



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

Welcome back to the new half term and the very busy lead up to Christmas. I trust everyone enjoyed a relaxing and restful week off.

Happy Diwali to all our families celebrating the Festival Light. The children enjoyed a wonderful assembly led by Mrs Wader today explaining the meaning of Diwali, reminding them of the story of Rama and Sita and the reason diya lamps are so important for this festival.

Year 2 are enjoying the 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures' week this week and Year 4 are really enjoying their artistic side as they become graffiti artists creating large pieces of work in the theme of Banksy. We look forward to the finished products which we will display for everyone to enjoy.

We have also welcomed some new parent volunteers this week alongside the parent volunteers who began last term. We are so grateful for their time and dedication. If you would like to volunteer (training provided), please speak to Ms Watson for further details.

A special thank you to everyone who supported our Bake Sale on the last day before the half term holidays and to Mrs Renouf-Crotty and the staff for providing a wonderful and inspirational Maths week. It was heart-warming to hear the children saying how much they love maths! Thank you also to the parents who attended the Maths workshop for their cooking efforts which were sold at the Bake Sale – we made an impressive £142.34. This will be added to the money Stuart Dixon, Our Trust COO, raises on his bike ride across France to go towards the development of our playground.

For any parents who were unable to attend the Sleep Hygiene workshop held before the holidays, you can access the presentation on the school website.

Enjoy a wonderful week ahead.

Black History Month Holiday Home Learning Viewing (for Parents and Carers)

Please remember parents/carers are invited to view the holiday home learning projects the children completed over the half term holidays focusing on 'Authors of Black Origin' at **3.20pm this Thursday in your child's classroom/s.**

The children have completed a range of learning throughout the month of October and have hopefully enjoyed sharing this with you.

After School and Breakfast Club News

Good News

SchoolsBuddy is now up and running.

Please ensure you log on to your account urgently and make payments towards your child's clubs, Sunrise (Breakfast) and Sunset Clubs urgently.

We ask that all outstanding money owed is cleared by the end of November and thank you for your patience as we worked with head office and the company to sort it out.

Trips and visits payments for 2019-20

All parents should have received a letter about the costings for trips, visits and events for the year. Payments need to be made via your Arbor account. You can either pay the entire amount at once or pay weekly instalments until the balance has been cleared.

If you are having any problems logging on to Arbor, please see Miss Foe in the office.

ABSENCE AND APPOINTMENTS

A NUMBER OF CHILDREN WERE NOT AT SCHOOL AT THE END OF LAST TERM OR DID NOT RETURN ON MONDAY. THESE ABSENCES WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND FINES WILL BE ISSUED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

MRS QUARTSON WILL ONLY AUTHORISE ABSENCE IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND WITH RELEVANT EVIDENCE.

PLEASE ARRANGE FOR APPOINTMENTS IN THE HOLIDAYS OR AFTER SCHOOL WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

IF YOU CANNOT DO THIS, PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND ATTACH MEDICAL EVIDENCE TO THE FORM REQUESTING AUTHORISED ABSENCE. IF YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE IS BELOW 95%, THIS ABSENCE WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED AND YOU MAY BE FINED.

Sharing Our ❤️ of Reading

Our Reading Ambassadors started their new roles supporting Reception children with their reading. They are fantastic role models, inspiring our younger pupils with their love and enthusiasm for reading.



Year 4 Child reading to a Reception child.

STARS OF THE WEEK ✨

Our Stars of the Week for the last two weeks:

Pine	Mateus Isra	Lacie Farhan
Pear	Hafsa Rayyaan	Shane Kyle
Hazel	Almir Karlie	Darius Saba
Cedar	Safeya Danilo	Ella Ayomide
Willow	Cristiana Phoebe-Amelia	Imran Zainab
Birch	Gracie Rim	Jake Heba
Ash	Rebecca Q Golnar	Umar George
Maple	Rebecca D Matthew	Yusof Ayesha

Well done to each of our ✨SUPER STARS✨

Weekly Class Dojo Winners:

11 th October	Hazel Class
18 th October	Pine Class

Well done to these two classes – keep it up!

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WEEK:

Monday 28 th Oct	Children return at 8.45am	All children
Wednesday 30 th Oct	Year 2 – Muck, Mess and Mixtures Week	Year 2 children
Thursday 31 st Oct	3.20pm – Parents/Carers to view Holiday Home Learning projects	All parents/carers
Friday 1 st Nov	9.00 – Parent Gym Taster Session	All parents/carers

FURTHER AHEAD:

Wednesday 6 th Nov	Year 3 - Trip to Cineworld	Year 3 children
Friday 8 th Nov	9.00-11.00 – Parent Gym (Focus = Chat)	All parents/carers
	Year 4 – Trip to Tower of London	Year 4
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th Nov	Anti- Bullying Week!!	Everyone
Monday 11 th Nov	Year 2 - Trip to Barbican	Year 2 children
Wednesday 13 th Nov	Anti- Bullying Workshop- 8.50 (repeated at 6:00pm)	All parents
Thursday 14 th Nov	Flu Vaccinations - Whole School	All children
Friday 15 th Nov	9.00-11.00 – Parent Gym (Focus = Love)	All parents/carers
Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd Nov	Road Safety Week!!	Everyone

Flu Jabs

A gentle reminder that all flu jab forms must be handed in to the office by **Monday 4th November**.

