

Widmer End Community Combined School & Pre-School Newsletter

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Friday 27th March 2026 (13)

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Dear Widmer End families,

Now that the newsletter is every two weeks there is often so much to fit in I find it hard to remember it all! We have so many wonderful opportunities for our pupils at Widmer End, it's what makes our school so special.

This week, our Year 2 children recently enjoyed their much-anticipated trip to Whipsnade Zoo. Despite the bitter weather and the fact that many of the animals were still hibernating, the children were absolutely fantastic. Their enthusiasm and positive attitudes shone through, and they made the very best of the day. We were still lucky enough to spot some amazing animals, including elephants, flamingoes, giraffes and even a tiger! The children represented the school brilliantly, and we are very proud of them.

We were also treated to a truly vibrant Indian Dance assembly, where the children once again entertained the entire school. Their energy, confidence and joy brought a real sense of warmth to the day and brightened spirits all around. It was a wonderful celebration of culture and talent. Mrs Saha works so hard to ensure the pupils can showcase their talent each term - we would just love some boys to join now!

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Parents' Evening. Staff and parents alike shared how valuable these meetings are, and how much more meaningful they feel face-to-face. We truly appreciate the strong partnership we have with you in supporting your children's learning.

Looking ahead, we are very excited to be launching a new mummy and baby/toddler group after Easter - please see details below. This will be a lovely opportunity to welcome new families into our school community and begin building those important early connections.

Over the Easter break, our much-loved pre-school will also be receiving a fresh new look. Thanks to a generous grant from the Bucks Early Years team, the space is being painted and new furniture will be installed. We are incredibly excited about these improvements and the positive impact they will have on our youngest children.

As we move into the summer term, we are all looking forward to warmer weather, making use of our school field, and enjoying our newly installed adventure trail. It's an exciting time for the school, and we cannot wait to see the children making the most of these opportunities.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming you back in a couple of weeks' time.

Warm regards,

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



Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th April

- School Reopens 8:30am
- Rocksteady Concert 2:30pm
- Netball Girls League Match vs Kingswood HOME

Wednesday 15th April

- Netball Mixed League Match vs Hamilton Academy HOME

Friday 17th April

- Mufti Day for **EARTH** house 
- Year 6 Tag Rugby at HGSS

Monday 20th April

- Early Morning Interventions Begin
- ECO VR Workshops Years R-6
- Teacher-led Clubs Begin

Tuesday 21st April

- Police Visit Y5 & Y6
- Netball Mixed League Match vs St Johns HOME

Wednesday 22nd April

- School Website & Marketing Photography Day

Thursday 23rd April

- Netball League Girls Match vs St Johns HOME

Friday 24th April

- Reception Multiskills at HGSS

Monday 27th April

- Choir to The Royal Albert Hall

Wednesday 29th April

- Netball Girls League Match vs Hamilton AWAY

Thursday 30th April

- Netball Girls League Match vs Hannah Ball HOME

Friday 1st May

- PTA Happy Bags & Hot Dog Day
- PTA Hot Dog Day
- Year 1 Sharing Assembly 9am



Awards This Week

Shining Star



Grace



Jennifer

Merit Awards



- Year R - The Whole Class! Finn & Ismail
- Year 1 - Deen, Aadhyah, Alfie & Eddie
- Year 2 - Tamanna, Sophie, The Whole Class!
- Year 3 - Deen, Lucy, Tabitha & Lilly-Mo
- Year 4 - Asher, William, Evie & Niamh
- Year 5 - James, Ivy, Daphne & Eva
- Year 6 - Jesse, Monty, Charlotte & Josh

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

House Winners



Mufti Day winners this half term are **EARTH!** Mufti will be on the **17th April.**

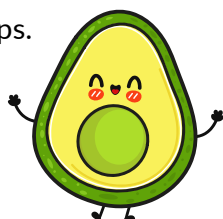


Amazon Wishlist

Our school Amazon Wishlist remains open and is regularly updated with items that support teaching, learning, and enrichment across the school. It provides a simple way for families and friends of the school to contribute directly to resources that make a real difference in classrooms. We are so grateful for how generous you have been since we asked - it really does make a difference to all of our pupils. Thank you!

This month, we are hoping for kind donations for our **lunchtime rewards**. You can see that our Midday team wish to reward children with stickers, and huge cuddly toys! They will need a whiteboard, pens, notebooks and always need ice packs for those little bumps.

