

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,

I hope that you all had a lovely and restful Easter break. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school, refreshed and ready for a new term of learning.

We have been especially fortunate with the sun shining this fortnight, which has meant the field is open for the children to enjoy. They have been making the most of the outdoor space, particularly with the repaired and improved adventure trail, which has proven extremely popular. Pupils have also been thoroughly enjoying the new equipment that has been introduced. A special thank you goes to our PTA, who have kindly financed six new containers of play equipment. This has ensured that there is something for everyone to enjoy during playtimes, and it has certainly been a big hit with the children. We also had our new playground markings done, meaning children can now play snakes and ladders as well as use the dance mat at breaks and lunches!

Over the Easter holiday, we were also delighted to make some exciting improvements to our Pre-School environment. The space has been freshly painted and furnished with a range of new furniture and resources, creating a bright, welcoming, and engaging setting for our youngest learners. Since returning, the children have loved exploring their updated surroundings, making the most of the different areas designed for learning and play.

Finally, we were thrilled with the fantastic response to our Governor recruitment drive. Thank you to all those who expressed an interest. We now ask parents to take the time to read the candidate bios (attached to the newsletter email) carefully for the role of Parent Governor and cast your vote for the person you feel will best represent you. Your voice is important, so please do make your vote count.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend,

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



A sneak peek at some of our new photos after a brilliant day on Wednesday!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 27th April

- Choir to The Royal Albert Hall

Tuesday 28th April

- Bucks OT Coffee Afternoon 2-3pm
- Netball Mixed League Match vs Hamilton HOME

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
- PTA Hot Dog Day
- Year 1 Sharing Assembly 9am
- Year 4 Athletics Tournament at HGSS

Monday 4th May

- Bank Holiday - School Closed

Wednesday 6th May

- Years P-2 Drama4All Workshops - Neverland Adventure!

Friday 8th May

- Police visit Year R & 1

Monday 11th May

- SATs Tests begin for Year 6
- Reception Vision Screening Check
- Year 5 & 6 Football Teams Training After School

Friday 15th May

- Year 4 Trip to Cadbury World
- Year 2 Athletics Tournament at HGSS

Monday 18th May

- Walk to School Week
- PTA Fathers Day Photos
- Years 5 & 6 Football Teams Training After School



Awards This Week

Shining Star



Myleigh



Teddy

Merit Awards



- Year R - Orla, Jude, Lucas & Lilah
- Year 1 - Leo, Spencer, Evie & Ellis
- Year 2 - Luka, Margot, Shanaie & Darcey
- Year 3 - Max, Alfie, Otto & Rose
- Year 4 - Minal, Luna, Grace & Noah
- Year 5 - Violet, Owen, Emily C & Jessica
- Year 6 - Oscar, Poppy, Amelia & Freddie

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

House Winners



This week's winners roll over to next week, due to an extremely busy week!

Year 1 RE Learning

Year one had the pleasure of our PGCE student, Miss Aslam teaching them RE today all about Salat which is the Islamic Prayer Ritual. She brought in prayer mats and the children were able to experience completing an actual Islamic Prayer. The children loved every minute and learnt so much about another religion as well.

Miss Davis



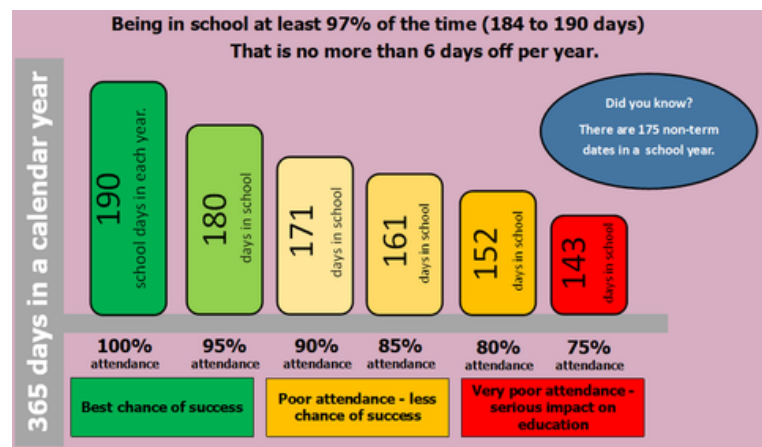
Attendance

School average this academic year

95.8%

The last fortnight:

- Reception - 98.56% - 4 Late Marks!
- Year 1 - 97.9% - 2 Late Marks!
- Year 2 - 95.89% - 6 Late Marks!
- Year 3 - 92.6% - 8 Late Marks!
- Year 4 - 94.68% - 2 Late Marks!
- Year 5 - 98.44% - 7 Late Marks!
- Year 6 - 96.23% - 2 Late Marks!



