



Whaddon School Newsletter

(Number 4 Spring term 2025.)

Whaddon C of E School, Stock Lane, Whaddon, Bucks, MK170LS

01908 501719

office@whaddon.bucks.sch.uk

24th January 2025

Dear parents, please find this week's newsletter.

Big Schools' Bird Watch- RSPB

This weekend marks the RSPB Big British Bird Watch. It would be lovely for the children to encourage a variety of wild birds into their gardens, this weekend. Please keep an eye out for the different types of birds that visit your garden and let us know. Bird seed doesn't have to be used, old cereal is just as popular. In this cold weather, the wild birds of Britain are glad for any food they can access, in this cold weather.

Whaddon School is participating in the Big Schools' Bird Watch over January and February and the children have made bird feeders in forest school and used toilet rolls and small pots to make bird feeders, ahead of this weekend. We will be providing the RSPB with the results of our bird watch by the end of February!

Safer Internet Day 2025

11th of February is Safer Internet Day. We will be discussing the things to look out for, when accessing online platforms, games or messaging apps. We appreciate technology is an necessary part of 21st Century life and we want the children of Whaddon School to enjoy their time using technology safely and responsibly. Each class will be learning about how to stay safe, in an age appropriate way.

May fayre tombola prizes

If you received duplicate Christmas gifts or smellies/candles not to your taste, please consider them for the May Fayre tombola! Please bring any items suitable for tombola prizes to school. Please can expiry dates be checked, so they cover the period after the May Fayre.

Hedgehog request

Please could parents start saving egg boxes for the work the children will be completing, whilst learning about Luna New Year. We ask that any boxes with traces of egg white or yolk are not brought in, due to allergies in some children and staff.

Hand hygiene

Please remain vigilant with handwashing, at home. Stomach bugs have caused some children to feel quite poorly and we are encouraging children to wash their hands after each toilet visit and before eating.

Water bottles

We endeavour to promote a healthy lifestyle, at Whaddon School. Please help us to uphold this by ensuring that only water is brought into school in your child's water bottle. Juice is not permitted, for dental hygiene reasons and helping us to ensure our learning environments are free from sticky juice, which takes Miss Lawrence longer to clean up.

World book day book sale donations

Please can any pre-loved and unwanted books be brought to school ahead of the World Book Day sale, which will be taking place on 6th March 2025. Books for younger children and adults are welcome, please help us by checking that the titles are appropriate for small eyes.

School Library Service books

We are holding an amnesty for all School Library Service books that may have made their way home, over the years. A book amnesty box will be on the bench on the playground. Currently, the school has a list of over 100 books showing as missing. If we can't find them before the box is collected, we will have to pay full RRP for each book "lost". Please check book boxes, under sofas and on shelves for any books with an SLS sticker on the spine or a School Library Service stamp inside. Some books were borrowed by the school from 2017 onwards. We appreciate your help with locating and returning these books.

Governor vacancy

A governor vacancy remains for our Governing board. The role is for foundation governor. Should you be interested, please email the school office for a form. A current or historic link to a church is necessary, but you do not have to attend a church regularly to apply.

Forest school

Thank you to all of the parents of Hedgehogs and Badgers classes for bringing in the Forest School equipment. We ask that it be kept in school, so the children can fully enjoy their outdoor experiences. In this recent period of extremely cold weather, it is important that the clothing provided is warm and **waterproof**. Please ensure that your child has re a complete change of clothing in school (including socks).

For safety reasons, please can **all children with long hair have it tied back to avoid injury from the trees and camp fire**. Children who do not have their hair tied back will not be permitted to participate in the forest school activities. This is for health and safety reasons.

Homework club

Homework club places should be booked through the office, identifying which sessions you wish your child to attend. Homework club is held after school, on a Friday 3.10-4.00pm.

Homework

Homework for the Spring term can be found on the class pages of our school website. More information can be found there for specific activities. We do ask that: reading is completed at least 5 times per week, TTRS and Spag.com platforms are engaged with, as frequently as possible, especially with the multiplication checks taking place in the Summer term.