Please see the wishlist [HERE](#).



Attendance

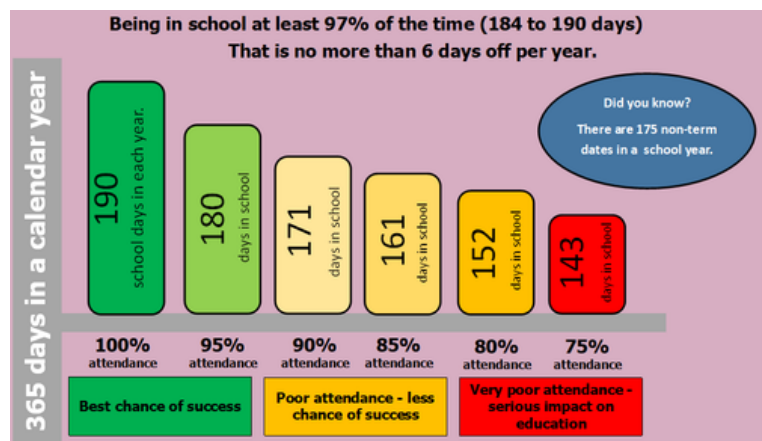
School average this academic year

95.7%

The last fortnight:

- Reception - 97.67% - 4 Late Marks!
- Year 1 - 94.48% - 2 Late Marks!
- Year 2 - 93.82% - 5 Late Marks!
- Year 3 - 92.6% - 2 Late Marks!
- Year 4 - 93.17% - 1 Late Mark!
- Year 5 - 97.66% - 4 Late Marks!
- Year 6 - 93.32% - 3 Late Marks!

As you are aware at the end of every half term & term we are obliged by the Department of Education to share your child/rens attendance with you via standard letters. If your child's attendance falls below 95% (expected level) or is at 90% or below (Persistent Absentee) you will receive an additional letter that will highlight a specific concern according to the Department of Education's guidelines. Please know that, as a school, we are here to support you with your child's attendance so please do contact us if we can assist you in any way. We do understand children become ill or may have barriers that affect their attendance. However, if we have significant concerns as a school surrounding your child's attendance, we will contact you directly at any point within the term.



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!



Ex-Pupil Foodbank Collection!

Lovely Maisie has arranged a foodbank collection for One Can Trust, here at Widmer End School. Her volunteering is for her Duke of Edinburgh award.

We would ask that you bring items into school throughout the week 20th-24th April, there will be a red box left in the front lobby for these.

Thank you!



Spotlight On SEND!

Last week was **Neurodiversity Celebration Week** which celebrated different ways of thinking and learning. All classes explored neurodiversity through assemblies, stories, learned about successful neurodiverse individuals and designed colourful and unique inclusion flags to decorate classrooms. 'Ask It Baskets' also gave pupils a chance to ask anonymous questions, helping to develop understanding about inclusion across our school.



Reception's Yummy Day Out

Reception class had a fun filled day in Amersham last week! They started their morning off at Pizza Express, making their very own pizzas and learning about the ingredients needed to make the perfect dough. Then the chefs cooked them all for us and we got to try them at lunchtime!

After lunch, we took part in some nature hunting activities outdoors and created our very own nature bracelets. We finished off our day by visiting Amersham library. Here, we had a tour of the library, had a look at all of the books they had to offer and took part in a scavenger hunt too! An amazing day loved by the children and adults! Thank you to all our parent helpers and staff involved.

Mrs Watson



YOU'RE INVITED

**Parent & carer Coffee Afternoon
with Bucks Occupational Therapy Team**

Tuesday 28th April 2026

2-3pm

Widmer End School Hall

Join us for a warm and welcoming coffee afternoon with a special focus on supporting sensory regulation – both at home and at school. Come along to learn, connect, and enjoy tea, coffee, and light snacks in a friendly atmosphere.

EVERYONE including parents, carers, and family members are all welcome. This is not just for families of pupils with a SEND need.

What to Expect:

- Meet our Occupational Therapy team (BUCKS)
- Learn how OT supports students in school
- A special focus on supporting sensory regulation – both at home and at school
- Take home practical tips and strategies for everyday activities
- Informal chats over tea, coffee, and biscuits



Sign Up Here!



