



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

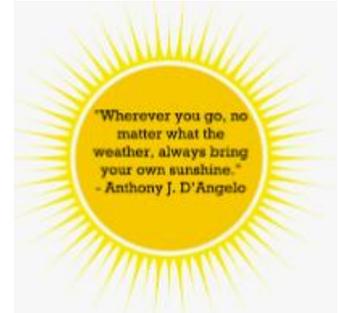
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### Weekly Newsletter Number 17

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

The **cold mornings** and **wet weather** have not dampened what has been a wonderfully positive, successful start to Term 3. All **After School Clubs** are now up and running and our **Breakfast** and **Woodpeckers Clubs** are both very busy. In school, the children participated in the **10@10 National Exercise Initiative** on Wednesday. The children jogged on the spot and learnt the importance of warming up and cooling down. It was great way to spend ten minutes and everybody left the hall much **hotter** and out of breath! On Tuesday, we hosted our final **"Open Morning"** of the year with the application deadline for September 2026 now closed. Friday morning brought laughter and happiness to the hall as the children in Owls, Nightingales and Robins took part in the **"Midnight at the Toy Shop"** workshop. Great fun was had by all and the children now have yet another wonderful Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School memory to add to their collection.



As you may be aware, Term 3 is traditionally a period of significant progress, building on the foundations laid earlier at the start of the academic year. To ensure every child thrives, we continue to challenge and support learners through targeted small group sessions with a clear focus on **Speaking, Reading, Writing (including handwriting, spelling, vocabulary,)** and **Maths** alongside **social** and **emotional development**. The needs of our children are always at the forefront of our school planning and we are committed to providing high quality resources to support all children to meet their full potential.

This term, as part of our Relationships and Health Education Curriculum, we will be focusing on the Core Value of **LOVE**. During the week we have introduced the value of **Caring About Nature**. We shared stories and thought about the different **sights, sounds** and **smells** we experience when nature is all around us. Through discussion, the children realised that the senses of smell and touch only work when you are immersed in the world.

Next week, we will focus on the related value of **Appreciation**. Children will think about questions such as **"Do you appreciate your body by making healthy choices?"** and **"Do you appreciate your physical health?"**

You may want to spend some time to explore the meaning of this quote with your child:

'Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live.' — Jim Rohn, American author (1930 - 2009)

**THANK YOU** to everyone at "pick up time" for adjusting to the new routine. Keeping the space between the class lines and the waiting parents seems to be working well and we now feel that all children are calmer and safer.

**THANK YOU** to Mrs Morgan for an informative, detailed KS2 SATs workshop after school on Wednesday. As the Year 6 children approach a very important time of year, it is re-assuring to know that their academic and personal well-being is in such safe hands.

**THANK YOU** to Mrs. Wakeling for taking on her new role at Woodpeckers Club. Working alongside Miss Rees, the children who attend After School Club really do have a first-class experience.

**THANK YOU** to all of our amazing lunchtime controllers. During this cold, wet, windy time of year, standing outside for an hour each day can be a challenge. We all really appreciate your supportive, caring approach in all that you do from cutting up chips to putting a plaster on a cut knee.

As always, the biggest **THANK YOU** of all is for our **amazing children!** What a wonderful week of work.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any queries regarding anything in this letter. Thank you, as always, for your amazing support for our school.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Mr. D. Errington  
Headteacher



# We Love Learning

In Art, Skylarks Class have been creating tone and shade charts. They mixed colours in different ratios to create new shades. They had SO MUCH FUN!

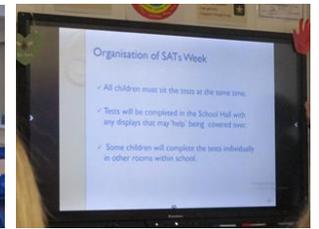


**Mason - Show and tell superstar!**

Mrs Morgan delivered an informative presentation about the Key Stage 2 SATs which will take place from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May.



On Wednesday we all exercised for 10 minutes at 10am.



This week in English, Red Kites class have been studying the Cautionary Tales of Hilaire Belloc and in particular, the poem "Jim, who ran away from his nurse

and was eaten by a lion". The class had lots of fun enacting the poem in groups - especially the fearsome lion and the poor boy Jim! Next week, Red Kites will be writing their own Cautionary Tales so watch this space!

In Maths, Kestrels class used metre sticks to estimate, measure and calculate equivalent lengths in metres, centimetres and millimetres.



