



Dear Widmer End families,

Even though it has only been 5 weeks this half term, it has felt like a long one as the children and staff have been working so hard and we are all feeling the summer term tiredness creeping in. I hope that you all have some nice things planned for the holiday and that the weather is kind to us!

The Year 6 fundraising team would like to thank everyone for their kind donations towards the cake sale this week. We are heading for the most impressive grand total at the end of the year for Save the Children and we are so proud of the children for their hard work and dedication.

It was wonderful to see the children enjoying a variety of Maths activities in the hall on Wednesday to mark National Numeracy Day. There was a real energy in the room and the children were enjoying working together to solve mathematical puzzles.

We ended our week today with a busy Friday! We started with the amazing Walking Crocodile which was a superb end to our Walk to School Week. It was wonderful to see so many families walking to school - thanks to parents who helped to walk the children down. I was standing by the school gates and noted a significant reduction in cars coming into Estcourt Drive - it would be wonderful to try and replicate this as much as possible in the coming weeks to ensure the safety of our children. May I also take this opportunity to remind parents not to cut across the car park at drop off or pick up times. I would ask that we, as adults, model behaviours to keep the children safe, which means sticking to the pathways. Many thanks.

Children met the 'Bucks Bear' at the end of the walk and some were able to join in and talk on the Bucks radio channel! And finally, thank you to the PTA for providing the children who joined the Crocodile with a well-earned croissant and orange juice in the hall, and for volunteering to help serve.

Our Year 1 children have been to Woolly Firs today on a trip which they thoroughly enjoyed and Year 6 visited Holmer Green Senior school to participate in a volleyball tournament. Our children always represent the school so well on days like these and get so much from their time away from school. Thank you to all the parents who helped accompany the children.



Shining Star Award

Just a reminder regarding summer term uniform: ties are not required in KS2 in this term as it can get very hot in the building. Socks are the norm in the summer months but please remember that the branded 'sports' sock is not part of the uniform, with the exception, of course, on PE days. Please make sure all girls' hair is tied back and that skirts are of the correct length. Many thanks for your support.

Have a relaxing break,

Mrs Marshall

Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd June

- School Reopens 8:30am
- PTA Fathers Day Photos

Tuesday 3rd June

- Year 5 Residential Parent Information Evening 5:30-6:30pm

Wednesday 4th June

- PTA Mufti Day
- PTA Happy's Circus, Book [HERE](#)

Thursday 5th June

- A.I.M High Writer's Day
- World Environment Day

Friday 6th June

- D-Day
- No Hot-Dog Day, Normal Lunches

Monday 9th June

- Class Photos - Wear Ties & Jumpers/Cardigans
- Year 5 Friendly Football Match vs Hazlemere CofE

Tuesday 10th June

- Police Visit our EYFS!

Friday 13th June

- Year 3 Cricket Tournament at HGSS

PTA Events

Fathers Day!

The PTA Fathers Day photos will be taken on Monday 2nd June, in school. If you would like to arrange something special for the father figure in your child's life, please visit the PTA page [HERE](#).

Mufti Day!

The PTA have arranged a mufti day for the day of the circus, the 4th June. You can donate towards their fundraising efforts by clicking [HERE](#).





Spotlight On SEND!

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

Student Shout Out!

Thank you to some of our Year 6 children who spent their weekend delivering circus leaflets, as well as the Mahony family and Liz Taylor! This is so appreciated and will hopefully sell those last available tickets!



The Circus Is Drawing Near!

Reminder: Circus Tickets available for Wednesday 4th June and food can be pre-ordered to ensure your dinner is ready!

www.pta-events.co.uk/widmerend

The circus show begins at 6, but our gates will open at 4 for the following:

- Dinner and Drinks
- Ice Cream Van
- Crafts
- Hair Feathers
- Beat the Goalie
- Make the Clowns Juggle
- Guess the Bears Name
- Guess the amount of Sweets
- Sweets & Merch
- Lucky Programmes
- Raffle

Raffle tickets should have come home to you this week... even if you are not attending the circus event, you can still enter the raffle to be in with a chance of winning some fabulous prizes!

Attendance

School average this academic year

95.6%

This week:

Reception - 92.5% - 2 Late Marks!

Year 1 - 95.71% - 3 Late Marks!

Year 2 - 93.2% - 1 Late Mark!

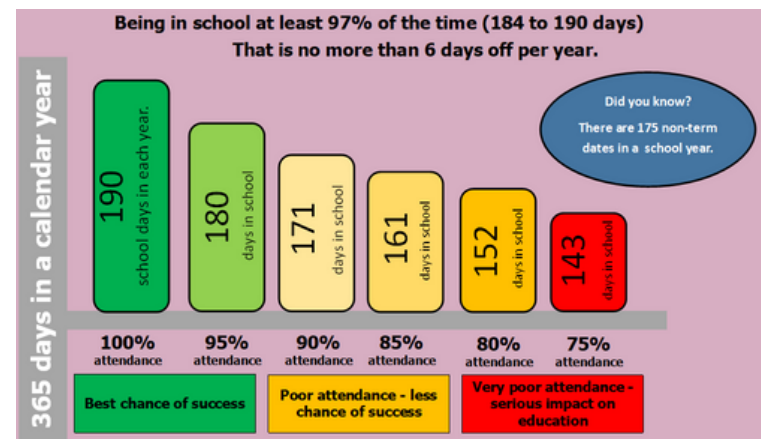
Year 3 - 94.44% - 1 Late Mark!

Year 4 - 91.88% - 3 Late Marks!

Year 5 - 90.31% - 1 Late Mark!

