



WATERINGBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TERM 2 2025



Message from our Headteacher

To all our friends,

The autumn term has been a term of two long halves with lots of fantastic learning as well as so much fun and adventure. You will see lots of information about what the children have been learning in the class pages below.

Our autumn term started with a celebration when the report from our July inspection was finally published. Although this seems a long time ago now, we are still proud of the outcomes (especially the outstanding for Personal Development which topped off the 'goods' we got for everything else). The inspectors spoke so favourably about how the children in our school behaved and respected each other and the secure relationships between children and adults. We have always prided ourselves on the strong family ethos in our school and are delighted to have this verified.

The weeks then flew by punctuated with some fantastic events including the Year 6 residential, our school harvest festival at the church, Bluebell's trip to Rochester Cathedral, many tours for new entrants, parent consultation evenings, countless forest school inspired sessions for all pupils, laying a wreath at the church for Remembrance, dressing up for Children in Need, safety talks from Network Rail, a beautiful Christingle service in school, open classroom sessions and many festive activities including taking the whole school on the train to see the pantomime at the Hazlitt Theatre. No wonder we were all tired at the end of term!

We are excited to see what 2026 has in store for our school. We are looking forward to working with a few other schools who have been told to come and see how we organise our classes and learning successfully in a small school with mixed ages. We will also be having some additional tours in the first week for new entrants for September 2026. I love showing people round the school and spending time in the classrooms - it's a lot more fun than paperwork!

I hope you and your families have had a fabulous time together over the holidays and wish you all a healthy and peaceful 2026.

Debbie Johnson

Miss Debbie Johnson (Headteacher)



Buy 1 Get 1 Free!

Amongst the pages of this term's newsletter, you will also find pages that should have been included in the newsletter from Term 1 which, due to a technical glitch, never made it's way to you all. We thought you'd like to see the good bits though!

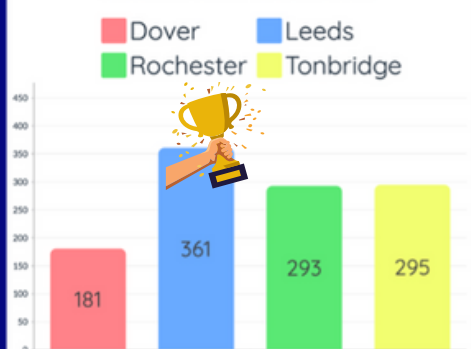
Learning, growing, achieving... our journey together with God.

HEAD PUPILS

Merry Christmas from our Head Boy and Girl, Cybil and Gus who led the KS2 Carol Service so beautifully. They have worked hard this term to be great ambassadors for our school along with the great team of prefects: Emily, Lily-Rose, Imogen and Dani. Thank you to them all for keeping me in check!



CASTLE POINTS AUTUMN TERM TOTALS 2025



CASTLE POINTS

We changed how we are earning castle points this year. Castle points are now earned in team events which are organised termly by our castle captains. This term we had two events combined into one our Great Duck Hunt followed by a Duck Race. Tonbridge won the hunt and Leeds won the race. Rochester won Miss Colyer's Big Quiz of the Year with Dover coming second. However, Leeds won the term overall.

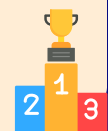
Our castle captains are:

Dover: Emily & Gus

Leeds: Scarlett & Mark

Rochester: Lily-Rose & Daisy

Tonbridge: Sophie & Charlie



Nurture Camp

We had another busy term and it was so good to see everyone back. This term we celebrated "Kindness week" with the NSPCC. We as a school decided to run a Nurture Kindness competition.

The children worked so hard on their pictures and poems, therefore it was very difficult to choose winners. So we had some runners-up too.

Thank you to all that entered, watch the space for our Christmas competition. We will announce it very soon. We find yourselves getting closer to Christmas, this is of course a wonderful time for many, but not for everyone, so please if you need any support with gifts or necessities get in touch with Mrs Henry with complete discretion.