On Thursday, Year 5 debated the motion "Earth is Flat" in their Earth and Space Science class. The debate was heated with both sides working hard on their scientific arguments and counter arguments. The content prepared for the debate was wide and varied - with some excellent discussions of gravity and the Earth's atmosphere, observations of ships disappearing over the horizon, images of the earth from space, lunar eclipses and even the meteor that killed the dinosaurs!

## 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>	Daisy L-W	Aaisha A
<b>Nightingales</b>	Yasmin M	Demi G
<b>Robins</b>	Neave S	Freya H
<b>Skylarks</b>	Irina K	Rafe S
<b>Red Kites</b>	Dixie B	Sienna O-D
<b>Kestrels</b>	Florentina H	Felix L

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
<b>Brunel (Blue)</b>	<b>417</b>	417
<b>Galileo (Green)</b>	310	310
<b>Redgrave (Red)</b>	323	323
<b>Yeats (Yellow)</b>	375	375

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

## Attendance for the Week

**Owls - 100%**      **Skylarks - 95%**  
**Nightingales - 91%**      **Red Kites - 98%**  
**Robins - 99%**      **Kestrels - 94%**



**Whole School – 96%**

**Excellent attendance and punctuality maximises potential!  
Every second counts.**

## Attendance and Perfect Punctuality in 2026

The Spring Term is an important term in school for all learners and it is essential that every child attend school, on time, every day. The importance of daily attendance is essential if we are to ensure that each and every child receives the very best educational experiences and their full curriculum entitlement.

If you are planning to take a holiday during term time, this will be recorded as an unauthorised holiday absence. However, we do still require you to complete a holiday request form in advance, otherwise the absence will be recorded as unauthorised with no reason given.

At WSL, every minute counts.  
Thank you for your support.



## Reading, Reading, Reading



Daily reading is vital in supporting our learners to become fluent readers who develop a love of books. Reading is the most crucial skill any child will learn. It is our school's clear expectation that every child reads every night without any distraction. Please support us by ensuring that there is a time set aside every evening to ensure your child can read and, ideally, to be read to by an adult.

## Immaculate Uniform

We are incredibly proud of children's smart presentation and believe that it shows our unique school character and high expectations for every member of our school community. We will be enforcing these expectations again this term and expect all children to adhere to them.

- Earrings – Please ensure your children can remove their earrings for PE sessions
- Black school shoes must be always worn. Black trainers or boots are not permitted.
- Children must wear grey trousers or skirts or tunic, with grey socks or grey/navy tights when wearing skirts.
- Children must also wear School polo shirt and School sweatshirt.

**Reminder: ALL items must be labelled with children's names, including PE kit.**

Thank you for your support.



## Class Assemblies

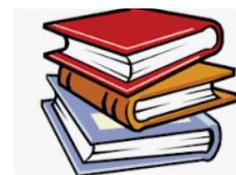
Children in each class will be presenting their learning to the school community, with parents invited to attend. The Class Assembly will take place on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 3.10pm.



**The dates for each Class Assembly are as below:**

- Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Jan – Kestrels Class
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan - Robins Class
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb – Skylarks Class
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Nightingales Class
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Red Kites Class
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Owls Class

## Parents into school 9.00am – 9.45am



You are invited to come to your child's Open English Session to see how English is taught and how children learn at WSL. The Open Session will start **from 9.00am.**

**Please save the dates.**

- Monday 26th January – Kestrels Class
- Tuesday 27th January – Owls Class
- Wednesday 28th January – Skylarks Class
- Thursday 29th January – Robins Class
- Friday 30th January – Red Kites Class
- Monday 2nd February – Nightingales Class

## Breakfast Club /Woodpeckers After School Club

**Breakfast Club – 7.45am – 8.30am**  
**Woodpeckers Club – 3.10pm – 6.00pm**

Please take advantage of the wonderful "wrap-around" support service we offer at WSL. The children get to eat, drink, read, play and watch the giant TV in the dining hall! You can plan your childcare and book sessions in advance via SCOPAY.

## Termly Curriculum Overview

Termly Curriculum Overview for each Year group have been uploaded on the School Website and can be accessed via <http://wslprimary.com/curriculum>

These give you a broad overview of the learning that takes place in Term 3 & 4 for your children. It is a useful starting point for you to do some research, support homework or just have a conversation with your child about what they are learning at school.

