry J Beatrice K
Year 6: Arthur M-P Jorgie G



Values Gems

This Term our **Values Gems** are (voted for by class members):

Owls Gems	Harlie P	Chester S
Nightingales Gems	Roman R	Millie W
Robins Gems	Jay E	Poppy L-W
Skylarks Gems	Monty W	Olivia M
Red Kites Gems	Bella W	Carter TS
Kestrels Gems	Phoebe C	Toby L

House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	199	3967
Galileo (Green)	138	2885
Redgrave (Red)	170	3181
Yeats (Yellow)	154	3519

The Winning House for this term is **Brunel**. Well done.

Attendance for the Week

Nightingales 91.3% **Red Kites 97.5%**
Robins 93.5% Skylarks 93.6%
Owls 90.2% Kestrels 95%
Whole School 93.7%



Amazing Attendance



We are thrilled to announce that our children have shown outstanding commitment to during Term 1 and 2.

The **Best Class Attendance Award** goes to **Nightingales**, 62% of the class achieving 100%

We are also proud to recognise **50% of children** throughout the School achieved 100% attendance.

Habit of the Month

In December, children will be focusing on **Only My Best Will Do – Respect at mealtimes**.

Be thankful for the food you have been given.

Be adventurous when trying new things.

Be polite while you are eating.

Be thoughtful when tidying away after your meal.

School Admissions for September 2025

The **closing date** for receipt of online applications for a school place for **September 2026** is on **15th January 2026**. Please refer to RMBW website.

Our next **Open Morning** will be on **Tuesday 13th January 9.45am -10.45am**



Skylarks Class – A sad goodbye

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye and thank you to **Mrs Wiseman** and **Mrs Ablewhite** as Skylarks Class Teachers. They have been an amazing team and I know the children will be very sad to see them go. I would like to say a **huge** personal THANK YOU to both Mrs Ablewhite and Mrs Wiseman for going above and beyond in their dedication, caring and support. However, I am very pleased to announce that Mrs Ablewhite **will** be staying with Skylarks class as PPA cover for Mrs Waite.



Skylarks Class – An excited hello

A warm, Waltham St. Lawrence welcome to Mrs Waite who will be joining us as Skylarks Class Teacher and Key Stage 2 Team Leader from January.

In her own words...

I am very excited to be joining Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School. In my spare time I love listening to music, playing the piano and reading. Maths is one of my favourite subjects to teach because I enjoy seeing children challenge themselves when solving number problems and puzzles. I look forward to meeting everyone in January!



Key Text Books for Term 3

Please find below a list of the key texts that the children in Key Stage 2 will be studying in English in **Terms 3 and 4**. If you would like to purchase the book it will help your child to analyse key aspects of the author's style and language. Many thanks for your continued support.

Skylarks – My Friend Walter – by Michael Morpurgo

Red Kites – Whitebird – by R J Palacio

Kestrels – Goodnight Mr. Tom – by Michelle Magorian

Clubs for Term 3 & 4

If you would like your children to attend After School Clubs, please sign up with payment via **SCOPAY**. There are limited numbers for each club, places are offered on a first come, first serve basis. All booking must be completed via SCOPAY by Friday 19th December 2025.

All Clubs will start in the week beginning 12th January 2026, unless otherwise indicated.

After School Care Club and Breakfast Club will start on Wednesday 7th January 2025, please complete Booking via SCOPAY. Thank you.

Christmas Services at WSL Church

Everyone is invited to attend the Christmas Services:

- **Service of Lessons and Carols** – Sunday 21st December at 6.00pm - traditional service of carols and readings by candlelight.
- **Crib and Christingle Service** with Impromptu Nativity at 4.00pm Christmas Eve - a service for all children young and old to take part in
- **Christmas Day Family Service** at 10.30pm

The School Bus – New Safeguarding Procedure

From Term 3, to ensure the safety of all children we will be starting an online booking system for children who use the school bus. You may see a bus link appear on your SCOPAY App. If your child **does not** use the school bus, please ignore it as this is for EXISTING USERS ONLY as agreed by RBWM transport. Many thanks.

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: Mr David Errington (Headteacher)
 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Katie White (Inclusion Coordinator)
 Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Fiona Edwards (Parent Governor)

Dates for Your Diary

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	
	Wednesday 7 th	Start of Pupil Term	8.30am
	Tuesday 13 th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents	9.45am
February	Thursday 5 th	School Movie Night	4.30pm
	Wednesday 11 th	Dance Festival – Red Kites Class	
	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	Tuesday 3 rd	Bags to School	
	Monday 23 rd	Parents Evening for KS2 Classes	3.30-5.30pm
	Tuesday 24 th	Parents Evening for All Classes	5.00-7.00pm
	Wednesday 25 th	Parents Evening for All Classes	3.30-5.30pm
	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

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