



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

It has certainly been a busy couple of weeks at school with all the excitement around the snow last week, the Yr 1 Owl visit, lots of school trips and some amazing learning taking place for everyone – a very positive start to the new term. Thank you so much for all your support in helping make it such a great start!

I am aware that some families have found it challenging to pay for recent **class trips**. Having events before and after Christmas is always difficult as it can be an expensive time. Trips have to be booked well in advance – these were booked in the summer term. Going forward, we want to make sure we book more expensive trips at different points in the year. We are also looking at **ways to raise money throughout the year which can be put towards the trip costs in order to keep prices as low as possible**. We have set up the option to **pay by instalments on Parentpay** - you can pay a small amount each week over an extended time to make it more manageable.

If your child is **eligible for Pupil Premium funding**, only **some** of the cost of trips is covered out of this money as the majority is used for additional teaching time to provide appropriate learning support throughout the week. If you have any questions about this, please speak to a Senior Leader, for clarification. Trips and events closely link to the children's learning and therefore, they are not optional. It is vital that **all** children attend. Please speak to the classteacher if you have any concerns about your child attending a trip so we can work with you to address them.

As you will see in the **Friends of Watling Park** section below, Nicola will no longer be Secretary after Friday 15th February. She has been an amazing and committed member of the committee and we are very sad to say farewell. In order for FoWP to continue, we must have a Secretary in post, so please consider if you would be willing take on this position, even until the end of the summer term. The work the team are doing to provide a variety of wonderful events for the children and to raise money to set up goal posts in the Muga and a Chill Out Zone in the playground will enhance the opportunities for the children in the school going forward.

Thought for the Week:

You don't have to be better than everybody else. You should strive to be better than you ever thought you could be.



Please remember our online safety day for children, parents and staff on **Monday 11th February 2019**.

You should have received a letter about the parent/carer workshop (at 9.00am) on this day by email and as a paper copy. Please return your slips as soon as possible so we can ensure we have a room big enough to fit everyone in. We look forward to seeing you there!



Hot Chocolate & Cupcakes Stall!



Keep an eye out for our Hot Chocolate & Cupcake stall this Friday afternoon after school. Come and enjoy a yummy hot chocolate and a cupcake with us! We hope this can be a regular event every second Friday after school so come and check it out and give us suggestions for what could be sold at the next stall...

Parentpay

Many parents still have not activated their Parentpay account. If you are still having problems please speak to Miss Foe in the office urgently as we need to know of any problems so they can be fixed immediately.

Year 3 parents - Thank you for your patience with Parentpay. Miss Foe is working hard to fix lunch payments for Year 3. She is hopeful by the end of the week everything should be updated. Please log on to check.

Friends of Watling Park (FoWP)

The FoWP would like to say THANK YOU to everyone for their donations and support throughout 2018. You have helped make our events fun, interactive and engaging for our children and families!

Sadly, our Secretary, Nicola, is resigning from the post as of 15th February. We would like to say 'thank you' for all the hard work you have put into FoWP. Thankfully, Nicola will still be a parent at the school and a member of FoWP but she will no longer be a committee member. Also, our Chair, Dominique, is currently on maternity leave. We wish her good luck and look forward to meeting her new arrival!

In order for FoWP to continue, we need to fill the following roles ASAP:

Treasurer	Vice Treasurer	Secretary
Class reps	Social media liaison	Point of contact for school

We have organised a meeting at **9.00am on Wednesday 6th February**. If these roles are not filled, then we will have no option but to disband the FOWP, which we really do not want to have to do, so please come along and find out what the roles entail and see if you can help us to support the children and our school. We really need you!