Year 6 - 95.81% - 5 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!



Year 4 Cadbury World Trip

Year 4 had the most fabulous day last Friday, at Cadbury World in Birmingham. The children had so much fun and really put their learning from the classroom into practice. They learned about the history of chocolate and linked it nicely to their classroom learning about the Maya civilisation. The children were an absolute pleasure to take out and it was smiles from beginning to end.



Mrs Oxby

Trophy Winners!

As you all know by now, we have had a very successful netball season, particularly with our girls' team. On Wednesday, they collected their hard-earned trophy at the awards ceremony at Kingsmead Netball Centre, after the mixed league play-off.

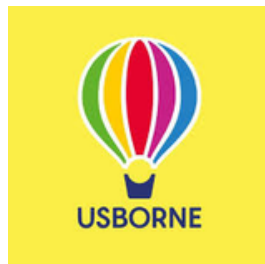
We had lots of proud parents and a very happy, smiling squad. Let's hope we have similar successes next year!

Mrs Weaver



Usborne Sponsorship Thanks

A huge thank you for your support during our recent Usborne event. We appreciate your contributions and sponsorships! Our Usborne representative has placed an order for our books and prizes. Winners will be announced promptly upon their arrival, and certificates will also be distributed at that time.



Mrs van der Merwe

Here's a message from our Usborne representative, Lucy Meichsner.

Thank you so much to Widmer End Combined School and preschool for an incredible Usborne-sponsored reading and listening to reading event. It was so lovely to see how engaged you were in your reading and you collected £638 across the school in sponsorship, resulting in an extra 60% in free books. In total, you will receive £963.38 worth of Usborne books to read and enjoy. Winners will be announced and receive their book prizes in June.

Thank you once again for an incredible event and I look forward to supporting your school again on another reading event.

Berrybooks

Year 1 Woolley Firs Trip

Year 1 had an amazing day at Woolley Firs today learning all about Plants ready for our Science topic next half term. They got to identify different seeds and trees, create a plant pot out of newspaper and create a sticky sheet of different plants. The highlight of the day was dressing up as bees and flowers to act out the pollination process! Our guide, Claire, said that Year 1 were the best class she has ever had. Every child showed the values of curiosity and respect.

Miss Davis





Pre-School Updates

How is it half term already? It has been a busy and fun term with lots of learning.

Whilst we have been learning about "The World Around Us", our older children have also been practicing their early writing skills whilst learning through our Read Write Inc programme. As you can see from the children's faces, they are all really pleased with their letter formation for 'u'.

Our story this week has been "Whatever Next", where Baby Bear makes a rocket from a box and uses house hold objects, such as wellington boots as moon boots. Stories help the children's imaginations grow and so lots of space ships and rockets have been made from our variety of construction toys. Well done everyone.

I'd like to wish you all a happy and restful half term holiday. Make lots of family memories and we look forward to hearing about your adventures when you return.

Deborah



Year 6 Volleyball

Year 6 went to Holmer Green Senior School for their last sports fixture of primary school! We had many successes, one team even achieved 51 points which we're reliably told was the best in the tournament!



Maths Workshops

On National Numeracy Day, our school transformed into a hub of mathematical excitement and collaboration! We were thrilled to welcome the **Happy Puzzle Company**, who led a series of engaging and thought-provoking activities for our pupils. Children worked together in small groups to tackle a variety of exciting tasks, using logic and teamwork to crack codes and move from one challenge to the next. The room was buzzing with enthusiasm as students problem-solved their way through each stage, demonstrating fantastic collaboration and critical thinking. In addition to the visiting workshop, our dedicated teachers organised a full day of maths-themed adventures across the school. In some classes, pupils put their detective hats on to solve **Maths Murder Mysteries**, Years 2-6 raced against the clock in the **Times Table Rockstars Challenge**, and many children explored real-world financial skills through a series of **money-based activities**.

The entire day was a brilliant celebration of numeracy, showing just how fun and diverse mathematics can be. It was wonderful to see so many smiles, hear so many "aha!" moments, and watch our students develop their confidence with numbers.

A huge thank you to the Happy Puzzle Company and our fantastic staff for making the day such a success – a great time was had by all!

Miss Weston





Value Of The Term

RESPECT

Week 5 : Inspirational Figure



Keanu Reeves

"I was raised to treat people exactly how I would like to be treated by others. It's called respect."

In our values assembly on Monday, Mrs Marshall continued to talk to the children about Keanu Reeves and what he can teach us about the value of respect. Children learnt how he has spent his life helping and supporting others, even though he is a rich actor. Examples of this were: helping the homeless; supporting members of his film crew by moving equipment for them on set (not usually the actors' job!); helping a whole plane full of people when they were stranded by hiring and paying for transport home for them; and travelling on public transport, giving time and energy to his fans with no hesitation. Children have learnt that, even though all these people were different from Keanu, he still treated them with the same respect we all deserve as human beings. This is something that we should all aspire to.

Reception Become Bakers

This week Reception wrote recipes for Making Bread on Numeracy Day. Everyone worked really hard to write out the instructions as a class and then we worked as a team to mix the ingredients and make the dough. On Thursday we all had a go writing our own instructions independently and then at the end of the week we got to try a slice of our tasty bread at snack time!



Walking Crocodile



Merit Awards

Special Merit Award winners this week are:

- Year R - Daniel & Alfie
- Year 1 - The Whole Class!
- Year 2 - The Whole Class!
- Year 3 - Archie & Abbie
- Year 4 - Jamie & Penelope
- Year 5 - Amelie & Grace
- Year 6 - Lottie & Lexi



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