

Term Dates 2022

Term 4: 21.2.22—1.4.22

Term 5: 19.4.22—26.5.22

Term 6: 6.6.22—22.7.22

*Reminder: the INSET day was changed earlier this year and is now **Friday 27th May NOT Monday 6th June.***



Wateringbury Primary School NEWSLETTER

March 2022

Hello everyone!

As we approached the end of term we could see how tired the children were and then, when we were chatting at lunchtime, we realised that the last time that the children (and we!) completed an uninterrupted school year up until Easter was three years ago and for many of our pupils they have never done that. Covid restrictions may be ending (see my note later) but things are certainly not back to how they were before. There are a lot of post-pandemic pieces to pick up and a lot of repairing to be done. However, what doesn't change is the enthusiasm and joy of the children in our care.

We have managed to pack lots into March including learning about important people who have changed the world; historical civilisations and foreign lands. Some children have even been learning about fantastical creatures. I will certainly be on the lookout for sprites next time I am in the woods! The term ended with a wonderful Easter performance from Years 3 and 4 with beautiful singing and confident speaking, and then an Easter egg hunt (in the snow!) thanks to our wonderful FOWPS supporters.

We are looking forward to a fantastic summer term with school trips, lots of outdoor learning and welcoming our new reception children into school. As we try to return to some sort of normality and shake off as many corona hangovers as we can, there are some tweaks to school routines and expectations that will come in after the holidays. Details of these are in the sections later – please take a moment to read them.

I wish you and your families a peaceful and enjoyable Easter and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 19th April (the same day as the KS1 trip).

Best wishes,

Miss Debbie Johnson

Headteacher

STAFFING UPDATE

Mr Keevil will be leaving us at the end of the Easter holidays to start a new exciting job much closer to home. Unfortunately, we have not been able to say goodbye to Mr Keevil as he has been on jury service for the last three weeks, poor man! We wish him lots of luck in his new post and will miss his support and footballing skills!

Mrs McGrath is very grateful for all the kind words, gifts and cards you all gave her today—it's been an emotional day!

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



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A FEW UPDATES



UNIFORM

During covid, and when the classrooms were freezing due to keeping the windows and doors open, we were quite lenient with uniform and having extra layers.

Now that the weather is (technically!) supposed to be warming up and there are no longer restrictions, we ask that you support us by ensuring that your child is wearing the correct school uniform.

Jumpers or cardigans should be a navy sweatshirt NOT a hoodie or branded sportswear. Ideally these should have the school logo on but we understand that plain alternatives are available in high street stores. This is fine as long as they are plain navy. School fleeces are outdoor wear and are not intended to be an alternative to a jumper.

We also ask that black school shoes are worn, not boots or trainers. All long hair (shoulder length and beyond) should be tied back throughout the school day (not just for PE) and the only permitted jewellery is a pair of simple stud earrings which will need to be removed for PE.

Keeping uniform uniform keeps things fair for everyone and stops unnecessary pressures on children and families. **PLEASE NAME ALL UNIFORM SO ABANDONED ITEMS CAN BE RETURNED!!**

COVID-19

Most restrictions and free testing ends today. The latest guidance from DfE states: Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. We have no tests to give out in school and do not expect parents to have to pay for tests if children have symptoms. You are welcome to test at home.



TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

There is much confusion about the timings of the start of the school day. Some parts of what we do are a hangover from staggered entry during covid. In order to clarify and simplify things we will be introducing the following timings and routines after Easter.

8:30am School gates open. No one should be on site before then. Unaccompanied KS2 children should go to the KS2 playground where they will be supervised. Accompanied children wait on KS1 playground with parents.

8:45am Classrooms are open. KS2 children are sent into classrooms. KS1 children will be collected by their teacher from the playground.

8:45—8:55am: Children arriving now walk straight to class.

8:55am: Classroom doors close and register is taken. Children arriving after this time will need to go through the office door. School gates will be locked.

3:15pm End of the school day for all children. KS1 children picked up from infant playground. KS2 children can be collected from the lower gate or infant playground as they can currently. Please make sure your child knows where you will be.

PLEASE NOTE: NO CHILDREN (PUPILS OR SIBLINGS) SHOULD BE PLAYING ON THE EQUIPMENT BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL

***** WATERINGBURY'S WONDERWALL *****

Don't forget to send your child in with their extra curricular achievements and certificates. We will present these in Celebration Assembly on Fridays. Any certificates will be returned on same day.

HELP NEEDED!

We are transforming our old Rainbow Room into a new nurture area for the children.

We would love it if any parents could donate their time and skills to help us revamp the area over the Easter holidays. We particularly need an electrician and painter. Can you help at all?

Email Mrs Henry directly on chenry@wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

Thank you



Happy Easter




Stepping up into Primary School

is a Kent Adult Education parent course hosted at the school for any parents wanting more information surrounding the transition into year R. This course is also available for any friends or family you may have that aren't necessarily coming to Wateringbury. Please message for more info.