Thank you all for your continued support with us.
Mrs Henry and Mrs Bryant.



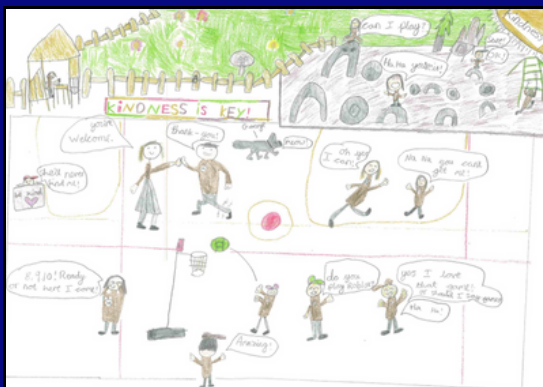
Catherina Henry
Family Liaison Officer

The wellbeing Team



Rachel Bryant
SENCo

Kindness Week



The end of term 1 saw the end of our nurture competition on kindness. We were overwhelmed by the amount of children who took part, the box was full!! Thank you parents for supporting the children at home with completing their entries.

Our overall winners were Sadie (KS2) and Charlie (KS1), and we had a mixture of runners up. Well done everybody!

We will be decorating the school with all the colourful poems and drawing.

KINDNESS IS MAGIC

Kindness is a little seed,
that grows into a mighty deed.
A smile, a hug, a helping hand
can spread love across the land.
It doesn't matter big or small,
kindness works to help us all.

A gentle word, a thoughtful way,
can brighten up the darkest day.
So share your kindness, let it flow
Like rivers where the flowers grow
For when we're kind, the world will see,
How beautiful it's meant to be.

by Sophie, yr 6

Nurture Camp



Our National Rail assembly and workshop for the whole school was the big focus this term. Being directly next to the railway station at Waterringbury, we knew it was so important to remind children how to be safe and how to use the railway safely. The additional workshop was focused for KS2 to help prepare them for getting ready for secondary school. The session was run by a representative from National Rail.



Catherina Henry
Family Liaison Officer

The Wellbeing Team



Rachel Bryant
SENCo

Next term our area of focus will be healthy eating, therefore we will be asking for support on this particular topic.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and we wish you and yours a happy and healthy Christmas. It has been a pleasure working with your wonderful children this year.

If you have any concerns and wish to speak in confidence, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Henry and Mrs Bryant.

Parent / school communication reminders



We ask all parents and carers to treat our staff with courtesy and respect at all times. Our office staff, teachers and support staff work very hard to provide a safe, caring and positive learning environment for the children.

For any non-urgent messages or questions related to your child please do message teachers directly. They generally check their messages first thing in the day and once the children are dismissed in the afternoon. They are unlikely to be able to reply instantly during the day as they are teaching.

Any urgent messages (such as medical issues or changes to pick up arrangements) can be phoned in or emailed directly to the school office (office@waterringbury.kent.sch.uk), and will be dealt with accordingly.

The mornings are so busy at the office and we are often supporting children who find the mornings tricky so early drop offs aren't always the best time to try to have a conversation with office staff or ask questions. In order to ensure that your questions can be answered and the office area is calm and clear, we will be putting out "admin slips" in the school lobby for you to jot down any quick messages for the office. We can then pass that information on or get back to you with answer once the rush is over.

For all policies which outline communication expectations please go to our website where more info can be found in our Parent Code of Conduct and Home School Communications Policies.

It's Christmas!

Christmas is a busy time at Waterringbury filled with joy, laughter and singing. Below is just a small selection of photos to show just some of the festive activities this year.