As such, please can the year 4 children, in Badgers class use TTRS as much as possible, from now on, to prepare them for the times table check, in June. This is not just good for practice and recall but the TTRS platform is very similar to the format of the actual times table check format.



Uniform

Should you require more uniform items, please head to our **website and click on the uniform tab** for our providers.

Friends of Whaddon School will notify parents of the pre-loved uniform sales that will be held this term.



Please remember that our uniform **does not** include nail varnish, make up or **ornate hair accessories**. Jewellery, other than sleeper earrings, is not permitted, for health and safety reasons. Sleeper earrings (studs not hoops) must be covered with tape, for PE lessons. Please ensure that any post- Christmas party nails are removed for the school week.

Absence

Please can parents let the office know, **no later than 08.30am**, if your child is unwell or going to be late in for any reason. This helps us complete our registers accurately, in a timely way. Any absences that have not been reported by parents, in person, by phone or email will be followed up by the school as part of our safeguarding commitment. More information on this is available in our child protection and safeguarding policies, on our website. Children who have been reported as unwell previously still need to be reported **each day** that the child is absent from school.

Timings...

 **Getting to school on time really matters. Did you know...**

If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	or you would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	18 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	35 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	50 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	73 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	110 Lessons

You should not take holidays during term time.
Please be punctual to maintain attendance.
Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

Parents bringing their children onto the playground are welcome from 08.20am. When it is raining, we allow the children to go straight to their classes, without needing to line up.

We would like to remind parents that registration is at **08.30am** and **parents and children should be on the playground ready for collection by the adult at 08.25am latest.**

Children must be supervised by their parent or responsible adult,

until the receiving adult is there to collect the children and take them to their classroom. Parents who have an arrangement with school for their child to walk to school independently, should ensure their child is not arriving too early and therefore having to wait outside the gate- before 08.20am, when the gate opens.

The gate will be shut at 08.35am and late arrivals will be buzzed in and signed in by a member of staff, who will require a reason for the late arrival, in order for us to record this for the local authority, on our registration system SIMs.

Celebration/class assemblies...

We warmly welcome parents and family members to attend our celebration/class sharing collective worships on Friday mornings. **The dates for the spring term sharing assemblies are available on the school calendar, on our website.**

Sometimes these dates have to be changed, sometimes, due to other events that arise, throughout the school year. We endeavour to communicate these to you, via Parentmail, as soon as possible.

We aim to notify you, if your child is receiving an award, by the Thursday before the Friday collective worship. The children will not know if you are able to attend or not.

Should your child have been awarded a certificate or medal, outside of school, please let us know, so that we can share this, as a school. Please ensure that the school office is notified, in advance of the assembly, to manage the timings of the worship.

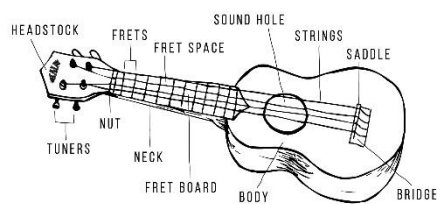
P.E days...

Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit, which should be suitable for the weather, when they are learning outdoors. We are delighted to share that Miss Hall is continuing to lead our PE lessons this term.

Hedgehogs	Tuesdays
Squirrels	Thursday
Badgers	Friday
Foxes	Wednesday

Music lessons

PARTS OF THE UKULELE



Music lessons will continue with MK music co-operative guitar and ukulele, Wednesdays 11.15-12.00pm

Mr Dunham's music lessons Clarinet, flute and piano, will remain on Mondays

Payment is to be made directly to the music teacher.

French club

French club is now being offered to children in Key Stage 1 and if parents are interested in their child attending, over Thursday lunch time, they should **contact Madame Lepelletier via the school office email address.**



2025



Website / dates for your diary...

Please see the website for up to date calendar dates



Thank you to our reading volunteer, Mrs. Pit

Thank you to FOWS for all of your fundraising and support!



A big 'well done' to all of the children who were given a teacher award or a golden ticket this week!

Thank you to all of the children, for all you have done, this week, to make our school a brilliant place to learn, for being such good role models, shining brightly and living our school values.