



School Aims

We aim to stimulate and inspire our children, develop their interests and equip them with lifelong learning skills through the provision of a broad, rich and exciting curriculum which focuses on developing children's love of learning.

Messages from Mrs Quartson

BPET Learning Review

Last week, a team of BPET Senior leaders led a Learning Review at Watling Park. They observed in classes, looked at the children's books and spoke to children, parents and staff. It was a very positive review which identified many strengths. The Headteacher who led the Review commented on the high quality of the teaching and the fantastic learning children record in their books – she will be taking this back to her school to ensure they are reaching our high standards! The areas identified for further development match perfectly with areas we are already addressing which includes continuing to develop parental and community engagement. We are making good progress in this area, but it was very helpful to receive the parent questionnaires before the holidays (these are being analysed; we will provide this for you very soon) and to hear feedback from the parents who met with the visitors during the Review. Once we receive the final report, staff will use it to adapt and adjust action plans to continue to improve standards ensuring we provide the best quality education for your children. A very special thanks to the parents who gave up their time to speak to the visitors, including those who altered their plans on the morning to step in for parents who were unable to attend at the last minute.

It is with regret that we say 'farewell' to the Friends of Watling Park in the current format (see message below). Thanks to the focused and dedicated efforts of a very small group of parents, FoWP who have provided a broad range of events for the children and families of the school to enjoy over the years. I would like to say a special 'thank you' to Dominique (Chair), Christina (Vice Chair) and Nicola (Secretary and Treasurer) for all the hard work they have put in during their time as committee members. Thanks also to the wider group of committee members.

It is hard to believe that we will be halfway through the year on Friday! I wish you a very happy and relaxing half term break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 25th February for the second half of a very full and exciting year!

Thought for the Week:

One small, positive thought in the morning can change your whole day and radiates out from your smile! ☺

Eating Independently



We have noticed that many children are taking a long time to eat at lunchtimes because they are not confident using a knife and fork by themselves.

Please encourage and support your child to use cutlery independently at home so that they can manage to cut up their food at lunchtimes. This way they will be able to finish eating quickly and enjoy time outside in the fresh air.

Friends of Watling Park (FoWP)

It is with a sad heart that we have to announce the disbanding of the FOWP as no parents stepped forward to fill the vital roles that were needed to keep FOWP running. There will be no FoWP/PTA for the foreseeable future. We have all worked so hard to make the events fun and exciting for all of our children so this is a very difficult decision however, without people to fill these roles, it is untenable.

This week's disco (on Wednesday) will be our final event. Please purchase your tickets from the FoWP at the gate this afternoon and tomorrow before and after school. We want to make this event a really good one for the children.

As Acting Chair, I would like to personally thank everybody for their help and support in making all previous events a success. We have raised £2,064.00 not including money raised from the disco this week. This money will be spent on equipment for the Muga and the sensory corner in the playground.

Upcoming events: Valentine's Disco Wednesday 13th February 4.00 - 5.20pm For all children

Attendance Reminder

As we are now approaching the half-term break, please use this week to book any appointments your child may require to avoid them missing crucial learning time.

We would also like to remind you that if your child is absent from school on the last day of any term/half-term or is absent on the first day back after the school holiday, you will require medical evidence to authorise the absence. Evidence includes a copy of the prescription, a medical note from the doctor, headed paper with a note from the receptionist stating you attended, the medication box/bottle with the dates and printed pharmacy label or an A&E discharge note.

If you are away on holiday and your flight gets cancelled due to issues out of your control, we will require proof of the original flights and dates of your original return. If you are abroad and your child gets sick, we will still require medical evidence.

If you are unable to provide any evidence for your child's absence, their attendance will be unauthorised and you will receive a penalty charge notice from Barnet. The charge is £60 per parent, if paid within an early period.

If you would like any further clarification, please read our Attendance Policy on our website or call the office to speak to Miss Watson.



Hot Chocolate & Cupcakes Stall!



This Friday after school (3.30pm) in the Reception playground (outside Oak Class).

Come and enjoy a yummy end to the half term!

