



# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

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Weekly Newsletter Number 23

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

*"This week I did sports with an Olympian and Para-Olympian, heard a brand-new book by a published author, carried a massive bag of clothes into school, made an enormous bubble and spent the day in my snuggly warm onesie.*

*I wonder what we will be doing next week!"*

As the **warm spring sunshine** beat down on the moss-flecked roof tiles of Waltham St. Lawrence Primary School this week, at times, the pace inside the building more closely resembled a lively summer festival than a quiet village school. It has been a wonderfully exciting few days—full of learning, laughter, and the kind of organised busyness that only an enthusiastic school community can create.

We began on Monday with calm and thoughtful **Key Stage Assemblies**. The focus this week was **friendship**—using gentle words, supporting one another, and showing courage when standing up for what is right. The children were reminded that sometimes bravery doesn't involve great heroic leaps, but rather the quieter act of speaking up when a friend needs help.

Tuesday brought a noticeable increase in activity, largely due to **our Bags2School collection**. The mountain of donations outside my window grew bigger and bigger as more and more bags were piled cheerfully on top. The generosity of our families was, as ever, remarkable, and it is quite possible that next year we may need to reserve a larger vehicle.

On Tuesday afternoon, Key Stage 2 welcomed author **Sue Palmer**, who delivered a wonderfully engaging workshop centred on the beach, sea creatures, and her new book **The Secret Shell**. The children listened with great fascination, and several declared that they were now ready to pursue literary careers of their own.

Wednesday continued the momentum with **the Great Athletes Initiative**, led by **Kelly Murphy** and **Nerys Hughes**. The children exercised with such determination that a number of them left the hall declaring it the "tiredest they had ever been". Kelly concluded the day with an inspirational assembly about life as an Olympic athlete, and her message of resilience resonated deeply.

Thursday brought **World Book Day**, transforming the school into a spectacle of onesies, slippers, and pyjamas. Classrooms resembled cosy reading nooks, and children delighted in hearing stories read by different members of staff. It was a joyful celebration of the power of books.

Finally, as Friday arrived, our preparations for the forthcoming **"Power-Up Weekend"** were in full swing. With skips delivered, paint at the ready, and brushes in waiting, our PTA and supporting adults stand prepared to give the school a well-deserved spring refresh.



It has been a truly fabulous week—vibrant, uplifting, and a reminder of the exceptional community spirit that makes **Waltham St. Lawrence truly the best school in the world!**

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. D. Errington



## Sue Palmer, a published author, inspired us with her brand-new book “The Secret Shell”



Dear Sue Palmer,  
When I grow up, I might be an author. I like to write books too. I like to use my imagination to write stories.  
By Bailey



I liked it when Sue Palmer told us about sea creatures. The bit when she talked about pastries mad me hungry.  
By Lawrence

It was fun when Sue Palmer came. We learnt about coasts. There were lots of pictures of cool animals. I would do it again.  
By Sam



Yesterday, Sue Palmer came to visit us at school. She told us about the beach and gave me a new book that she had written in. I had the best time.  
By Ava-Grace



## We learnt about plants that grow in springtime



## We sat on the playground, reading our favourite books, dressed in our onesies



**We were all GREAT ATHLETES, cheered on by a Para-Olympian and an Olympian**



**We worked as a team in a football related book quiz and tried to score as many points as possible**



**We collected over 342kg of clothes and raised an amazing £102.60**



## We were inspired by an amazing book to produce some beautiful work in Art



## We have been having fun, learning outside in the sunshine



## 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	Ezra E	Summer W
Nightingales	Eleanor B	Valentina C
Robins	Sienna C	Mia M
Skylarks	Annika M	Eila B
Red Kites	Bailey H	Lawrence G
Kestrels	Ethan C	Tilly P

## House Points

	Weekly Total	Rolling Total
Brunel (Blue)	427	2766
Galileo (Green)	370	1933
Redgrave (Red)	324	2021
Yeats (Yellow)	430	2542