<p><b>English</b> Text: <i>Goodnight Mr Tom</i> by Michelle Magorian Fictional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To inform - Recount</li> <li>To inform - Report</li> </ul> <p>Non Fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To persuade - Letter</li> <li>To persuade - Speech</li> </ul> <p><b>Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imperative and modal verbs to convey urgency</li> <li>Passive voice to remain formal or detached</li> <li>Subjunctive form for formal structure</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distinguish between statements of fact and opinion, giving justification</li> <li>Identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph</li> </ul>	<p><b>Termly Overview</b> Year 6 Terms 3 &amp; 4 2026</p>	<p><b>Topic</b> History - World War II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparing WW1, WW2 and life today</li> <li>Geography - Physical / Human Geography</li> <li>The geography of South America</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mathematics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equivalent decimals, fractions and percentages</li> <li>Algebra - solving equations</li> <li>Ratio</li> <li>Scale Factor</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul> <p><b>Geometry / Measurement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area - Triangles and Parallelograms</li> <li>Perimeter - Compound Shapes</li> <li>Volume - Cuboids</li> </ul>	<p><b>Science</b></p> <p><b>Physics - Light</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines and to understand how we see.</li> </ul> <p><b>Physics - Electricity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compare the function of components.</li> </ul> <p><b>Computing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publishing and Collaboration - Quizzing</li> <li>Programming and Control - Networks</li> </ul>	<p><b>RE &amp; RSH via The Big Think</b></p> <p><b>Religious Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Justice and Freedom</li> <li>The Crucifixion</li> </ul> <p><b>Relationship &amp; Health Education via The Big Think</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Love / Responsibility and Related Values</li> <li>What thoughts, words and actions do you use to take care of yourself?</li> <li>Should you always speak up for what you think is right or wrong?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Music</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How musical styles connect us - Notation</li> <li>Improving - Using chords and structure</li> </ul> <p><b>Art - Still Life</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulus - World War II artefacts</li> <li>Media - Charcoal, construction</li> <li>Skill - Sketching, Negative Light and Shade</li> </ul> <p><b>Design and Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electrical Systems - Steady hand game</li> </ul> <p><b>Mandarin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn words related to hobbies.</li> <li>Countries and Nationalities</li> <li>Cuisine and Restaurants</li> <li>Use the correct sentence structure related to the above topic.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Physical Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance - Dance through the Decades</li> <li>Clak - Problem solving challenges</li> <li>Gymnastics - Movement</li> <li>Games - Net and Wall Games - Volleyball</li> </ul>	<p><b>How you can support your child at home</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure your child reads for at least 30 minutes every day - no distractions!</li> <li>Discuss the text and ask questions about the plot, characters and language used by the author</li> <li>Learn and practise spellings, number operations and problem-solving questions</li> <li>Promote Growth Mindset and use positive language when faced with challenges</li> <li>Develop good routines and encourage your child to form good habits in line with the school's 'Habit of the Month'.</li> </ul>

## Zones of Regulation

<p><b>Blue Zone</b></p> <p>SAD, HURT, SICK, TIRED</p> <p>How can you help yourself?</p> <p><b>REST</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take a break</li> <li>Ask for help</li> <li>Talk to someone</li> <li>Jump up and down 5 x</li> <li>I can also ...?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Green Zone</b></p> <p>HAPPY, FOCUSED, CALM, EXCITED</p> <p>How can you help yourself?</p> <p><b>GO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Think happy thoughts</li> <li>Finish my work</li> <li>Help others</li> <li>Share ideas</li> <li>I can also ...?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Yellow Zone</b></p> <p>SURPRISED, CONFUSED, WORRIED, SILLY</p> <p>How can you help yourself?</p> <p><b>SLOW DOWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take deep breaths</li> <li>Talk to someone</li> <li>Go for a short walk</li> <li>Count to ten</li> <li>I can also ...?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Red Zone</b></p> <p>ANGRY, GAGING, TERRIFIED, ANNOYED</p> <p>How can you help yourself?</p> <p><b>STOP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take a time out</li> <li>Run a lap</li> <li>Squeeze a stress ball</li> <li>Drink water</li> <li>I can also ...?</li> </ul>
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This term we are excited to roll out the Zones of Regulation fully across the school. Through this programme children will develop their understanding of their state of arousal (whether they are in the blue, green, yellow or red zone) and learn strategies to support their emotional regulation. Please find attached the training delivered last term. We look forward to sharing our learning of the different zones over the upcoming weeks

## 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 (Graphic Novel) - by R J Palacio**  
**Kestrels - Goodnight Mr. Tom - by Michelle Magorian**

## Dance Festival Information for Parents in Red Kites

This year our school performance will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Tickets for the Primary Dance Festival will be **£9.00 each + booking fee**, payable through the TicketSource website via the link here for THURS 13<sup>th</sup> FEB- <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ascot-maidenhead-school-sport-partnership/primary-dance-festival-2026-our-green-planet/2026-02-11/13:00/t-dkvlkjo>

It is initially limited to 1 ticket per child. Due to the large numbers of schools and children taking part (400), this limit allows all families access to at least 1 ticket to see their child. These are general admission tickets only, so not allocated row and seat numbers.