Trainline have put together a guide to booking family train tickets to help people save money on train tickets and child fare information.

Further information can be found on their website. <https://www.thetrainline.com/trains/great->




On Thursday 24th Emily, Phoebe, Lucy and Bobby organised a day to raise money for people suffering in Ukraine:

We organised a yellow and blue clothes day for all the children and made pom poms and badges to sell. Thanks to everybody's generous donations we managed to raise £288.96. All of the money will be going to the British red cross .

Written by Emily and Bobby

This has been prompted by the news of the war in Ukraine but it is important to remember that the Red Cross help people in crisis across the whole world where there are wars everyday.



Inspired by the blue and yellow day at school, four of our students; Heidi, Lottie, Josef and Edith took it upon themselves to put together a cake sale outside their house. They sold home made and shop bought cakes to the passers by, and raised an enormous £104.00.

All money raised will go into the pot for British Red Cross to help those who need it in Ukraine.



Clover Class

India Day



Jahnvi and Joshua describe India Day:

Some of us wore Indian inspired clothes, with lots of patterns and colour. Some girls wore bindis. We also had henna tattoos on our arms, which is a natural dye.

For the Rangoli patterns we used rice and chalk. We got into groups and thought about patterns together. We went outside and did it on the pavement on the drive. First we did the outlines and then we used the coloured rice to fill some of the colours. We used chalk to fill in the larger gaps.

We ate the naan bread, mango chutney, poppadoms, onion bhajis and lentils. I thought the bread was the best bit! We had a special taste sheet where we could rate how it tasted: yum/OK/ didn't try/ didn't like.



2022/2023 TERM DATES

- Term 1: 01.09.22-21.10.22
- Term 2: 31.10.22-16.12.22
- Term 3: 03.01.23-10.2.23
- Term 4: 20.02.23-31.03.23
- Term 5: 17.04.23-26.05.23
- Term 6: 05.06.23-21.07.23

INSET days (Teacher training day/no children in school):

1st September 2022, 2nd September 2022, 21st October 2022, 3rd January 2023, 26th May 2023

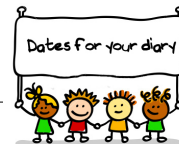
Egg rolling | Songs | Crafts

16TH APRIL
Starts 9:30am
£2 per child

EASTER
FUN
WITH FAITH

At St John the Baptist's Church, Wateringbury

BOOK IN ADVANCE | easterfun@wateringburychurch.org.uk



1st April	Last day of school
18th April	Bank Holiday
19th April	Back to school
19th April	KS1 trip to Bore Place
28th April	High Hopes Assembly
2nd May	Bank Holiday
9th May	KS1 chicks arriving





Food Bank Team

What a brilliant effort our FB team have made this month. The tub was full to the brim! Thanks again to anyone who has given to the food bank, which provides vital food to people of our community.



Showtime are holding Open Auditions on Sat 9th for grand opening on 23rd April at The Malling School. They will be looking to offer some scholarships. If you are interested, please go to their website to book a place for 9th April.



Our stars are:

Bramble: **Fred E** for working really hard on his phonics this week and wanting to write everywhere. **Bonnie** for having a mature and independent attitude towards her learning. **Kiara** for producing her best piece of independent writing ever! **Edith K** for working so hard to improve her independent writing.

Honeysuckle: **George** for always making the right choices. **Samuel** for producing a gorgeous piece of writing this week. **Olivia** for working really hard on her independent writing. Well done.

Foxglove: **Lottie** for always giving her best and working independently. She is always ready, responsible and safe. **Sienna** for her resilience in division! She has struggled to see the link between times tables and division facts but has got it now and is confidently tackling the gold times table test. **Samuel** for doing so well over the last two weeks. **Miles** for growing.. Miles cooperated well and worked so successfully with others in making models of Vesuvius.

Clover: **Hannah** for working really hard on her goblin information guide and for always having a positive attitude towards her learning. **Mario** for working independently in English and working hard on his presentation. **Peggy** for always having great ideas and working really hard especially in maths. **Sydney** for having great enthusiasm and always putting up her hand to have a go, even when she's not sure.

Bluebell: **Lily** for her amazing effort this week across all subjects. **Austin** for his explanations in maths lessons and finding more than one way to solve problems. **Shrika** for excellent research work and a mature attitude to learning. **Dexter** for great maths work and helping all the teachers in Bluebell this week.

Primrose: **Lucy, Theo** and **Savannah** for showing such kindness to Mahi on the playground and teaching her a new football skill. **Archie B** for coming back to school after being off, with great attitude to his work and trying his best to work independently. **Emily, Lucy, Bobby** and **Phoebe** for organising a day in school to support the people of Ukraine.

