



TERM DATES

2.2.18 School Disco KS1 5:30-6:30pm,
KS2 6:45-8:00pm

22.2.18 Safer Internet Assembly,
10:20 by Digital Leaders. All welcome.

1.3.18 World Book Day

2.3.18 Curry and Quiz Night, 7:30pm

6-7.3.18 Parent Consultations

8.3.18 Mother's Day Shop

16.3.18 Indigo Class Assembly

28.3.18 Easter Service, 09:00, St

John's

23.4.18 St George's Service, 9:00,

Flagpole

TERM DATES 2017-2018

Term 3 4.1.18 – 9.2.18

Term 4 19.2.18 – 29.3.18

Term 5 16.4.18 – 25.5.18

Term 6 4.6.18 – 20.7.18

Advance TERM DATES 2018-2019

Term 1 5.9.18 – 19.10.18

Term 2 29.10.18 – 19.12.18

News Flash!

FUN,FUN,FUN : Help Needed!

If you'd like to experience the fun of the school disco (they really are) and can lend an hour, please contact Sarah Sewell and she'll put you on a Tuck Shop or hairspray slot. Email sarahsewell@live.co.uk

School Disco, Fri, 2nd Feb:

KS1 5:30-6:30pm

KS2 6:45-8:00pm

Hand, Foot & Mouth

Two cases in a school family but not children here at Wateringbury. Signs to look for are: *Painful, red, blister-like lesions on the tongue, gums and inside of the cheeks. A red rash, without itching but sometimes with blistering, on the palms, soles and sometimes the buttocks.* Children can be in school but please inform us.

The 7-day Snack Challenge

can still be completed by the children. Leaflets went home last week and spare are in reception. Prize draw on Friday, 2nd Feb!

Dear parents, **Each afternoon I wander out to the playgrounds** with the children and enjoy feeling the mood : parents chatting, little ones running about, teachers sorting out lost jumpers and children. What I do not enjoy is telling children, time and time again, to come off the play equipment and field. We have one easy rule so that there is no confusion: no one should be on the play equipment or on bikes/scooters and no one is allowed on the field. If parents ignore these rules and allow children to break them, the message to the children is that school rules aren't important when parents are on site. Please help us to make home time a pleasant and safe experience for everyone. Keep an eye on your children and reinforce the rules with them. Thank you for your support.

Wateringbury has been in the headlines again and I am always a bit bemused when radio and tv land on our doorstep. I don't seek publicity but I suppose I make some strong stands which news teams pick up (from where I'm not sure). I also am not interested in being distracted from the serious and time-consuming business of running a school. Fortunately, news reporters work quickly and efficiently and appreciate that schools are, perhaps, the busiest working environments around. They are gone as quickly as they arrive. The crisps ban Mon-Thurs has been met, largely, with approval by parents. I laid out my reasons in last week's newsletter and I stand by them. I have had a good number of parental responses and I want to thank all parents for their opinions and suggestions. Parents who disagree with me have strong cases and they tend to be generally of the view that a school has no business dictating what is in a child's lunchbox. We cannot change the looming crisis of obesity, tooth decay and type 2 diabetes by banning crisps and sweet drinks. But what we can do is demonstrate to children how seriously we take these issues and that we're prepared to take action.

The afternoons are still dark and the evenings even darker. This is a good time to remind children about road traffic dangers. The cars seem to speed ever faster on Bow and Tonbridge Roads and it's important that our children realise how difficult it is for pedestrians to judge approaching car speeds and how difficult it is for drivers to see pedestrians as darkness falls. Stranger danger is another issue to review periodically with the children. During the dark winter months, children feel more vulnerable. We touch on these safety issues regularly with the children - thank you for picking up the conversation at home.

The railway car park seems busier than ever and I want to thank families for taking care and patience when entering and parking. I know it can be frustrating but the alternative (no car park) would be even worse. One parent has written to express her gratitude for the gate monitoring in the morning: "The new caretaker came down into the car park to see children out of cars and through the gate. This was fantastic...it sped the whole process up, eased the problems in the car park and made it safer for the children." Thank you, Mr Goff Pain!

Yours sincerely, *Chasey Crawford Usher*

Chasey Crawford Usher, Headteacher

Contact us: 01622 812199 or office@wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

Website : www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

KLZ : www.klz.org.uk, then log-in with your child's log-in (in Homework Diary)

Stay e-Safe. www.thinkuknow.co.uk



SCHOOL NEWS

Drama about drugs

On Monday the 22nd of January, Red Class and Orange Class watched a theatre group perform a play called 'Wasted'. This was to help us understand more about drugs. The play consisted of three friends who were experimenting with drugs. The three characters reacted very differently: one felt sick, the other had no clue and the other felt very happy. As well as teaching Year 6 and Year 5 not to take them, we discussed the importance of taking all medicines correctly. They also asked and answered questions which helped us learn even more! After watching the play we would definitely recommend it to the next year when all the classes have moved up.

Lily and Martha, Year 6

Orange class visit the Rainforest and International Space Station!

On Wednesday, Orange Class borrowed a giant box of VRs from Sevenoaks School. We looked at lots of places from the rainforest. We also looked at the International Space Station and all of its rooms. *Henry Parkinson, Year 5*

When I walked in to see the children's reaction, the excitement was palpable. The purpose is to 'drop' the children into these environments so their writing can be all the richer for observing and 'experiencing' far away places. Of course, I had to have a go! *Mrs Crawford Usher*



Parent Support Group

A small group of mums meet once a month in a relaxed home environment to chat over coffee.

If you are feeling anxious about your child at home or school it really helps to talk things through with people who feel similarly and have valuable experiences to share in an informal way.

Please contact Liz Moore for more information.

01622 812507 or 07913879098



CHURCH, SCHOOL & WORSHIP

Our Christian value for this term is JUSTICE.

In worship this week, we spoke about fairness and forgiveness through the story of The Lost Son. Did the father treat his sons (or just differently)? Who had to forgive whom?

MESSY CHURCH at St John the Baptist Church on SATURDAY 3rd February from 3pm - 5pm to include tea. This is a fun, light-touch worship session for families with children up to 8 years. - stories, action songs, craft and painting!

Online Safety : Cyberbullying, Sexting and Grooming

How do I know my child is safe?

What happens when children get to secondary school? Are the dangers greater?

We know that there are more online dangers today than ever before. As social media and gaming grows, so too does the risk of predators and bullies seeking these spaces to do harm. As parents, it's difficult to know how to ensure your child is safe.

Join our Online Safety Webinar on 31st January from 7-8pm in the school hall where one of the speakers will be Lorin LaFave, founder of the Breck Foundation and mother of Breck Bednar who lost his life in a tragic sequence of events.

The event is free but please sign up using our online booking system:
<https://wateringbury.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

Any questions? Don't hesitate to ask.

SPORTS NEWS



Good luck to our Girls' Football Team this evening!

Larkfield v Wateringbury Girls' Football fixture

- Friday January 26th 6:30pm-7:30pm
- Wrotham School Football Ground
Borough Green Rd, Sevenoaks TN15 7RD

Come along and support your school team!