Doors will open at 12.45pm ahead of a 1.00pm performance, and is scheduled for 2.30pm finish.

If the tickets are not initially sold out, then there will be the **option to purchase further tickets 7 days later on TUES 20th JANUARY - 12 Noon through the same link**  
**Please note: Tickets are Non Refundable**

## Power Up Weekend - Saturday 7th / Sunday 8th March

### Volunteers Needed!



We're calling on our school community to help Power Up our school!

Join us on Saturday 7th March and Sunday 8th March for a hands-on weekend to help spruce up the school and create an even better environment for our children.

We need volunteers who can help with painting, building, DIY, tidying, or even sourcing or donating materials. Whether you can spare an hour or a whole day, your support will make a real difference.

### Can you help?

Please email the PTA at [wsl.pta@gmail.com](mailto:wsl.pta@gmail.com) with:

- Your availability (which day and how long)
- Any skills, tools, or resources you can offer



Many hands make light work - thank you for supporting our school and our children!

The PTA Team

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) / Mrs Giovanna Brancato (KS1 Team Leader) / Mrs Jo Waite (KS2 Team Leader)

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Fiona Edwards (Parent Governor)

Contact the Governing Board: clerk@wslprimary.org

**Dates for Your Diary**

**The Academic Year 2025-2026**

**Term 3 (30 days)**

<b>January</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Final Open Morning for New Sept 2026 Intake	09.30 – 10.45
	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10@10 Active Minutes	10.00 – 10.10
	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATS Meeting	15.10 – 16.10
	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS / KS1 Performance – Midnight in the Toy Shop	10.00 – 11.30
	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Kestrels Class Assembly	14.30 – 15.05
	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Kestrels English Open Session for Parents	09.00 – 09.45
	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Owls English Open Session for Parents	09.00 -- 09.45
	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Skylarks English Open Session for Parents	09.00 – 09.45
	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Robins Class Assembly	14.30 – 15.05
	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Robins English Open Session for Parents	09.00 – 09.45
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Red Kites English Open Session for Parents	09.00 – 09.45	

**February**

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nightingales English Open Session for Parents	09.00 – 09.45
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dragon Dance Workshop	13.00 – 15.00
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Skylarks Class Assembly	14.30 – 15.05
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	School Movie Night organized by School Council	16.30 – 18.15
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	CHINESE NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES WEEK	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Assembly - "Great Athletes" launch	13.10 – 13.30
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Assembly - "Great Athletes" launch	14.40 – 15.00
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Internet Safety Day	All Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	DANCE FESTIVAL - Red Kites Class	All Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	End of Pupil Term	15.10

**February Holiday: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Term 4 (25 days)**

<b>February</b>	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Big 60 PE festival at Braywick leisure Centre (Y1 and Y2)	13.00 -- 15.10
	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Rotary Writing Competition Evening	18.00
	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Robins Cake Sale	15.10

**March**

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bags2School Day	
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Great Athletes Activity in Hall	13.00 -- 15.00
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Nightingales Phonics Workshop (Year 1)	14.30 – 15.00
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	WSL POWER UP WEEKEND	All Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Safety Talk (Year 5)	10.30 – 11.30
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Nightingales Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Red Kites Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Kestrels Class Fundraiser	15.10
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening – KS2	15.30 -- 17.30
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening – All Classes	17.00 – 19.00
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Owls Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening – All Classes	15.30 -- 17.30
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Hat Parade	14.50
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term	13.00

**Spring Holiday: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**(Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026, Easter Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026)**

**Term 5(29 days)**

<b>April</b>	Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
<b>May</b>	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	May Day Bank Holiday	
	Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Pupil Term	15.10
<b>May Holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>			

**Term 6 (38 days)**

<b>June</b>	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	Staff Inset Day	
	Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	
<b>July</b>	Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Pupil Term	13.00
<b>Summer Holiday: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2026 – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026</b>			

**Dates /times added/changed will be highlighted**

Please do not book family holidays during term time. Dates are on the school website [www.wslprimary.org](http://www.wslprimary.org)