Christingle



KS2 Carol Service



Christmas Eve film



Christmas jumper day and dinner



Father Christmas visit



KS1 Nativity



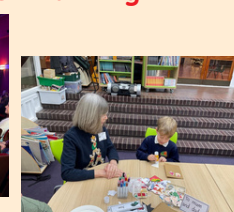
The tree



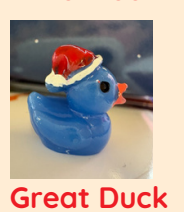
Meadowview visit



Panto Trip

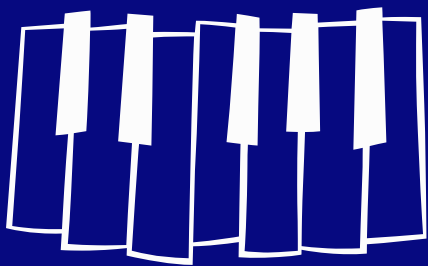


Craft Day



Great Duck Hunt

TERM ONE



Piano Lessons

with Amanda Stewart

2 spots have come available with Amanda which take place in school. Please email her directly on amandastewartmusic@googlemail.com to book a spot

REMINDER

For any children who have arrangements to come in early in the morning for soft landing or sensory circuits (either on their personal plan or after discussion with Mrs Bryant), please be reminded that these sessions start at 8:30. Unfortunately there are no staff members available before that time. We are unable to let children in earlier.

Many thanks for your cooperation

We want to share some observations as part of a recent
ADHD learning walk visit from
Education Specialist from Community Paediatrics

"Classrooms were tidy, well organised and free from unnecessary clutter. Common areas reflected the same level of organisation, contributing to a calm and orderly learning environment. Visual clutter was kept to a minimum and display boards were used consistently across the school, featuring a muted and cohesive colour palette."

"Routines were clearly established and effectively communicated using visual timetables"

"Behaviour for learning across the school was impressive. Pupils were engaged, focused, and demonstrated positive attitudes towards their learning"

"Staff consistently used positive behaviour strategies to promote engagement and maintain a purposeful atmosphere"

In Upper KS2, movement breaks were incorporated effectively between tasks. In KS1 the free flowing structure naturally provided regular opportunities of movement throughout the learning sessions"

"In KS2, pupils demonstrated a clear understanding of the purpose and appropriate use of fidget tools, which was reinforced during their emotional regulation lesson"

"Self regulation is explicitly taught across KS2, with pupils developing a clear understanding of strategies to manage their emotions and behaviour"

All pupils appeared to be fully included and actively engaged in the learning within their classrooms"

A few spots have come available for piano lessons with Mrs Ryan. If you might be interested in booking lessons, please email Liz Ryan directly on: superacesnails@hotmail.com

Thank you!

Piano lessons



TERM TWO

Round Up

Friends of Wateringbury Primary School (PTA)

It feels as if we just returned to school to begin a new academic year — time has truly flown by.

Our first event was the Christmas shop, which is always a favourite among the children as they search for gifts for their loved ones at home. Thank you so much for your support and generosity; we raised just over £300.

Thanks to a very generous donation from Haffenden Christmas Trees, a beautiful Christmas tree was decorated by Mrs Bittorf and Jonny, providing a lovely surprise for everyone when they arrived at school the next morning bringing an extra Christmas feel to school.

As a special surprise, FOWPS even persuaded Father Christmas to take a break from his busy schedule to visit the school and deliver gifts to the children.

Our fundraising goal for this year is £2,000 to transform part of the former Clover Class into a new sensory room. The proceeds from the shop have given us an excellent start towards achieving this goal.

Our next event, the Winter Disco, will be held at the end of January. Please look out for further details as the date approaches.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope you enjoy the holiday season.



"Let's celebrate Christmas together"

at John the Baptist Church



Sunday 21st Dec

10am-All age & Messy Church combine

Come and enjoy "The Grumpy Inn Keeper"

Christmas Eve

5pm - Crib Service

A service for all ages where young children can help to fill our stable

Please note the Benefice Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve is this year in West Peckham Church at 11pm

Christmas Day

10am - Family Communion



As we go into a new year we wanted to remind parents of the importance of regular school **attendance**.

When students come to school consistently, they build strong learning routines, stay connected with friends and peers, and make steady academic progress. Even a few missed days can make it difficult for children to keep up with day to day life at school. Please help us support your child's success by ensuring they arrive at school on time each day ready to learn, unless they are ill or have a medical appointment.

