

Widmer End Community Combined School & Pre-School Newsletter

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Friday 10th October (3)

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Dear Widmer End families,

It has been another busy couple of weeks here! Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Open Day. We were delighted to welcome so many new families into our school and to showcase the fantastic learning, creativity, and enthusiasm that make Widmer End such a special place. Our Year 6 pupils were wonderful ambassadors, confidently guiding visitors and sharing their experiences with pride. The feedback from prospective parents was overwhelmingly positive, and we are so grateful to all staff and families who helped make the day such a success. We have another two open events to look forward to over the coming weeks.

As we move into the autumn term, we are once again supporting the One Can Trust food charity. This important local cause provides essential help to families in need, and we are proud to play our part. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity – your contributions really do make a difference.

We continue to work closely with other local primary and secondary schools to share best practice and strengthen our provision for all pupils. Recently, we have been collaborating on curriculum development and moderation activities, helping ensure high standards and consistency across our local area. It's inspiring to see such professional teamwork benefiting our children.

You may have noticed our school governors being more visible around the site lately. Governors have been visiting classrooms, attending assemblies, and engaging with staff and pupils to gain a deeper understanding of school life. Their commitment and involvement are invaluable in helping to shape our school's direction and support our ongoing improvement.

Have a lovely weekend!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mrs Hillier'.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th October

- U11s League Football Match vs Kingswood HOME

Wednesday 15th October

- Black History Month African Mask Making Workshops Years R-6
- Open Evening for Prospective Parents - 6pm

Thursday 16th October

- U11s League Football Match vs Manor Farm AWAY
- PTA Disco for Years R-6 - Book [HERE!](#)

Friday 17th October

- Year 1 Multiskills Tournament at HGSS

Monday 20th October

- Year 6 Height & Weight Check
- U11s League Football Match vs Great Kingshill HOME

Tuesday 21st October

- Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop

Wednesday 22nd October

- Year 3 Harvest Sharing Assembly
- School finishes for half term - 3:15pm, clubs & wraparound still on

Thursday 23rd October

- ADD+Venture Club Camp Begins

Monday 3rd November

- School re-opens 8:30am

Wednesday 5th November

- Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents 1:45pm
- Parents Evening 4-7pm

Friday 7th November

- Year 1 Trip to Bucks Museum
- Year 2 Football Tournament at HGSS

Spotlight On SEND!

SEN Support Plans

For all children who have targets and provision set out in a SEN Support Plan, you will shortly be able to see a review of their last plan and new targets by logging on to the parent account you have set up on Edukey.

<https://edukeyapp.com/parent/login>. If you are uncertain of this, please contact your child's class teacher for an access code to review these documents.

Mrs Ross-Wood

Please contact Mrs Ross-Wood for any SEND related enquiries.
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



Awards This Fortnight

Shining Star



Eddie



Alf

Merit Awards



- Year R - Freddie, Rory, Eva & Jessica
- Year 1 - Alfie, Daniel, Primrose & Evie
- Year 2 - Henry A, Jamie, Shanaie & Florrie
- Year 3 - Elsie & Darcie
- Year 4 - Archie, Grace, Charlie & Luna
- Year 5 - Maddie, William, Owen & Oliver
- Year 6 - Austin, Grace, Jake & Aiza

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

Switching to Arbor Payments!

We are moving to Arbor Payments, via your parent portal either on the App or PC/Chromebook.

A quick 'how-to' guide can be found [HERE](#). This payment platform will consolidate two systems into one, ensuring consistency and accessibility.

Did you know, you can also give or decline parental consents, book or amend parents evening slots, view your child's attendance and behaviour awards too?

From this point onwards, the migration is taking place and the school shops, trips and teacher-led clubs are gradually moving over, along with all other items from ParentPay! ParentPay will still be active until next Spring, so don't worry about the safety of any balances you currently hold. You will be advised on the method of payments, when communications come out.

Please ensure 'push notifications' are enabled on your app. We hope you enjoy this change. If you have any feedback, positive or negative, please email the school office. Thank you.



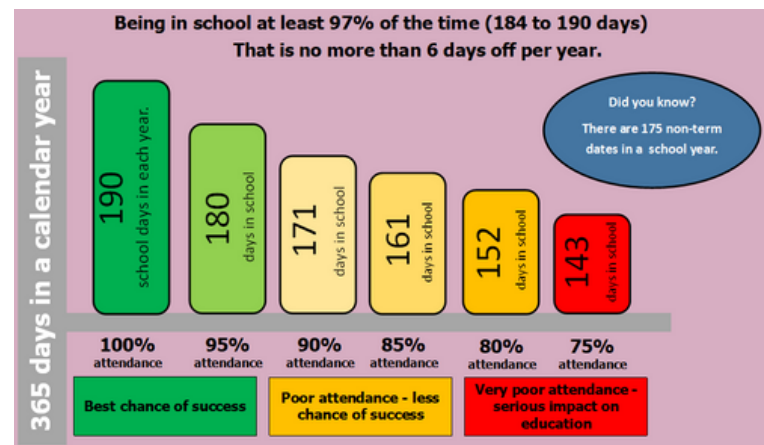
Attendance

School average this academic year

96.9%

This Fortnight:

- Reception** - 95.94% - 1 Late Mark!
- Year 1** - 98.34% - 13 Late Marks! 🤖
- Year 2** - 97.05% - 3 Late Marks!
- Year 3** - 96.18% - 3 Late Marks!
- Year 4** - 99.42% - 1 Late Mark!
- Year 5** - 98.55% - 5 Late Marks!
- Year 6** - 96.06% - 1 Late Mark!