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

## Attendance for the Week

Owls – 96.6%      Skylarks – 94.2 %  
Nightingales – 87.5%      Red Kites – 100%  
Robins – 100 %      Kestrels – 96.7%  
Whole School – 95.6%



## 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:

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

## Habit of the Month

In March, children will be focusing on:

### Be brave – Say “Yes” to new opportunities

- **Be Brave** – Go for it! If you don't try you will never know if you can achieve it.
- **Be courageous** – Put your hand up and answer the question.
- **Be confident** – Speak loudly, slowly and clearly when explaining your ideas.
- **Be adventurous** – New opportunities will make you a stronger person.

We would appreciate your support with this when the children are at home, as a consistent approach will lead to positive behaviour in our children, which will last lifetime.

## Amazon Wish List

We regularly update our **Amazon Wish List** and would appreciate your continued support. If you would like to purchase something for the school, please click the link [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=\\_wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/ZK98E8KNOSZQ?ref=_wl_share) Thank you for your support.

## Bag2School Collection

A HUGE thank you to everyone who brought in clothes and items for the Bags2School Collection.

I am so pleased to say that the weight of our bags collected this year was **342kg** meaning that we raised a wonderful **£102.60**. Well done everyone.

## Sue Palmer – The Secret Shell



After the hugely successful visit of Sue Palmer to our school on Tuesday, I would like to remind parents that Sue's latest book "the Secret Shell" is now available at Waterstones, on Amazon or from many local bookshops. Sue has even said that if a few children purchase the book, she will pop over and sign books at lunchtime.

## The Big Think

Next week we are focusing on teamwork and children will explore the meaning of the word and discuss 'Do you like being part of the team? Do you value your teammates? Perhaps you could discuss with your children whether they have ever achieved something because they were part of a team.'



Here is a quote: 'Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.' – Ryunosuke Satoro, Japanese Writer (1892 1927). What might this quote mean?

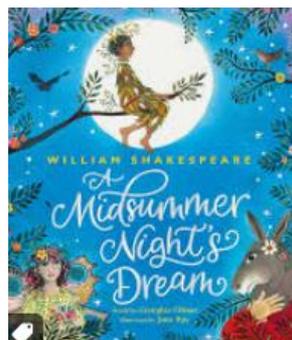
## Correct School Shoes and Labels

Please could you ensure that your son/daughter wears the correct school shoes to school that meet the uniform policy – **NOT trainers**.

Please make sure **every item of clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name and class**. We have a significant amount of lost property, none of which is named, which makes it very difficult for us to find out who it belongs to. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – 9.00am



Mrs Morgan and Miss Hill would like to invite parents of children in performance club to a special showing of "A mid-summer Nights Dream" on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9am. The children have worked extremely hard at learning their lines and the rehearsals have been entertaining and rewarding.

Please come along and watch if you can.

## Great Athletes 2026 – Update



After our wonderful “Great Athletes” activity afternoon on Wednesday, it is now time to start collecting in the money. Remember, every penny raised helps the school to buy valuable PE

equipment and as a reward, pupils will receive the following thank-you gifts for meeting these milestones:

- **Raise any money: an A5 sheet of motivational stickers**
- **Raise £10 or more: a blue Great Athletes wristband**
- **Raise £25 or more: a blue wristband, and a red wristband with Kelly’s signature**
- **Raise £50 or more: all of the above, plus a signed Kelly Murphy poster**

Please ensure that the sponsorship form and money are returned to the school office one week after the event (Wednesday 11th March) has taken place unless you have used the QR code to setup an online fundraising page.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## 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)

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.

## PTA – POWER UP WEEKEND – 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> March

Power-up weekend is almost upon us and with only 1 day to go it’s still not too late to sign up or come along.

Please help us to make the School environment special for all children by popping on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March and lending a hand for an hour or two.

## DONATIONS

If you have any of the following items, they would also be extremely useful.

- **Plastic storage boxes**
- **Large external storage containers**
- **Roofing felt**
- **External garden screens (bamboo / wicker)**
- **Outdoor paints / Fence paints (Cuprinol etc)**

We are looking forward to a hugely successful weekend.