If your child is absent, please inform the school office as soon as possible, leaving a detailed voicemail on our answering service. If we do not hear why your child is absent, or the reasoning does not meet our absence criteria then your child's absence will be unauthorised.

Thank you for all your support
Let's hit 2026's ground running



White polo shirt

Grey or navy blue skirt, trousers or shorts (no leggings)

Neat and tidy hair, any long hair must be tied back

Navy blue jumper or cardigan (sweatshirt fabric) These can be non-logo

Black or grey tights. Black, white, grey or navy blue socks (not trainer socks)

Clean, smart shoes, NO trainers or boots

ARE YOU DRESSED FOR SUCCESS?



Bramble Class

Bramble Class have had a fantastic first term at school and have settled very quickly into our daily routine. Year 1 have taken to their new position as role models and the Reception children have enthusiastically enjoyed all of their learning.

Our theme this term has been 'Terrific Tales'.



Year 1's art unit this term has been based around spirals and looking at where we can see spirals in nature. I have been so impressed with the care the children have taken with their work.

We have had weekly Forest School sessions this term and the children have loved having the opportunity to be outside, work as a team and explore some more adventurous play.



The children performed at the Harvest Festival and did a fantastic job at singing Big Red Combine Harvester. We were so proud that they all went up on stage to sing!



We have been learning about how our environment changes as autumn approaches. We went on a big conker hunt!

TERM 1



Bramble Class

Term 2 has been incredibly busy in Bramble Class and the children have made so much progress in their confidence and their learning. Our theme this term has been Come Outside; here are some of the highlights of the term so far.



Year 1 have been learning about materials in science. This term, they had a project to design and create an umbrella to keep them dry. They did lots of experimenting to see which materials are waterproof.

As the weather has been getting colder, we have loved ending our weekly Forest School sessions with a cup of hot chocolate!



After weeks of practising, we performed our Nativity to the school and our families. The children did such a good job and I was so impressed with their confidence on stage!



We went with Honeysuckle to Meadowview to perform some of our Christmas songs. It was lovely to watch the children interacting with an older generation.

TERM 2



Honeysuckle

Term 1

All of the children in Honeysuckle have started off the year well and have completed some brilliant learning already. In maths, the children have been looking at place value and the way numbers are formed. They have been completing work using manipulatives to help them with their learning.

The children have been learning how sentences are formed and exploring the different building blocks needed to construct them. They have then used this knowledge in their own writing, to answer questions such as “Where’s the best place to hide in the museum?” based on the story *Lost in the Toy Museum*.



In science, the children have been busy with lots of hands-on activities as they learn about materials. They’ve explored the properties of different materials and carried out fun experiments to find out which ones are waterproof and which ones can absorb water.

Our class has really enjoyed learning about how toys have changed over time! We compared old and new toys, spotting both similarities and differences. We even interviewed our parents and grandparents to discover what kinds of toys they played with when they were little.



A few weeks ago, it was the school Harvest Festival at the local church. I was very proud of the class standing up in front of an audience to perform our song “Autumn Days”.



Honeysuckle

Term 2

We have had a busy but brilliant term! The children have worked well in maths, where they have been learning about shape as well as addition and subtraction. They have also thoroughly enjoyed writing character descriptions inspired by our class book, Traction Man.

We had great fun learning about materials, during which the children used their knowledge to design and create their own umbrellas. All of the children selected waterproof materials; however, a few extra lessons in craftsmanship might have worked in their favour!



The children performed their school nativity to the rest of the classes, parents, and the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling. This was the first time we teamed up with the Year 1 and Reception classes, and it was a huge success. I am extremely proud of each and every child!

SNOWDROP CLASS

TERM 1



What We Learned

Maths

In maths we have been focusing on the place value of 3-digit numbers. The children have worked really hard, using base 10 and place value counters to support their understanding. They have used these to find 1, 10 and 100 more or less than a number, as well as to show the value of each digit in a number.



