



Dear Widmer End families,

We have finally reached the end of a very busy half-term! The children always step up a gear in the Spring and I have been so proud to see the progress the children have made since September having looked at our latest round of assessments. A huge thank you to the incredible Widmer End staff team and to you, our supportive families, for helping the children learn and grow together.

Monday was a day of sheer joy for myself, Miss Allen, Mrs Oxby and Miss Dodd as we accompanied our school choir to sing at the Young Voices concert at Wembley Arena. It was such a memorable day and the children were impeccably behaved. I will never forget the smiles on their faces as we jumped up and down during the chorus of 'Firework' alongside 4600 other children! What a night.

A huge well done to Year 2 children who performed their sharing assembly this morning in front of many very proud parents. We all learnt so much about the continents from their performance. Congratulations, too, to our Year 1 children who took part in their Multiskills tournament at Holmer Green Senior School this afternoon and did so well despite the cold weather! Year 4 soaked up the heat at the Living Rainforest, today. They even spotted the illusive sloth, called Cinnamon! Read more about this, below.

We have lots of events lined up for children and their families after half term. Please pencil a time after school to come and visit our Book Fair from the 3rd to the 7th March. Further details of this can be found attached. If you would like to volunteer to help us run this event, please let the office know. You would need to be here from 3.15 until about 4pm on any of the days after school. Thank you. Thursday 6th March is World Book Day - please refer to Mrs van der Merwe's letter sent out this week for more information and details of the option for your child to dress up as a book character.

I have put Friday 21st March at 2.15pm into my diary for our next Parents' Forum meeting at school. We have changed the time to be just before pick up and on a Friday to encourage more of you to attend if you can. See the 'You said/ We did' section below to see how your views are heard and how we have taken action!

Wishing you all an amazing half term and hoping the sun shines on us all.



Shining Star Award

Mrs Marshall



## Dates for your Diary

### Monday 24th February

- School reopens, 8:30am

### Tuesday 25th February

- Reception trip to Woodfine Farm

### Wednesday 26th February

- Year 3 Trip to the Ashmolean Museum

### Monday 3rd March

- Travelling Book Fair - All Week!
- Reception Height & Weight Measurements with the School Nursing Team

### Thursday 6th March

- World Book Day

### Friday 7th March

- PTA Hot Dog Day!
- Year 5 Handball Tournament at HGSS

## Student Shout Out!

Scott brought in his model of the 'Millau Viaduct' which he made with a little bit of help from his family. Everyone is amazed at the fantastic attention to detail and the hours and hours he'd put into making it. Fantastic effort, Scott!

Ms Atkins & Mrs Saha



## Attendance

School average this academic year

← 95.3%

This week:

Reception - 96%

Year 1 - 94.18%

Year 2 - 98.67%

Year 3 - 94.44%

Year 4 - 94.79%

Year 5 - 97.81%

Year 6 - 90.32%

Have a wonderful half term break, rest up and enjoy some time together!



## Pre-School Updates

Who's excited for the Half Term holiday? I know we are! Our new children have settled into our routine so well over this term, being helped and cared for along the way by our older children.

Over the whole term, Pre-School have been learning about the emergency services and people in our community who help us. They have used lots of skills along the way to create a lovely, colourful display of their work. We have some parents who have jobs in the community and the children are always excited to share what Mummy or Daddy does for work.

Have a lovely break with your families, making lots of new memories. We look forward to seeing you back at Pre-School on Monday 24th February, ready to share your news and have more fun!

Deborah



## Year 4 Living Rainforest Trip

Year 4 have had a fantastic day at the Living Rainforest in Thatcham. The children all behaved beautifully and were such a joy to be with. It was amazing to see them share all the knowledge that they have learnt in school, putting it into practice in the real-world situation.

We were incredibly lucky to see Cinnamon the sloth being fed, what a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

Roll on next year, when I can take another group! Thank you to all our parent (and grandparent) volunteers too.

Mrs Oxby



## Safer Internet Day - "Too Good To Be True?"

This week, our school took part in Safer Internet Day, exploring the theme "Too Good to Be True? Protecting Yourself and Others from Scams Online." Across all year groups, children engaged in discussions and activities to help them navigate the digital world safely.

KS1 learned how to identify information that is real and reliable, helping them understand the difference between fact and fiction online.

LKS2 explored the question "But is it true?", developing critical thinking skills to assess online content and spot misleading information.

UKS2 focused on "Spot the Scams," learning how to recognise and avoid online scams, including phishing emails, fake websites, and too-good-to-be-true offers.

We encourage parents and carers to continue these conversations at home, helping children become more confident and cautious digital citizens. Together, we can make the internet a safer place for everyone!