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!

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 still hoping for kind donations for our **lunchtime rewards**. You can see that our Middy 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](#).



Year 5's 'Grass Heads'



This week, our school has been celebrating Earth Day with a variety of fun and meaningful activities to help us appreciate and care for our planet. Classes across the school have been getting involved in different ways, from exploring our pond area to creating beautiful Earth-inspired artwork and taking part in planting and gardening projects. We began the week by planting sunflower seeds in each class, and we're excited to see whose sunflower will grow the tallest over the next few weeks! In Year 5, we have also been busy making our own 'Grass Heads', which we can't wait to watch grow. Take a look at the pictures above to see some of the fantastic things we've been doing!

Miss Weston

Spotlight On SEND!

We are very much looking forward to the fantastic coffee afternoon with Bucks Occupational Therapy team next week. 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

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!



One Can Collection - Still On!



Thank you to those who have donated food to the One Can Trust for ex-pupil Maisy's Duke of Edinburgh volunteering. The box will be in the entrance lobby for the first few days of next week, too.



Right Of The Month - Article 27



27 I have the right to have a proper house, food and clothing

April's 'Right of the Month' is Article 27: **I have the right to have a proper house, food and clothing.** Celebrations linked to this are 'Stop the Food Waste Day' and 'Earth Day', both of which follow on from last month's 'Eco Month'. 'World Health Day' is an important day linked to this right and we have also looked at every child's right to food with how our link school in Kenya, Mawira, is teaching its students about growing food.

Spare Clothes Needed!

We urgently need the following spare clothes, in case of first aid and other accidents among our children:

- NEW boys pants age 2-3 and 3-4 for Pre-School
- Grey and white socks suitable for boys and girls in sizes 11-13 (child) and 1-10 (adult)
- Black joggers in ages 5-14
- Black leggings in ages 5-14
- Black shorts (both male and female) in ages 5-14
- White t-shirts (plain) in ages 5-14

Example clothing changes could be; nosebleeds, cuts and grazes, toilet accidents, food/drink spillages, forest school accidents, plus many more!

If your child has had spare clothes from school, we kindly ask that you wash and return these straight away so we may use them for other children.

Thank you, from the School Office.

Art Club Gets Creative!



Miss Davis really enjoyed her first Art Club this week. With 18 children of all ages, she is coming up with plans to engage all children in her passion, Art!

Lighthouse Hazlemere need you! Many children enjoy Lighthouse every year, they have a few helpers already but they need more adults - especially to look after small groups of children during the day. If you would like a fun-packed week for yourself and your child(ren), please find out more [HERE](#).

Lighthouse Hazlemere is back



We can only run if we get enough helpers
Please come and help us!

A shorter, more focused week
Smaller Lighthouse groups

Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th
August

9:30 - 2 at Holy Trinity
10:00-12 at St Francis Church

Please Scan QR Code or
online at
Lighthouse Hazlemere 2026





Eco Competition

The Eco Warriors had a hard time deciding on a winner for the Eco Competition that we ran in Eco Month. They were so impressed with the efforts and high standard of everyone who entered the competition. They could not decide on just one, so chose 3 children - Jennifer, Margot and Amelia. Well done - they were amazing! We will now use the ideas from the entries to help towards creating our school Eco Code.



Staff Fire Awareness Training



Every two years, our staff complete refresher training on fire awareness and safety, just in case of any emergencies. The most exciting part of the training comes at the end, where staff get to put their newly learned skills into practice by using a fire extinguisher - always a crowd favourite! Of course, we hope these skills will never be needed, but it's reassuring to know they're there.

It's good to know that Widmer End staff always keep the safety of our children, visitors, and colleagues firmly at the forefront of our minds, each and every day.

Balanced Lunches

A balanced lunch helps children stay full, focused, and ready to learn throughout the afternoon. The goal is to include a mix of foods that provide energy and important nutrients.