Art

Our art this term has involved lots of charcoal, which the children have worked really carefully with. They have explored a range of different techniques and created some large pieces of work. After the holiday we will be using charcoal and pastels to create a cave, which links to our Stoneage history topic.



Reminders

As the weather is getting colder, please remember to pack your children coats, hats and gloves. We try to go outside as much as we can!

Forest school



Contact Info

Monday-Tuesday: Mrs Brazil

Wednesday-Friday: Miss Payne

SNOWDROP CLASS

TERM 2 DECEMBER 2025



What We Learned

English

This term, the children have been writing non-chronological reports on saber-toothed cats. They began the unit by making their own cave paintings, researching the species and writing their own report.



Christmas festivities

What fun we've had this term with our Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner and our annual trip to the pantomime. We wish you all a merry Christmas and we can't wait to see you all again in the new year!



Reminders

P.E Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Homework: Due every Monday and new homework will be sent home.

Forest school: Find the dates for forest school on the diary sheet. There will also be reminders on dojo.

Christmas concert



Contact Info

Monday - Tuesday: **Mrs Brazil**

Wednesday - Friday: **Miss Payne**



Bluebell Class

TERM 1

History

This term, we have been studying the Anglo Saxons. We have learnt why they settled in Britain and how each of the seven kingdoms were ruled. We had fun showing off our acting skills during a workshop at Rochester Cathedral.



Trip to Rochester Cathedral.

PE

We have been covering OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities). We have carried out a number of activities where we had to work as a team, learning how to cooperate with each other as well as solving problems. We also designed, played and evaluated our team games as well as reading maps and directing each other through a series of paths and exercises.



DT

Our DT topic was to investigate, design and make a doodler. We studied electrical circuits which we used to make our doodlers move. We had fun testing them out as well as designing and making our own.



BLUEBELL CLASS

TERM 2

ART

We have just finished our art topic on typography. We tried out different ways of presenting letters and words. We used our knowledge and skills to develop our own visual maps.



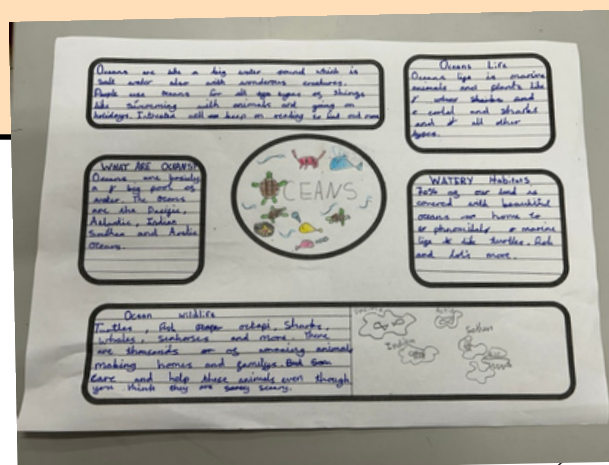
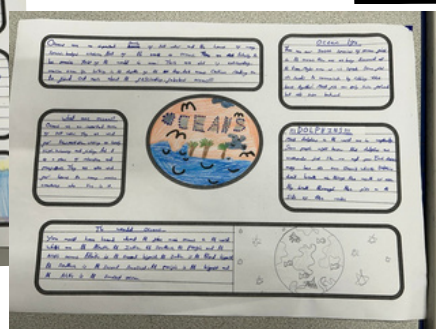
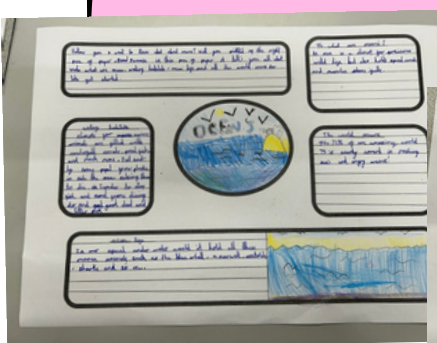
FOREST SCHOOL

Bluebell Class have enjoyed a number of forest school sessions. We have worked together to build dens, produce clay models as well as using the environment to produce a variety of art work.