★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

We are very pleased to announce our Stars of the Week for the last two weeks are:

	Week ending 1 st February:	Week ending 8 th February:
Pear Class	Hope	Sara
	Christopher	Diar
Pine Class	Alexia	Karlie
	Nicole	Ruyah
Hazel Class	Mika	Dennis
	Imran	Timurhan
Cedar Class	Daria	Miriam
	Romea	Maia
Willow Class	Deon	Kaloyan
	Youcef	Alexandra
Birch Class	Abigail	Anum
	Rebecca	Francis

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WEEK:		
Monday 11 th Feb	Online Safety Day 9.00am – Parent Workshop	All parents and carers
Wednesday 13 th Feb	Yr 1 trip to London Aquarium 4.00 – 5.20pm FoWP Valentines Disco	Y1 children All children
	9.00 – 9.30am – Reception Parents Phonics Activity morning Last day of half term (school finishes at 3.30pm)	Reception parents and carers All children
FURTHER AHEAD:		
Mon – Fri 18 th – 22 nd Feb	Half Term Holidays	All children
Monday 25 th Feb	Children return to school (school starts at 8.45am)	All children
Tuesday 26 th Feb	BPET Interschool Y3 Boys Football Competition at Wimbledon FC	Selected Y3 boys
	LAB Meeting	LAB Parent members
Thursday 28 th Feb	Yr 2 trip to RAF Museum	Y2 children
Friday 1 st March	9.00 – 9.30am – Reception Parents Maths Activity morning	Reception parents and carers
Mon – Fri 4 th – 8 th March	Book Week (Look out for information coming soon)	All children

Birthday cakes and treats



As mentioned in previous newsletters, we will not be giving out cakes and treats for birthdays.

This takes a lot of time at the end of the day and we also have growing numbers of children with allergies.

You are more than welcome to bring cakes and treats with you when you pick up at the end of the day and pass these out to the children when they have left the classroom.



Toys at School



Recently, a number of toys and fancy watches have been brought to school. This has caused lots of upset and distraction during learning times.

Please check that children do not have toys or watches (other than a very plain one) when you drop them off.

This avoids them being upset if items are taken away by staff. Thank you for your support with this.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB NEWS

As you will be aware, FoWP are holding a Valentine's Disco on Wednesday afternoon.

After School Clubs will still be running as normal.

If you would like your child to attend the Disco, please inform and pay FoWP.

If you have already paid for After School Club for this Wednesday, you will be able to use this payment towards a future club.

Any ASC children not attending the Disco will take part in clubs as normal.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance:

This Year's Attendance Target:	This week's attendance:	Comments:	Class with the best attendance:
96.5%	94.5%	We know there are lots of children who have been off school with the sickness bug lately. Our cleaners have been spending extra time disinfecting all parts of the school including door handles and light switches along with their normal cleaning routines. We hope we are at the end of this bout of illness.	Willow Class with 97.5%. Congratulations – this is a fantastic effort!

Punctuality:

Class/es where everyone arrived on time:	Comments:
Pear Class, Cedar Class and Hazel Class	Even with all the rain, it was wonderful to see so many classes where the children were in and starting their learning on time – well done!

Watling Park School Local Advisory Board (LAB) members

We will continue to feature a member of our LAB team so you can get to know a little more about them and understand their role.

This newsletter, we will be meeting **Mrs Dhanmita Boodhna**, our Chair of the Local Advisory Board.



What would you like parents and carers to know about you and your role as a LAB member?

I am the Chair of the Local Advisory Board (which is the new title for the local governing body). I have been a governor since the school's inception in September 2015 and have been the Chair since September 2016. Having experience of working in a private start up enterprise, I was able to transfer my knowledge to this 'start up' school especially regarding admissions, recruitment, processes and strategic thinking.

Watling Park is an exceptional school that has been on remarkable journey and I feel privileged to have seen the school grow and most importantly the children flourish.

What is your area of focus as a LAB member and what have you found on your visits?

My focus area as a LAB member is to evaluate and support the leadership and management team to ensure that the vision of the school is upheld and that we all move forward together implementing the school improvement plan. With an experienced head and a senior management team that know the school and their children really well, we are moving forward with high ambitions – driven by our happy, motivated and well behaved pupils! I am also working on reviewing external and internal partnerships for the school which is an important aspect for Watling Park to continue to develop in order for us to be an outstanding community school – working with the children, families and carers, staff, neighbouring schools (primary and secondary), the residents of the community and the local council.

The transition from governing body to local advisory board has streamlined the focus of the advisers to ensure that we continue to support and challenge the school in the great work it does. I am very grateful for the time and energy of the advisers who voluntarily contribute their time to ensure that Watling Park's children get the best start in their educational journey in life.