Mrs Ross-Wood has arranged a fantastic coffee afternoon with Bucks Occupational Therapy team. This is a rare opportunity to speak to professionals and other families with similar needs and situations! Sign up [HERE](#).

Please contact Mrs Ross-Wood for any SEND related enquiries. SEND@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk

SEND Support Phone Line

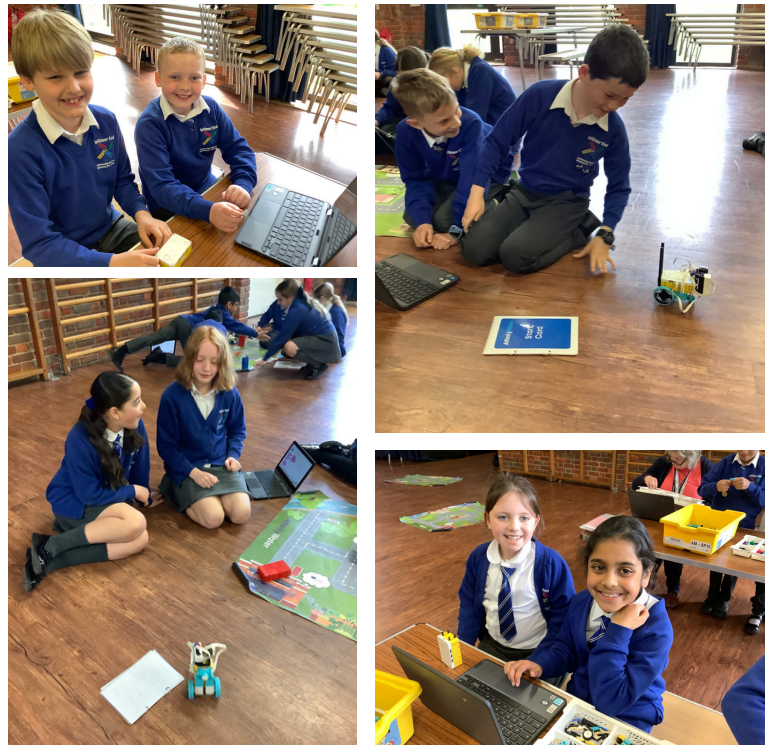
We are open everyday between 10am and 4pm and until 6pm on Tuesdays. The line is for parents, professionals and anyone with enquiries about SEND in Buckinghamshire.

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

01296 382135



Lego Workshops With Affinity Water



Years 4 and 5 were treated to some brilliant Lego workshops on Monday, that we won in a competition with Affinity Water. They had to create and programme robots, with the aim that they would be used to save water. They had a brilliant time, using their existing STEM knowledge and learning awesome new skills! Our workshop leader even wrote us an email thank you, as she enjoyed working in our school so much.

Dear Year (4 and 5) Students,

I wanted to send a huge THANK YOU to every single student who took part in the LEGO Affinity Water workshops on Monday!

I was so impressed by your fantastic teamwork, building and coding skills, and the incredible water-saving tasks you completed. You truly showed off your skills as engineers and environmental heroes!

And now for the most amazing news - your school saved a total of 5680 litres of water by completing the tasks during the workshops. That is absolutely massive.

Keep looking for ways to save water at school and at home, and most importantly, keep working towards the goals you set in your pledges. Remember, every drop counts!

Best wishes,
Anne-Marie



Food Hygiene Inspection



We are absolutely delighted to share that we have achieved the highest possible Food Hygiene Rating of 5 following a recent unannounced inspection on 5th March. This is something we are incredibly proud of. Because the inspection was unannounced, it reflects the consistently high standards we maintain every single day, not just when we are being assessed.

The report highlighted that no action was required, with the inspector confirming that all areas; from food handling and storage, to cleanliness and management systems; were operating at the highest level.

The report also confirmed that the school environment is clean and well-maintained, showing that our team's knowledge goes far beyond general food safety. We have a strong understanding of allergen management and are highly attentive to the needs of individual children.

We are especially proud of our fantastic Midday Supervisor team, who play such a vital role in ensuring a safe and positive lunchtime experience for every child. The inspector recognised that our staff know the children well and take great care to ensure their individual needs are met. This reflects our wider commitment to safeguarding, inclusion, and wellbeing at every part of the school day.