What Makes a Balanced Lunch?

- **Carbohydrates** - bread, wraps, pasta or rice for energy
- **Protein** - cheese, yogurt, eggs or hummus to keep children fuller for longer
- **Fruit & veg** - for vitamins, fibre and colour

Simple Lunchbox Ideas

- Ham or cheese sandwich with cucumber sticks
- Pasta salad with sweetcorn and peppers
- Crackers with cheese, fruit, and veggie sticks

Tip: Aim for at least three different food groups in every lunchbox to keep it balanced and satisfying. A colourful, balanced lunch helps children feel their best and ready for the rest of the school day!

Value Of The Term

RESPECT



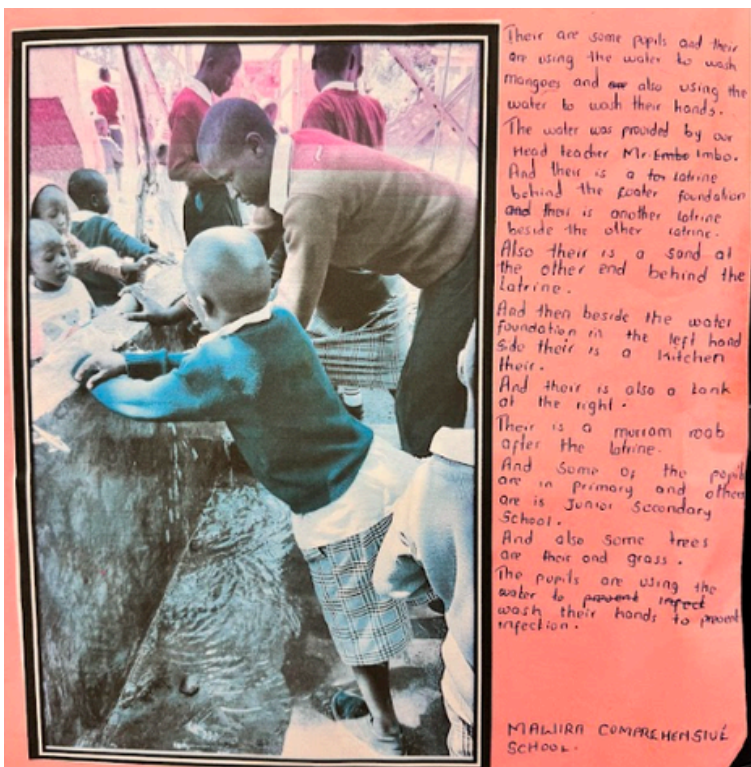
"If you want to be respected by others, the great thing is to respect yourself. Only by that, only by self-respect will you compel others to respect you."

In our Values assemblies, Mrs Marshall introduced our new value of Respect and introduced Pelé as our inspirational person. The children learnt about how Pelé became the greatest footballer in the world, starting out from a poor family and only having a football made out of a sock to play with. Children learnt how Pelé became highly respected for his sportsmanship on the pitch, often giving his teammates the chance to score, even if he could have done this himself, and also treating opposing teams with respect during and after each game. Children were asked to think about how they can treat others with respect, even if they are not friends with them, and also how they can respect themselves, too! See if your child can tell you a way they can show self-respect.



Mawira School Update

We were really excited to receive some letters from our link school in Kenya, Mawira School. The Rights Reps had written to them in January and they were the first to see the letters and share them in assembly. They included photos that showed what daily life is like in Mawira School and we learned about some of the pupil's interests and what they are learning. This included showing how the children are learning about drip irrigation to water plants when water is scarce and why washing your hands is important to help prevent infection. Like us, they have a Friday assembly and breaktime snacks - whilst we have fruit and/or vegetables, they have porridge. Many of the things they enjoy are similar to us, such as drawing, painting, singing, dancing, running, rounders and dogs! We talked about our right of the month and how learning about how to grow food is important to support children's health. Ms Atkins invited any children who wanted to share anything about our life in Widmer End to pass it on to her and she can send them email updates.



VR Workshops



To celebrate Earth Day, pupils across the school took part in exciting and immersive Virtual Reality workshops - always one of our children's favourite experiences!