Mrs L van der Merwe

## Young Voices 2025

On Monday the 10th Feb, the school choir had a blast at Young Voices. With over 4,000 other children, and famous celebrities Tommy Blaise, MC Grammar, Souparnika Nair as well as Urban Strides, it was the biggest and best party! Even the parents joined in with Andy Instone at one point! (Founder of Urban Strides)

"I loved it so much! So fun, woohoo!" - Poppy

"It was amazing and so much fun!" - Lottie

"It was one of the finest days of my life!" - Lexi

Big thanks to Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Oxby, Miss Allen and Miss Dodd for an awesome day!



Imogen, Lottie, Poppy and Lexi



## PTA Updates

### Hotdog Day

The next hotdog day is on Friday 7th March, booking will be available soon.

### Circus

We are excited to announce that Happy's Circus will be coming to Widmer End School in their travelling big top on Wednesday 4th June 2025! Tickets are £12.50 per person, but we are selling at an early bird rate for £10.50 pp if you book by 4th April!

Feel free to share with family and friends, everyone is welcome!

If you would like to get involved in planning the Circus with the PTA team, please let us know at [pta@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:pta@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk)

## Easyfundraising

If you would like to raise funds for school for minimal effort, Easyfundraising are offering a £2 donation to the PTA for every person that downloads their app and selects Widmer End School Association during February! If you go through the app before doing your shopping you will raise funds for school every time, at no cost to you. Thank you!

## You Say, We Do!

### You Said:

Parents may not be contributing to School Fund as they don't know where the money is going!

### We Did:

A list of resources we are buying, using the funds has been communicated through the school newsletter.

Please save the date for our next parent forum as Mrs Marshall mentioned above. It's the best way to have your say!





## Hot Lunches

Our lovely lunch ladies really enjoy this special time of day for the children. Kids are happy chatting with their friends, eat some delish' dishes, looking after their younger peers or looking up to their elders!

We have a super important request! Please ensure that when you book your child's hot lunches, that they do it with you! Lots of children are refusing what has been ordered, to our dismay. Of course, we will never let a child go hungry, but we really want them to enjoy their hot dinner and have full tummies.

Also, we will only ever ask you to order a lunch even if you pack a lunchbox, on Census days. These days determine our funding for the whole term. We are noticing that some children have hot food regularly ordered, when they have a lunchbox too. We hate food waste so would really appreciate you cancelling these meals when they aren't required. Thank you.

Mrs Whyte, Mrs White, Mrs Drofiak, Mrs Keen, Mrs Holden, Miss Russell & Ms Akhtar



**Wrap around care offering breakfast club & after school club - Happy Holidays!**

We would just like to wish you and your children a happy half term. Hope you all enjoy the break! Thank you all for supporting us, we really appreciate it.

We would love to welcome your child(ren) to our club, so why not book in for a session?! We accept 30 hour funding, tax free childcare scheme and childcare vouchers.

Friends at Play Team.

## U11s Girls Netball Tournament

This Wednesday, our Year 6 netball team showcased our fantastic new netball kit, during their first girls-only competitive tournament (it was even their first match!) at Pipers Corner. Battling against skilled teams such as York House, Maltmans and other professionally coached schools, our girls made us all so proud. They fought for every goal, turned over lots of the oppositions' passes and even won their last match! It really is a privilege to coach these young ladies.

Mrs Weaver & Mrs Oxby

## Spotlight On SEND!

### SEN Support Plan - Reviews and Meetings

If your child has targets set out for them on a SEN support plan, you will receive a review of their Cycle 2 targets this week, alongside an invitation to attend a SEN Support Plan meeting with your child's class teacher after half term. Cycle 3 targets, and the provision in place to support them will be discussed in this meeting.

**Please contact Mrs Ross-Wood for any SEND related enquiries. [SEND@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:SEND@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk)**

## SEND Support Phone Line

We are open everyday between 10am and 4pm and until 6pm on Tuesdays. The line is for parents, professionals and anyone with enquiries about SEND in Buckinghamshire.

Please note that the support line is open between 10am and 2pm during school holidays and is closed on Bank Holidays.

**01296 382135**

## Creation Station Spring Term Club

We are really excited to have the UK's most recommended activity provider, The Creation Station, at School, delivering their award winning 5-star rated Create Club. Please see the flyer attached to the newsletter email for more info about the club and booking instructions for the second half of the Spring term. Please contact Lisa Andrews [HERE](#) if you have any questions.



## Learn Makaton With Miss Allen

Miss Allen hopes that you all had a great valentines day, regardless of whether you have a 'valentine' or not!

Here's how to say 'I Love You'.



## Merit Awards

**Special Merit Award winners this week are:**

Year R - Ayana & Owen  
 Year 1 - Riley & Hafsa  
 Year 2 - Darcie & James  
 Year 3 - Emma & Indie  
 Year 4 - The Whole Class!  
 Year 5 - Ellie & James  
 Year 6 - Poppy & Zaydan



**Congratulations and thank you for being excellent role models to your peers!**