## 🎉 PTA Quiz Night - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 🎉

Join us for a fun and friendly Quiz Night in support of the PTA! Entry is £10 per person, with teams of up to 8. Create your own team and feel free to invite friends, family, or colleagues — everyone’s welcome.

👥 We’d love to see parents from every class taking part.

🍷🍷 This is a BYOB and nibbles event — and don’t forget to bring cash or coins 💰 for fun games on the night and our raffle 🏆 There’s a £100 prize for the winning quiz team!

👉 Get involved, get quizzing, and book your place now!



## 🌸 Spring Swap 'n' Shop - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 🌸

Refresh your wardrobe and support the PTA! Join us for a relaxed evening of browsing & buying pre-loved clothes.

👕 Donations needed: clean, pressed, good-quality items on hangers — please bring to school by 23rd April.



<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wslpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=111623>

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](mailto:clerk@wslprimary.org)

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

### Dates for Your Diary

#### The Academic Year 2025-2026

#### March

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> /Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	WSL POWER UP WEEKEND	All Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK	All Week
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Fire Safety Talk (Year 5)	10.30 – 11.30
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Maths Competition (Team of 4)	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Nightingales Class Assembly	14.30 -- 15.05
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	James Carter – Maidenhead Big Read – KS1	09.30—10.50
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Quiz Night	19.00—22.00
w/c Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Last Week for Teacher Led Clubs	15.10—16.10
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>	A Midsummer Night's Dream (Performance families only)	09.00—09.30
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 PTA Easter Hat Parade	14.50—15.10
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>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
	w/c Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	All teacher Led Clubs start this week	15.10--16.10
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Joshua Reynolds (MP) Assembly	10.30—10.50
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety – Skylarks	13.15-- 14.05
	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Swap N Shop	19.30—21.00

<b>May</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	May Day Bank Holiday	All Day
	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety – Red Kites	13.15—14.05
	Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> -Thur 14 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATs Week	09.00—11.00
	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	No Pens Day	All Day
	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Young Apprentice Competition	13.00—15.00
	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Red Kites Fundraiser	15.10
	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Pupil Term	15.10

**May Holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

## Term 6 (38 days)

<b>June</b>	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Staff Inset Day</b>	All Day
	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	08.30
	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	
	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	KS2 Class Organisation Information Meeting for Parents	14.15—15.00
	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	It's Your Move – Year 6 Transition Talk	13.00—14.00
	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mathemagenius – Year 4 Competition (Team of 3)	16.15—18.00
	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	
	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Trip to Waltham Place	All Day
	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Bikeability – Level 1	All Day
	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Village Fete	13.00—17.30
	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fair Arrives	
	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety – Kestrels	13.15—14.05
	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Mighty Maths Year 2 Competition (Team of 3)	16.15—18.00
	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Trip to Waltham Place	All Day
	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Book Fair Leaves	
	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day	13.00--15.10
	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Reserve Sports Day	13.00 –15.10

<b>July</b>	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Party in the Parish	
	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	End of the Year Production Dress Rehearsal	13.30—14.45
	Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	13.30—14.45
	Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	18.00—19.15
	Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	End of the Year Performance for KS2 Parents	18.00—19.15
	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Reports Home	15.10
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Transition to New Classes for 2026-2027	
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Trip to Windsor Castle	All Day
	<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>PTA CAMPOUT ON SCHOOL FIELD</b>	
	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Graduation Ceremony in School Hall	09.30—10.30
	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Pupil Term	13.00
	<b>Summer Holiday:</b>		<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2026 – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026</b>

## The Academic Year 2026-2027

### **Term 1 (39 days)**

<b>September</b>	<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Staff Inset Day</b>	<b>All Day</b>
	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of Pupil Term	08.30

<b>October</b>	Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	End of Pupil Term	15.10
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**October Holiday: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2026 to Friday 30<sup>st</sup> October 2026**

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