ENGLISH

We have read the book Ocean Meets Sky by the Fan Brothers. We used our research of the ocean to write our own non-chronological reports.



Primrose NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 Edition

Hello Everyone!

Primrose class have settled in incredibly well to school life this term.

Something that the children have enjoyed learning about this term is World War 2. The children have been getting to grips with how World War 2 started, ready to move on and understand a little about how England was affected by the war.

In RE, we have been learning about science and religion and how they might conflict/complement each other. The children have been engaging in discussions and debating what they think.

In science, we have been doing living things and their habitats. The children have been thinking about life cycles.

In PE, the children have been doing basketball and dance. They have been very excited about both of these and have shown great skill in both areas.

In art, the children have been doing 2D drawing to 3D sculpture. We have been working hard using the grid method and positive and negative space to increase the sizes of our drawings, ready to stand them up.

In Spanish, we have been learning about dates. The children can now talk about significant dates and have conversations. They have been great at this!

The children in year 6 went on residential this term. We were so impressed with how well behaved they were and many conquered some huge fears when we were away. Well done, year 6!

In computing, we have been looking at databases and how to use spreadsheets.

As you can see, we have been very busy!

Miss Colyer

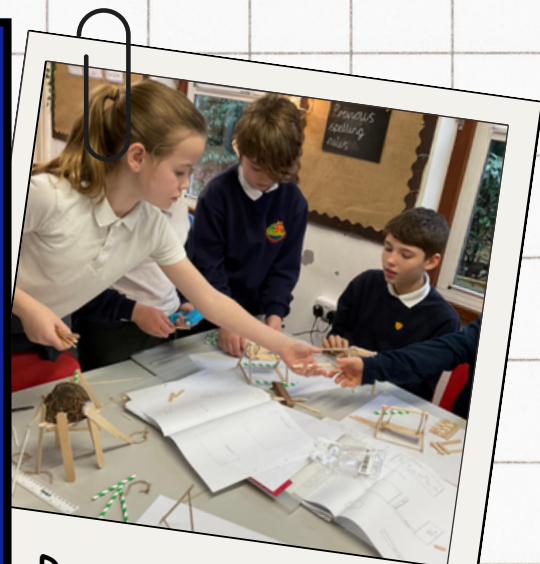


Primrose News

AUTUMN 2 EDITION

What we have been up to - as told by George and Joshua

This term, we have thoroughly enjoyed every subject. English was our favourite by far. We loved doing instructions on 'How to Survive an Air Raid' and 'How to Steal Christmas' because of the creativity and freedom of going straight into it. Design and technology is also a close favourite because of the excitement of the planning that leads to a challenging and fun creation from scratch. We have been making model playgrounds out of lollipop sticks and it is purely our highlight of the year. In history, we have loved learning about WW2, specifically the rise of Hitler. We learnt all about the defence of Britain. An interesting thing we learnt is that the Nazis thought we were defenceless and weak. In maths, all throughout the term, we have done fractions. We have been converting fractions by finding the lowest common multiple and finding equivalents. In science, we have been learning about asexual reproduction in plants and electricity. In asexual reproduction we have identified the male and female parts that create seeds, like the ovary and stigma. We have also done electricity and learnt about the interesting effect the voltage makes. We also made pressure plates using foil as a conductor. This term in RE we have been learning about 'What Jesus would do'. We have learnt all about the foundations of Christianity.



Design and Technology



Pantomime

I have really enjoyed history this term because we got to learn about what happened in the past to try and prevent it in the future - Cybil

I have enjoyed forest school because I like being outside and you get lots of freedom - Dani

I really enjoyed DT. It was fun to do something practical. -Emily

I really enjoyed the Christmas Quiz. It was lots of fun!

Sophia

Thank you all for your continued support! Merry Christmas!
Miss Colyer x