

Widmer End Community Combined School & Pre-School Newsletter

Estcourt Drive, Widmer End, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6AH

Telephone: 01494 714371

www.widmerend.bucks.sch.uk

office@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk



Friday 11th September 2026 (1)

Page 1 of 5

Welcome Back!

The summer holidays already feel like a distant memory, but I hope that everyone enjoyed some important time together as a family and had an opportunity to rest and recharge.

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back for the start of a new school year. They have settled incredibly well, and it has been lovely to hear the happy buzz around the school once again. There is always something special about the beginning of a new academic year, with shiny shoes, smart uniforms, new belongings and the excitement of fresh opportunities ahead. The children have looked exceptionally smart, and we have been so impressed by their positive attitudes and enthusiasm.

I would like to give a special mention to our new Pre-School and Reception children, who have settled in remarkably well. We have welcomed a really special group of children, and we are so excited to have them and their families join our school community. We are equally delighted with how well the many new pupils who have joined us in other year groups have adapted to their classes, routines and surroundings.

Our Year 6 pupils have been wonderful buddies to the Reception children, showing them the way and helping them to adapt to their new school. It has been incredibly heart-warming to see just how caring and nurturing they are. They have supported the younger children in the hall at lunchtime, made sure they are happy on the playground and helped them to feel safe and confident. Our Year 6 pupils have also been helping to serve food at lunchtime and have done a brilliant job. They are already proving themselves to be excellent role models and leaders within our school.

This week has also been Democracy Week, and the children have enjoyed learning about democracy and taking part in voting for a wide range of important pupil leadership roles. Our Year 6 pupils did the most wonderful job delivering their House Captain speeches. They spoke with courage, confidence and enthusiasm, and we were extremely proud of every child who put themselves forward. The votes have now been cast, and we look forward to finding out the results next week! I have also been particularly proud of our new Year 6 cohort for the calm and mature way in which they approached the Eleven Plus this week. They took the experience completely in their stride and should all feel very proud of themselves.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher sessions. I hope you found them helpful and reassuring and valued the opportunity to visit your child's new classroom and meet their teacher. These meetings are so important in helping us to work effectively in partnership with you to support your children throughout the year.

We have so much to look forward to this term, and we cannot wait to see what the children learn, experience and achieve during the year ahead.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 14th September

- Jeans for Genes day - Wear Jeans - Donate [HERE](#)

Wednesday 16th September

- CofE Church Assembly
- Individual & Sibling Photographs - Wear Cardigans/Jumpers!

Friday 18th September

- **Earth House Mufti Day** for PTA Summer Fair Reward

Thursday 24th September

- PTA AGM 5pm At School - All Welcome!

Friday 25th September

- Year 3 Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum

Monday 28th September

- Drama4All Workshops Years P-3

Tuesday 29th September

- CAP Netball Tournament at Widmer End School

Thursday 1st October

- CENSUS Day
- Black History Month

Friday 2nd October

- PTA Hot Dog Day - Volunteers Needed! Contact PTA@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk or speak to your class rep

Monday 5th October

- VR Workshops for Black History Month



Wet Weather Shelter Volunteer Needed!

We need your support! Our Wet Weather Shelter is a fantastic place for children to escape to when the hustle and bustle of the playground becomes too much. There are games, colouring and areas to just sit and chat.

This wonderful provision needs some extra help in order to continue, especially on Thursdays and Fridays, both break and lunch times.

Full support and volunteer safeguarding training will be given. Please get in touch with the school office if you are interested!

Thank you.



Staff Training Updates

For our first INSET day and twilight training, staff were treated to Emergency Paediatric First Aid and Allergy training, in line with Benedicts Law.

First aid training is always good fun, but it doesn't detract from how serious our role is in safeguarding and protecting our pupils and colleagues.