Every Minute Counts!

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

- 5 Minutes late each day = 3 days lost!
- 10 Minutes late each day = 6.5 days lost!
- 15 Minutes late each day = 10 days lost!
- 20 Minutes late each day = 13 days lost!
- 30 Minutes late each day = 19 days lost!

Be at the classroom on time and ready to learn!

ADD+Venture Club Half Term Holiday Camp

What an exciting 7 days ADD+Venture Club have planned! From creating disgusting 'mud pies' to creating 'marvellous medicine', your children from ages 2-11 will find excellent activities and facilities to enrich and nurture them this INSET & half term. Kat & Jemme can't wait to meet you!





Pre-School Updates

Over the last few weeks we have been looking at "All About Me" and our senses.

The children have used their hand-eye coordination and their senses to create our wonderful display. Using mirrors, the children looked at themselves to create a self-portrait and they used their creative skills to make a puzzle of themselves. We have also made a chart of eye colours. Can you remember which eye colour was most popular in Pre-School?

Thank you for sending in your baby and family photos. This is always a great talking point and the children love looking at their photos and trying to guess who is who.

Next Thursday (16th October) is school disco day and so we would like to include Pre-School in the fun. So, we are having a mufti day (for one day only) on this day where we will have a little dancing and fun games to play throughout the day.

Please be mindful in your mufti clothes please as the children still need to be independent in the toilets. We ask for NO onesies please.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Deborah

Pre-School Need Some Books - Can you help?

We would be grateful if you have or can find the following:

- 'Where's My' series by Becky Davies
- 'Tales from Acorn Woods' board book set by Julia Donaldson
- 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar board book' by Eric Carle
- 'DK First Facts' board books

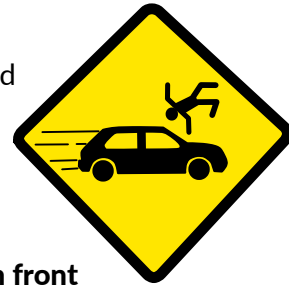
Plus, any other factual books aimed at 2-4 year olds.

Thank you!



Road Safety Reminder

We'd like to take a moment to remind everyone of a few important safety measures that help keep our school community safe each day.



Please do not park or turn around in front of the school gates.

This area must remain clear at all times to allow safe access for pedestrians and emergency vehicles. Even brief stops can create congestion and put children at risk.

Please use the footpath and avoid walking across the car park.

Our dedicated footpath has been in place for many years and is designed to keep everyone safe. Vehicles, staff, and contractors may be moving in and out throughout the day, so it's vital we all use the designated pedestrian route.

Please stay vigilant when manoeuvring near the school.

We have sadly had another near-miss this week. A few extra moments of care and attention when arriving or leaving can make all the difference in keeping our children safe.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and for helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Safety In School

We were deeply shocked and saddened to learn of the appalling terrorist attack on the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Crumpsall last week. Our thoughts are with all those affected and with our wider Jewish community at this distressing time. Such acts of hatred have no place in our society, and we stand united in condemning antisemitism and all forms of intolerance.

As a school, the safety and wellbeing of our children remains our highest priority. We are doing everything we can to ensure our pupils feel safe, supported, and valued. Our staff continue to promote the core values of respect, kindness, and unity – helping our young people to grow up with empathy and understanding for others. Together, we remain committed to fostering a strong, caring community where every child and family knows they belong. Please find further information for parents [HERE](#).

**educate.against.
hate**



Value Of The Term

UNITY



"You don't have to live next to me; just give me my equality."

In our Values assembly on Monday, Mrs Marshall introduced our new inspirational person: Nina Simone. The children began to learn about her amazing life and how she fought for the rights of others, ensuring everyone was treated equally, regardless of skin colour. Miss Weston then introduced Black History Month and told the children about what this is and how we would be celebrating it in school. We are all looking forward to the workshops on Wednesday next week and children will all do more work in class, too, on this important topic.

Unmasking Parenthood – You're Not Alone



Being a parent isn't always easy – especially as children grow, start school, and new challenges appear. The Unmasking Parenthood campaign from Bucks Mind and Buckinghamshire Council reminds us that it's okay not to have all the answers. Many mums, dads and carers feel pressure to stay positive or "hold it all together," but parenting can bring moments of worry, exhaustion, or loneliness – and that's perfectly normal.