PE Reminder - Earrings

A quick reminder to parents and carers that, in line with our school policy, children should not wear earrings during PE lessons. If a child has recently had their ears pierced and/or cannot remove their earrings, they must be taped at home before coming to school on the day of their PE lesson.



Staff are unable to remove earrings in school, so we kindly ask that this is done before arrival. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all children safe during PE lessons.



Eco Month Update

The Eco Warriors have been talking in assembly every week about the different global celebration events, with tips on how to prevent food waste, encourage recycling and save water.

In this week's assembly on Tuesday, we were inspired by Jennifer's amazing poster for the Eco competition. After showing it in her class on Monday, it inspired Violet to create a fantastic one too! By the sound of the gasps in assembly, lots of children have been inspired by them too so we are extending the competition to after Easter (**Tuesday 14th**).

Ideas are: pictures made from recycled or natural materials, a poster telling us how we can be more eco-friendly in school or in our lives outside of school, a leaflet or poster about one of the celebration days or weeks or something written, such as a poem, short story or song. A great activity if we have any rainy days! Please use recycled materials as much as you can.

The Eco Warriors look forward to seeing all of the entries and thank you to everyone who has handed theirs in so far.



Netball League Match Results

Our netball league matches kicked off last week, with the mixed team playing the sprightly Little Kingshill School. Our children dominated the match from the 2nd quarter, with the ball passing seamlessly down the court, using all boys and girls to gain goals as a team. The resulting score of this brilliant effort was a mammoth 8-0 to Widmer.

This week, our girls had their first league match against Holmer Green. The HG girls were the best competition at the Pipers Corner tournament so our girls knew that they had to go out fighting for the girls. We battled the wind, rain, hail and freezing temperatures to come out victorious with a score of 7-5!

Well done, netballers; keep the passion going and we may win more trophies!

Healthier Sweet Treats!

We all enjoy a sweet treat now and then! The good news is you can offer children healthier options that still taste delicious, without lots of added sugar.

Simple Sweet Swaps

Swap: Chocolate bars

Try: Banana slices, dried fruit, or yogurt-covered raisins

Swap: Sugary biscuits

Try: Oatcakes, fruit, or homemade flapjacks

Swap: Shop-bought cakes

Try: Homemade banana bread or fruit loaf

Easy Homemade Ideas

Banana oat cookies (just banana + oats!)

Yogurt with fresh fruit

Apple slices with a sprinkle of cinnamon

Tip: Homemade treats can be made in batches and frozen, ready for the week ahead. A little sweetness is fine - especially when it comes with added goodness!

Value Of The Term

CURIOSITY



'There are a whole lot of things in this world of ours that you haven't started wondering about yet.'

In our Values assemblies, Mrs Marshall introduced our last inspirational person for Curiosity, Roald Dahl. The children learnt about his life, including how he struggled at school and became an RAF pilot but sadly couldn't continue after an accident. Fortunately, Roald was able to use the world around him and his life experiences to write the most amazing, imaginative children's books which are loved by children all over the world. His curiosity and creativity has given so many people such joy with film adaptations and plays inspired by his stories. Perhaps you could talk to your child about how they can continue to be curious of their world and other people, as they never know where this may take them in the future.



Year 2 Zoo Trip

Year 2 enjoyed a memorable visit to Whipsnade Zoo, even with some rather unpredictable weather throughout the day. They started by taking part in an interesting workshop on habitats, where they discovered how different animals live and survive in their environments. After that, the children explored the zoo, spotting a range of animals such as butterflies, elephants, tigers, flamingos, giraffes, and meerkats, which created lots of excitement.

At the end of the day, everyone had great fun in the soft play area, giving them a chance to warm up and relax after a busy day. It was a day filled with learning, exploration, and enjoyment.

Mrs Bejan



Parents Evenings

We hope you all had informative parents evening meetings. We always enjoy meeting everyone in person and enjoying the community atmosphere in the school hall.

If you have any feedback regarding these, please email the school office. Thank you.

Netball Tournament Success



On Saturday 14th March, I took 3 netball teams to play in the annual High Wycombe inter-schools tournament. These were a Year 4 and 5 mixed team, Year 5 and 6 girls team and a Year 6 mixed team.

All children had a marvellous day in the sunshine, playing lots of netball matches and gaining valuable experience. Our Year 4/5 mixed team won some matches, against Year 5 & 6 teams, which was such a brilliant result!