Without forms, your child will not be allowed to receive the jab.

If, for some reason, your child does not receive it, please see to your GP who can give you more information.

Parking

Last half term, our neighbours said how grateful they were to parents for being more respectful of their need to get in and out of their homes and parking spaces during drop off and pick up times.

This week, there have been a couple of times where parents have blocked them in to their house or their parking space because they have parked in front of cars or on pavements.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON PAVEMENTS OR IN FRONT OF CARS AND ENSURE YOU ALWAYS GO THE EXTRA MILE TO REMAIN POLITE AND RESPECTFUL AT ALL TIMES.

CALAIS TO CASSIS

BIKE RIDE ACROSS FRANCE TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL



As you can see, Stuart Dixon, Chief Operating Officer of our Trust, made it to the finish line of a very challenging 9 day ride from Calais to Cassis in France over the half term holiday to raise money for Watling Park. He did an amazing job through hail, heavy rain and storms.

We are very grateful to him for his dedication and support. If you, family members or friends would like to donate, details can be found at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stuart-dixon>.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance:

This Year's Attendance Target:	Last week's attendance:	Comments:	Class with the best attendance:
96.5%	96.0%	<p><i>We saw a big drop in our attendance in the week before the half term holidays with so many children not at school on the last Thursday and Friday which was very disappointing.</i></p> <p><i>Thank you so much to all the families who ensure their child/ren attend school each and every day as this makes such a difference to their learning and progress and ensures they don't miss vital pieces of information which affects their learning as they progress through the school.</i></p>	Well done, Oak Class again 100% attendance! 😊

Punctuality:

Class/es where everyone arrived on time:	Comments:
Children in Elm, Oak, Pine, Cedar, Hazel, Ash, Maple classes all arrived on time every day during the week before the holidays. 😊	The children are aiming for everyone to be in school before registration every day this week so they can enjoy extra playtime. Please help them with this.

Watling Park School Staff members

In this section, we will be featuring members of staff so you can get to know a little more about them and understand their roles.



This newsletter, we will be meeting **Miss Briony Dunbar**, Year 1 class teacher.

What would you like parents and carers to know about you and your role within the school?

I joined Watling Park School in September 2018 as a trainee teacher working across Year 2 and 3, and now have my own class in Year 1. Prior to this, I completed a degree in Japanese and Korean (and lived in Japan for a year!) and worked as an admissions team leader and education support staff at the Warner Bros Studio Tour in Watford (yes, I am a fan of Harry Potter). I have also worked as a Japanese to English translator, and as a primary curriculum writer for an AI-based online education platform.

In my role as class teacher, I am responsible for ensuring my class are engaged in their learning and progress through the Year 1 curriculum. I also teach phonics to an ever-evolving group of children across Year 1 and 2. This year, as part of my PGDE assignments, I will be particularly focusing on cross-curricular learning in Science and Reading for pleasure in English.

Outside of school, I enjoy drawing, gaming and rock climbing - on a weekend you will most likely find me hanging off a bouldering wall covered in climbing chalk!

Curriculum information below...

What will your child be learning this week?

Yr Grp	English Focus	Maths Focus	Other (Topic/Sci/Hist/ Geog/RE)	Home Learning
R	Book: Lighting a lamp Writing: Retelling of a story and writing cards. Focus on: Celebrations	One more than a number up to 10.	Understanding the world: Using laptops and iPads to listen to stories.	Phonics: Sound practise & formation – l (L), e, h, r. Reading: each night Mathletics Name writing
1	Book: The Way back Home Writing: Sequencing and character profiles SPaG: Writing sentences	Subtraction within 20	Science: Sorting Materials by their properties. Art: Making a rocket History:	Autumn 1 – choose 1 activity to complete Reading: each night Mathletics Tricky words
2	Book: The Magic Porridge Pot Writing: Retelling story and sequencing main events SPaG: Past tense words -ed	Addition and subtraction	Science: Looking at different mixtures History: Art: Bubble art and making porridge	Autumn 1 – choose 1 activity to complete Reading: each night Mathletics Tricky words
3	Books: Modern Rome – Across the Roman Wall Writing: Narrative (story set in the past) Poetry (haiku) SPaG: Noun Phrases	Multiplication and division (3,4 and 8 times tables)	Science: Light and dark Art: Clay busts of Julius Caesar History: Romans R.E.: Christianity Geography: Italy's human geographical features	Autumn 1 – choose 1 activity to complete Reading: each night Mathletics Spelling activity
4	Book: The Highwayman Writing: Balanced Arguments (Should graffiti be a crime?) SPaG: Nouns	Addition and subtraction	Science: Describing sounds Geography: Trade Glossary Art: Graffiti Day (Tagging and Stencils)	Autumn 1 – choose 1 activity to complete Reading: each night Mathletics Spelling Word Search and practise

Enjoy a wonderful week ahead! 😊