Upcoming events:	FoWP Meeting	Wednesday 6 th February	9.00 - 10.00am	For all parents and carers
	Valentine's Disco	Wednesday 13 th February	4.00 - 5.30pm	For all children

★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

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

	Week ending 18 th January:	Week ending 25 th January:
Pear Class	Elisa	Aaron
	Stinor	Sahr
Pine Class	Trim	David
	Kieran	Abel
Hazel Class	Rim	Mirah
	Jila	Heba
Cedar Class	Aron	Shreelaya
	Gracie	Oliver
Willow Class	Corztez	Stina
	Nasrin	Gonar
Birch Class	George	Brooke
	Toti	Mohammed

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Mon:	Rec-Y3 Rec-Y1 Rec-Y3 Rec-Y3	Athletics Arts & Craft Drama Stay and Play
Tues:	Rec-Y1 Y2-Y3 Rec-Y3 Rec-Y3	Football Home Learning Yoga Stay and Play
Wed:	Rec-Y3 Rec-Y3 Y2-Y3 Rec-Y3	Choir Irish Dancing Arts and Crafts Stay and Play
Thurs:	Rec-Y3 Beginners Intermediate Rec-Y3	Computing Karate (finishes at 4.30pm) Karate (finishes at 5.15pm) Stay and Play
Friday:	Y2&3 Rec-Y1 Y2-Y3 Rec-Y3	Football Lego Film Club Stay and Play

Stay & Play club is on every afternoon.

ALL CLUBS ABOVE FINISH AT 5PM EXCEPT KARATE.

Children who also attend Sunset Club must be collected promptly at 6.00pm (5pm on Friday).

Anyone who is late collecting their child from clubs will be charged £5 per half hour late.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WEEK:		
Monday 28 th Jan	Yr 2 trip to London Zoo	Y2 children
Tuesday 29 th Jan	Yr 3 trip to Natural History Museum	Y3 children
Wednesday 30 th Jan	Bike It Breakfast and Bike Doctor visit	All children and staff
FURTHER AHEAD:		
Mon & Tues 4 th & 5 th Feb	BPET Learning Review of Watling Park	All classes
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 – 5.30pm FoWP Valentines Disco	Y1 children All children
Friday 15 th Feb	9.00 – 9.30am – Reception Parents Phonics Activity morning	Reception parents and carers
	Last day of half term (school finishes at 3.30pm)	All children
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

Attendance and Punctuality

Achieving good attendance and good punctuality are two important factors that ensure your child has access to the best opportunities.

This Year's Attendance Target:	This week's attendance:	Comments:	Class with the best attendance:
96.5%	96.8%	😊 Thanks so much for your support to achieve this!	Pear Class with 97.31%. You have had the best attendance again – well done!

Please remember that the expectation for parents is that pupils are not taken out during term time as it affects their attendance and they are missing vital aspects of learning.

To be punctual, pupils need to be in their classrooms for 8.45am. Pupils who arrive after this time need to be signed in via the main office reception. Learning begins at 8.45am.

Pupils who are persistently late miss out on important learning, but this can also impact negatively on the rest of the class. Please let us know if we can support you with any aspect of attendance or punctuality.

Class/es where everyone arrived on time:	Comments:
Oak class	Well done to all our pupils in Oak Class – even on the snowy morning, almost everyone was at school on time!

Watling Park School Local Advisory Board (LAB) members

As stated in the last newsletter, we will be featuring 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 **MISS EVE WATSON.**

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

I am the staff member representative on the LAB as well as being Inclusion Manager in the school. I was elected by the staff to be their representative so that staff views were heard and considered at each meeting. I also wanted to develop my strategic understanding of how the school operates. I have previously been a school governor and relish opportunity to work alongside other dedicated members of the community who have a commitment to supporting the school to be the best it can be for our children and families.

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 review and support with developing and reviewing external and internal partnerships. We have identified a number of strengths in this area, many of which I am sure you have supported, such as the increased number of events led by Friends of Watling Park, involvement with a local aged care home and many other positive partnerships.

Currently, I am working alongside the Chair of the LAB to draw up an action plan of next steps we can undertake to further develop community links.

Discussions with children prior to and following events and opportunities focused on building and sustaining partnerships for the school have demonstrated how positively our children see themselves as both members of the school community and also how they are seeing themselves as members of the wider local community. This is a good grounding and will continue to support them as the school develops links and partnerships both nationally and globally in the future.

It is an exciting time to be part of the school, both as a staff member and as a LAB member, as we continue our journey of growing an excellent school together.