



Message from the Head

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Watling Park School,

I hope you all have had an enjoyable week with your children and that they are well rested and ready for a busy half term ahead. The topic for this half term is 'Growing' and we have a range of exciting activities and excursions to enrich their learning about this.

We are really fortunate that we are going to hatch ducklings here at Watling Park, see caterpillars turn into butterflies and we will also be growing our own sunflowers in support of Centronuclear Myopathies. You can find out more about this on <http://centronuclear.org.uk> and the big sunflower project that we will be taking part in. All of this as well as an upcoming visit to Willows Farm later in the term.

As our topic is growing, we want children to consider the different stages in the life cycle of humans as well as plants. If you have a new baby, would you be prepared to bring him/ her into school as our children would be really keen to ask you lots of questions about them or do you know of any grandparents who could come in and share their experiences – we will appreciate any visits. Please do let a member of the Reception team know if you can help in any way.

From next week, we will be starting Family Fridays, where we encourage parents to come into class and stay with children until 9.15am. This is an opportunity for you to share a book with your child, add some exciting news to their learning journey or explore what is on offer in their classroom. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible join us for this.

I would also like to reassure you that we have been working hard to recruit the very best staff here for Watling Park and will continue to do so to ensure we have the very best teachers as our school grows. If you do have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

With best wishes,
Moira Anderson

Leavers and Starters

We say goodbye to Ms Furniss and thank her for her input in our early stages of setting up Watling Park School. We wish her well in her new endeavours.

Ms Goss joins the Oak Class team and will initially work alongside Ms Robb and Ms Vagadia to coordinate a smooth transition to assuming the role of Oak Class teacher, going forward. We welcome her to the Watling Park Team.

I would also like to introduce Marion Standing, an interim deputy head teacher. Marion has had significant leadership experience working across several boroughs. She has worked alongside head teachers and other school leaders in three roles and undertaken the role of Interim Head teacher in two others. She will bring a wealth of experience to our school.



- Thank you to the PTFA for organising our first Valentines disco to raise money for improving our outdoor environment.
- The PTFA will be holding a meeting on Monday 29th at 5pm to discuss the many different ways you can get involved to support your child's school.
- Please do try and make the meeting. A free crèche will be available. Please book by emailing friendsofwatlingparkschool@gmail.com





Parent Day.. Can you help?

After cancelling our planned Parent day due to poor weather last term, we're looking for volunteers to help us improve our outdoor area on Saturday 19th March, 2016.

We are looking to pot plants, construct outdoor play equipment and paint bits and pieces to brighten the outdoor space up. We would also love to start building up our larger construction outside.
Can you help out?

Does anyone have any wooden or plastic crates, old tyres, netting, large fabric etc. or know where we could get some - please let us know.

We are also collecting building materials like plastic tubing and buckets to create different experiences for the children, such as water walls.

It may be that you can donate resources, help with some planting, painting, general construction DIY, even keep the workers happy with tea and coffee – there are so many ways that you can get involved.

The Parent Day will run from 11 – 3pm. You do not have to be there for all of this time – whatever time you can offer will be greatly appreciated. If you are interested, please speak to Mrs Marriner.

Please do take a look at the parents notice board for our ideas as to how we would like to develop the outdoors and any suggestions you may have are warmly welcomed.

Spare clothes

Please ensure your child has a set of spare clothes in school. This does not have to be a full set of uniform and it should be left on their peg in case of any accidents.

We are, meanwhile, trying to organise a spare clothes box ourselves in school, so if you do have any spare jogging bottoms, skirts, tights, leggings etc. – could we please have them.

Requests

The children are looking at life cycles and changes from baby to child. We need photos of your child as a baby. Please put in an envelope, marked with your child's name and hand to a member of the Reception team.

Elm class have been reorganising their role play area as a baby clinic and would appreciate any items that can be used to set this up e.g. baby clothes, baby toys, toy highchairs, bibs, small blankets and anything else that you think they could make good use of.



We are looking to build up our collection of fabric in school.

Do you have any spare fabric/ netting that we could have?

Behaviour System

Whilst we are continuing with our friends and stars of the week, you will have noticed that children are now coming home with a sticker that says "I reached the sun today". This means that they have been recognised for their consistent good behaviour and effort in class.

Children who 'reach the sun' consistently throughout the week are awarded the "superstar of the week" certificate and will receive a small reward. It may be something like 'Tea with the Head teacher!'

Contact Us

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'Personal and academic excellence; every child every day'

Our core values are captured by the acronym: I Care

Integrity

Confidence

Appreciation

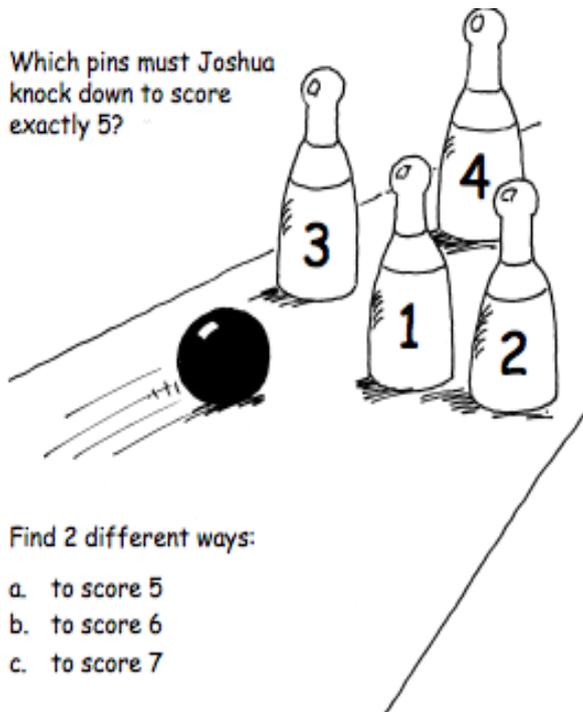
Responsibility

Excellence



Maths Challenge - Four pin bowling

Which pins must Joshua knock down to score exactly 5?



Find 2 different ways:

- a. to score 5
- b. to score 6
- c. to score 7

Please help your child to investigate this problem using practical apparatus such as counters

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \bullet & \bullet & & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ 2 & + & 3 & = & 5 \end{array}$$

Talk for Writing

At Watling Park, we embrace and celebrate the thoughts and emotions of children and give high regard to the importance of talk, believing that if we want children to be avid writers, they need to be able to say what they want to write.

Each week, we will post a image on the school website and in our newsletter that we would like you to talk to your child about . Ask them questions beginning with words or phrases such as why? I wonder what happen if..? Where ? How ..? When?

Encourage them to answer if full sentences If they don't , model this to them and they will soon begin to do so.

Monday 29th February, 2016

- PTFA Friends of Watling Park Meeting 5pm
- Crèche available
- Email: friendsofwatlingparkschool@gmail.com

Thursday 3rd March, 2016

- World Book Day
- We will be celebrating World Book Day and for this we would like everyone to dress as their favourite book character and bring along their favourite book to share with the rest of the class.

Wednesday 9th March, 2016

- RWI Parents workshop. Find out more about how we teach phonics at school and how you can support your child at home.
- The workshop will run at the following times
- 3:30 – 4:15
- 5:00 – 5:45

Thursday 17th March, 2016

- Trip to Willows Farm – volunteers needed. Please speak to a member of the Reception team. Names will be chosen randomly. It is not first come, first served!

Saturday 19th March, 2016

- Parents' Day – Improve our outdoor space
- 11 – 3pm

