



Whaddon Weekly Newsletter

Newsletter number 2

12th September 2025

“You are the light of the world, let your light shine!”

Dear parents and children,

Welcome to the 2nd edition of our school newsletter.

School vision

Despite the rain, this week, we have had lots of children shining brightly in their learning and behaviour choices. This week, in collective worship, we have been exploring the value of generosity and what it means to us. We have also been thinking about the symbols of light: candles-spirituality, pausing and breath. Light bulbs- illumination of thought and learning. Torches- to light the way for ourselves and others and Stars- aspiration and celebration. The children linked the symbols to and are able to talk about how they all link to our school vision.

Drop in session

Thank you to those parents who took up the offer to meet the new teacher and have a look at their children's learning environments. The children are rightly proud of their learning and love sharing it with visitors.

Well done to our Year 6 pupils who sat the secondary transfer test, yesterday. You all showed amazing levels of focus and determination. This was helped by the rest of the children in school being so thoughtful and quiet whilst the test was taking place- Thank you!

Aspiration day

October 15th will be our school aspiration day. We have some volunteers who are coming in to school to discuss their job/hobby/business and we would love more to sign up. We would love a well-rounded selection of jobs and trades represented for the children to begin to think about careers, skills, qualities and qualifications and aspire to a role in the future. **If you can come in, at any time on 15th October, please let Mrs. Ellis know.**

Dates for the diary

Key dates for the diary can be found on the school website and on class pages of the school website.

NHS flu vaccination spray whole school **16th September.**

Individual and sibling photographs will take place on **Wednesday 17th September.**

We are holding our Sports Day on **18th September**- weather permitting- each child participating will need to wear a T-shirt the colour that matches their house colour. If you are not sure which house your child is in, please ask in the office.

FOWS are hosting a BBQ at lunch time. More information can be found in a separate flier which is being issued soon.

Lunch clubs

We have arranged for a range of activities to be on offer every lunch time, from Sports4All, who provide our breakfast and after school clubs. There will also be a range of staff led clubs on offer across the week. These clubs will run from **15th September to 23rd October.**

The clubs will be:

Makaton signing with Mrs Prior

Sewing with Mrs Bass

Mindfulness with Teacher Read

Gardening with Mrs Wheeler

Chess with Mr Small

There are still spaces in some clubs, but numbers will be limited to 10 per club. Please let the office know if your child is interested in attending any clubs. The clubs will run from 12.30-12.55pm each day. There is no cost for these clubs, however, if your child misses 2 consecutive sessions the session will be offered to the next person on the waiting list.



Compost and pots

Can you spare any compost? We are looking for compost to support our gardening club. As we are not charging for resources or time, we would warmly welcome any donations of compost or pots so the children can begin planting straight away. If you know anyone who works in a plant nursery or garden centre it would be amazing if they had any they were willing to donate- we will mention them on the website!

Books at home

Please can you be on the look out for any school reading books that have found their way home. We have a few gaps on our shelves and gladly await any that find their way back to school.

Uniform and forest school equipment

We are spending time relocating clothing with the owner. Please ensure your child has their name on water bottles and book bags and in jumpers, cardigans and coats. **All forest school equipment needs to be named and kept in school- including wellies.**

Without the correct forest school clothing, your child will **NOT** be able to participate in forest school.

PE kit

PE kit tops should be worn to school, on the day your child's class has PE. Days can be found on the class page on the school website. This was also sent out in a **Parentmail and class Whatsapp on 03.09.25**

Reading records



We have issued all children with their new reading records. Inside the front cover there are tips on how to improve your child's comprehension, whilst reading with them and questions you can ask to help them retrieve information and discuss the plot and characters. Reading is really important for all of our pupils and enables access to all areas of learning. We ask that you, or someone in the household aims to read with your child, at least 5 times a week. They will also be read with in school.

For older pupils, having someone listen to them read or taking turns to read pages helps them hear words read aloud and enhances their prosody (expression and intonation).

The reading records need to be completed and brought into school **every day**, so that when we hear readers, in school, we know what they have been doing at home and we can record when we have heard your child read.

For younger readers, a book matching their phonic level will be given to them to practice reading. A book for pleasure will be kept at school. Comprehension is as important as decoding, so please do ask your child questions, as you go through the book.

Lunches

Please ensure you have booked your child's school lunches on wise pay. If you have missed the deadline to book school lunches, please provide your child with a packed lunch, until you can book school lunches.

Break time snacks for Key Stage 2

Please can parents of children in Badgers and Foxes class provide fruit snacks, or healthy equivalent, for their child's morning break. Only children in Key Stage 1 are eligible for the free fruit for schools programme.

Open mornings

We are holding a range of open mornings for parents of children who will be school age in September 2026. The dates are on the banner on the school gate and can be found on the school website. Please share this with anyone you know is looking for a school place for their child. If the dates and times are not convenient, we can arrange a separate viewing. Our first open morning will be held on **Saturday 13th September 09.30-10.30am. 19th September 1.30-2.30pm, 23rd October 09.00-10.00, 18th November 09.00-10.00, 19th November 1.30-2.30, 9th January 09.30-10.30am.**

Census day

Census day will take place across Buckinghamshire on **2nd October**. This is the day when the numbers of pupils and school lunch take up is recorded and future school budget allocation is calculated. It would help the school if as many parents as possible order a school lunch for that day. The offer for this day is cheese burger and veggie burger. If your child is eligible for free school meals, you can order the meal- even if they won't eat it- it won't go to waste!

Harvest

Our Harvest festival will take place at **08.45am** on the **3rd October at St. Mary's church**. We will be collecting donations of non-perishable goods from **Monday 29th September**, for MK food bank. The Harvest celebration will be followed by a food bank collective worship on 8th October where the children will here how their donations are helping the most vulnerable in our community.



Parents evenings Autumn term

These will be face to face this year. If you require an alternative such as a phone call or TEAMS call please let your child's class teacher know. Parents evenings will take place on 21st and 22nd October.

Bookings will be organised shortly. We will start with booking families with more than 1 child in the school, then open appointment bookings for single children families shortly after. The appointments will be 5 minutes and will be to discuss how your child has settled and next steps which can be supported at home. Should you wish to discuss any SEN matters or require a slightly longer appointment, please let the school office know. Maximum time will be 10 minutes.

Panto visit

It's that time of year again... "Oh not it isn't!"

We are pleased to announce we have booked a whole school visit to the MK theatre 16th December, to see Goldilocks and the three bears. More information will follow, regarding permission/medical forms and contribution arrangements, to enable this visit to go ahead.



Congratulations to those children who have been awarded star awards and golden tickets for shining in their learning and living our school values and vision, this week!

The winners of the house points this week were Kingfishers.