Years 4-6 explored an engaging ECO workshop, where they were introduced to important environmental themes such as sustainability, habitats, and the impact humans have on the world around them. Through the use of VR, pupils were able to experience these concepts in a vivid and interactive way, helping them to better understand how they can play a part in protecting our planet.

Years R-3 took part in a fascinating Minibeasts workshop, where they were transported into the tiny world of insects and creatures. Using virtual reality, the children were able to get up close to minibeasts, exploring their habitats, life cycles, and the important roles they play in our ecosystems. The experience sparked great excitement and curiosity, with many pupils amazed at seeing these tiny creatures from a whole new perspective.

Across all year groups, the workshops were thoroughly enjoyed and provided a fantastic blend of technology and learning; leaving pupils inspired, engaged, and full of questions about the world around them.

Playground Rejuvenation

You may have noticed our playground is looking rather jazzy! Our netball courts have been re-painted and some new playground games added. What lucky children we have!





Pre-School Updates

It is so lovely to see some sunshine and feel the warmth as we play outside.

The children have loved being in the sand pit and playing with the water together whilst using their motor skills to fill and pour with.

We wanted to give you a little look at our new room which we are so happy with and also very grateful for. It is totally transformed to a more calm, natural environment.

We have spoken with the children about caring for new things and shown them how to play nicely and cooperatively in each area. I think a favourite is the new home corner and the book area.

Let's hope the sun continues to shine as we love outside play!

Have a lovely weekend.

Deborah & Tamsin



Pond Life



Our school pond is teeming with life! The fish have come out of their winter slumber, the frogs are breeding prolificly and the rare newts are showing themselves again! Our children love this valuable resource at school.

Year 5 & 6 Police Visit



Year 4 Forest School Sessions Begin



Year 4 have been delighted to begin their Forest School sessions for the term, eagerly heading outdoors to explore and learn in a different environment. These sessions provide a wonderful opportunity for pupils to develop their confidence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills while enjoying the natural surroundings we are blessed with at Widmer End.

So far, the children have been busy discovering the woodland area, learning how to stay safe, and taking part in hands-on activities such as building shelters and observing wildlife. There has already been plenty of excitement, with everyone embracing the chance to learn beyond the classroom.

We look forward to seeing Year 4 continue to grow in confidence and curiosity as the sessions progress throughout the term.



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 734371

Our new venture, Thursday morning Playgroup, was a big hit with those who came to play! Word will spread quickly, we hope. We have activities for all ages, both indoors and out, including; sand and water play, roleplay and dressing up, building blocks and sensory activities. Mrs Watson cannot wait to welcome you.

Netball League Match Results

This week, our netball league teams played St Johns School. In both matches, we started slowly and the matches were pretty even. In the second quarter, however, Widmer found their 'fire' and sped away to win both matches! Final scores - Girls won 16-1 and Mixed won 12-1.

Year 1 WOW Work

Year 1 have been creating self-portraits, inspired by Andy Warhol's Madonna painting.



PTA Shed Clearance

Our wonderful PTA need some help clearing their shed out, as it needs dismantling. They have a few volunteers, but need more to make the job quick and easy! Please can you let the PTA know if you are able (and able bodied!) to help, either via the class Whatsapp groups or emailing PTA@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk.

Date: Friday 1st May

Time: 1pm onwards



Governor Voting

We are currently seeking to appoint a new Parent Governor to join the school's governing board, and as part of this process, all parents and carers are invited to take part in an anonymous vote.

Parent Governors play a vital role in the life of the school. They work alongside other governors to provide strategic leadership, ensure accountability, and support the school in continuing to deliver the best possible outcomes for all pupils. This is not a day-to-day operational role, but one focused on oversight, challenge, and long-term development. Having a strong parent voice on the governing board helps ensure that decisions are informed by the wider school community.

As we have received more applications than there are vacancies, we are holding a ballot. To support a fair and balanced process, candidate statements have been anonymised. This allows all parents and carers to consider each application based on skills, experience and what each candidate can bring to the role, rather than on personal familiarity.

We encourage all parents and carers to take a few minutes to read through the candidate statements and cast their vote. Your participation is important in helping to shape the future governance of the school. A strong turnout ensures that the elected Parent Governor has a clear mandate to represent the parent community.

You can vote for your preference [HERE](#).

Thank you in advance for taking the time to engage in this process and for your continued support of the school.