After the morning sections were played, the teams were divided into new sections based on their 'points won'. All 3 teams fought hard against some tough competition and had fantastic results in their sections.

Year 5 & 6 Girls came **FIRST** 🏆
 Year 4 & 5 Mixed came **SECOND** 🥈
 Year 6 Mixed came **THIRD** 🥉

Thank you to our parent helpers, without you we could only enter one team, the children are very grateful!

Mrs Weaver



At Widmer End School, we endeavour to keep our sports provision and opportunities improving year-on-year. If you think your child would be interested in representing their school in a team next year, please do get in touch. Likewise, if you have any suggestions or skills that you would like to share with school, we would love to hear from you!



Pre-School Updates

Yesterday, Pre-School visited Odds Farm Park. It was lovely to see the sun shining and the children all excited to see what animals we could find.

Our first stop was the big barn, where the children had the opportunity to feed the sheep and goats. Some of us were a little braver than others. However, some overcame their fears and managed to feed the goats. They were very hungry and tickled our hands as they ate the food from our palms.

Guinea Pig Fishing was so much fun. We were given a fishing rod with a piece of carrot attached to the end which we held in the guinea pig run for them to eat.

Bottle feeding the goats was a great experience. We were the first group to feed the goats this year. Using two hands to hold onto the bottle, the goats drank the milk, sucking really hard. Sometimes we needed a grown up to help us as the goats were so strong.

We all had a lovely day at the farm and were so lucky with the weather. The children all behaved beautifully which makes us very proud of you all.

Have a fantastic Easter break, making those family memories. We look forward to hearing all your news when we return for our Summer Term.

Deborah



Girls Enjoy Football Too!

Some keen Year 6 girls took the football spotlight yesterday, representing our school in a tournament at Pipers Corner school.

These inexperienced girls played their hearts out, gaining confidence after each minute of playing and cheering their teammates on whenever they gained an interception or a shot at goal.

We are so proud of their resilience against some tough competition! Even though we didn't bring any medals away, the girls are keen to play more football matches and that's a big achievement in itself!



Choir Prepare for Their Big Performance



Our Choir had their rehearsal in High Wycombe last week, ready for the Royal Albert Hall performance in April! They thoroughly enjoyed it and are all looking forward to the trip.



Playgroup for Little Ones

Join Our Playgroup!

Fun and engaging activities for children of any age!
With qualified Level 3 staff members

Every Thursday
Running from Thursday 23rd April to Thursday 21st May

10:15am - 11:15am
Free entry

Activities include:

- Storytime and singing
- Arts and crafts
- Outdoor play

Play, learn and grow together!

Widmer End School, Estcourt Drive,
HP156AH
Contact Us:
office@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk
01494 714371

We're delighted to be launching our new weekly playgroup, offering fun and engaging activities for children of all ages. Join us each Thursday for a relaxed and friendly session filled with play, creativity, and social time for little ones and their families.

Year 4's Rainforest Assembly

Year 4 had their brilliant sharing assembly last week, showcasing their learning about Rainforests. Real-life experience at 'The Living Rainforest' meant that they were knowledgeable, persuasive and imaginative with their performance. All the children and parents were enthralled! Well done, Year 4 and Mrs Van der Merwe!



Hire Our School Facilities

Our school offers a range of rooms and spaces to hire at very reasonable rates; perfect for clubs, meetings, fitness classes, and events.

We're also pleased to offer a discount for current school families, making our facilities even more affordable for our community.

Our facilities include flexible indoor spaces suitable for both small groups and larger gatherings, all within a safe, well-maintained environment. With convenient local access and a friendly lettings team on hand, organising your activity couldn't be easier.

Whether you're running a regular session or planning a one-off event, we'd love to support you. Our team is happy to discuss your needs and help you find the right space.

To find out more or check availability, visit our website, email lettings@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk or call 01494 714371

Year 5's Earthquake Learning

Year 5 had an 'Earthquake Day', finding out what it was like to actually experience a powerful earthquake. Ms Atkins spoke about the 2010 earthquake in Chile. Groups were then challenged to build an 'earthquake proof' structure using cocktail sticks and marshmallows to test in class on a 'jelly' earthquake. We then talked about how earthquakes can cause tsunamis and looked at some examples of these around the world.