If you're finding things tough, help is available. Bucks Talking Therapies, local Safe Havens, and your GP or health visitor can all offer friendly, confidential support. You can also reach out to **Samaritans (116 123)** or text **SHOUT (85258)** any time. For more advice and local services, visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/unmasking-parenthood](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/unmasking-parenthood). Remember – looking after yourself helps you look after your family too.

999 Safety with Ellie

This week, we were delighted to welcome Ellie from the 999 Emergency Services Control Room, who visited each class to deliver an engaging and informative talk about her vital role in helping people during emergencies.

Ellie explained how emergency calls are directed to the correct teams, the importance of knowing your home address, and when it's appropriate to make a 999 call. She also discussed different fire and rescue scenarios, highlighting how staying calm and giving clear information can make a real difference in an emergency.

The children were particularly interested to learn about the role of rescue dogs and the special uniforms worn by the emergency teams. Ellie also reminded everyone that 999 is for real emergencies only, as prank calls can delay help for those who truly need it.

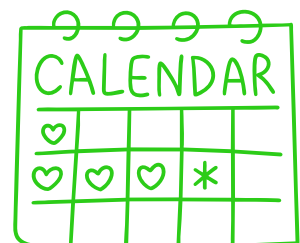
Our pupils were highly engaged throughout, asking thoughtful questions and sharing their own experiences. They left the sessions feeling more confident and aware of how to respond safely and responsibly in an emergency.

A huge thank you to Ellie for giving up her time to share her knowledge and to help our children understand more about this vitally important job.



School Calendar

Please ensure you subscribe to our school calendar, via the website. There are a few calendars to subscribe to. We would suggest subscribing to all 3; your child's Key Stage, the PTA and the Whole School calendars. Thank you!





Harvest One Can Collection

Our Harvest collection has begun! We are anticipating wonderful things from our Year 3s for their assembly on the 22nd.

There will also be a presentation to the One Can Trust with all the wonderful food, drinks and toiletries that you're kindly donating. Our collection basket is outside the front entrance but you are welcome to send items in with your child if you can't come to the front of school.

Every item will help families in need so we thank you for your support. Please see the attached flyer with the items that One Can need.



Drama Workshops for YR/1/2

This week KS1 and Early Years had a drama workshop, it was run by the Perform Drama group. We had a very exciting time in the land of Kind Arthur. We were transported into the land of dragons, knights, witches and wizards! The children and staff had great fun taking part in a half hour session of drama games and activities. If you would like to take advantage of their discounted rate please use the QR code on the back of the leaflet that came home.

Losses and Successes for Football

Our development football team have had a mixed bag of results over the past 2 weeks! Game 2 last Thursday against the tough Year 6 St Johns team resulted in a 5-0 loss, a hard one for this keen & improving squad. Game 3 this Monday, proved that we have some amazing resilience and determination! We came back fighting against the Year 5 Kingswood team and won 3-0.

We are looking forward to our 4th development team game on the 10th November against Hannah Ball, and our TWO matches next week for the U11 squad!



Student Shout Outs!

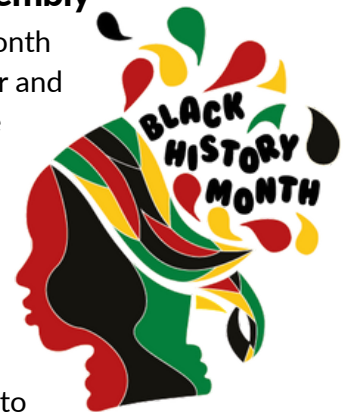
Hi, I'm Jessica and 2 weeks ago I did an audition for the theatre production of 'Frozen Junior'. There were over 100 people auditioning for it and I got in! I'm in the chorus so I dance and sing and act, I love to have that opportunity.



Last Sunday, Bethany earned an impressive 2nd place in a judo competition held at Ashlyns School in Berkhamsted. This was only her second-ever competition, and she showed great determination and skill throughout the event. Her silver medal marks a fantastic improvement from her 3rd place finish last time – well done, Bethany!

Black History Month Assembly

The theme for Black History Month 2025 is "Standing Firm in Power and Pride," a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe.



This week, our school came together for a special assembly to mark the start of Black History Month – a time to celebrate, learn, and reflect on the incredible achievements and contributions of inspirational people throughout our history.

The assembly introduced the importance of the month and encouraged everyone to think about how history shapes who we are today. Pupils learned about influential figures such as Rosa Parks, whose quiet act of courage sparked a movement for equality and justice.

The message of the assembly was clear: Black History Month is not only about looking back, but also about looking forward – celebrating diversity, standing up for fairness, and recognising that each of us has the power to make a difference.

It was a wonderful way to begin the month, setting a positive and thoughtful tone for the learning and activities that will continue throughout October.