With the new enhanced allergy training, we have a more informed view on prevention and treatment of life-threatening anaphylaxis. We are always so grateful to our parents for avoiding allergens like peanuts in their children's lunches and snacks, thank you.



Attendance

School average this academic year

95.8%

The last fortnight:

Reception - 96.7% - 3 Late Marks!

Year 1 - 98.3% - 1 Late Mark!

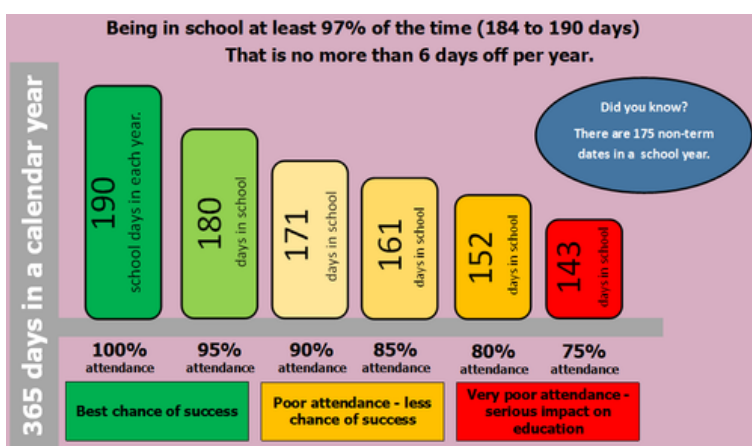
Year 2 - 95.89% - 5 Late Marks!

Year 3 - 90.63% - 3 Late Marks!

Year 4 - 96.21% - 1 Late Mark!

Year 5 - 96.97% - 1 Late Mark!

Year 6 - 91.38% - 4 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

Did you know, we have many things on our [Amazon Wishlist](#) and would be grateful for your donations. We keep adding items as they are needed so it is getting longer every day!

Thank you!





Right of the Month



September's 'Right of the Month' is Article 12: I have the right to say what I think in all matters affecting me and to have my views taken seriously. This has been seen in action during Democracy Week, when children have been able to vote for class responsibility roles and House Captains. Other important celebrations include International Day of Peace, European Day of Languages and International Literacy Day. It's also Friendship Month, which ties in brilliantly with our value of Unity.

Value of the Week

Unity



"As indigenous people we must unite in a single objective: that we demand that they respect us."

In our first Values assembly of the year on Monday, children began to consider our value of Unity. Mrs Marshall introduced our inspirational person, Nemonte Nenquimo. This incredible woman was able to unite different tribes throughout the Amazon rainforests to protest against the construction of oil mines leading to the deforestation of their forest home. The children learnt about how Nemonte felt a calling from a young age to take action after visiting a mine and seeing the terrible impact it was having on her rainforest home. Our linked value this week is 'collaboration' and the children will be making sure they all work together in school, uniting to be stronger together than just one person.

Pre-School Updates

We would like to welcome our new children along with those returning to Widmer End Pre-School and we hope you enjoy your time with us.

Deborah and Tamsin will be working with your children helping them to learn through their play and experiences.

All your children's observations can be viewed on class Dojo, so please be sure to connect with us on here. We will add lots of photos on Dojo along with observations, so you can see what activities your child has accessed throughout the week.

In Pre-School we use our outside space as much as possible, so please ensure your child has the correct clothing for the weather and that ALL their belongings are named.

We have had a fun first week getting to know all the children. Making towers with the geometric shapes was a favourite indoors. Lots of conversations about whose was the tallest tower.

Outside we have built electric cars and scooters with the blocks, played in the sand and enjoyed investigating our resources.

We have had so much fun this week and it is only week one! I wonder what we will experience next week?

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you back at preschool next week.

Deborah & Tamsin





Spotlight On SEND!

A big welcome back to all at Widmer End. It has been a pleasure to visit children in their classes this week, to meet new children starting at WECCS for the very first time, and to work with our fantastic staff on helping children settle in.

Much has already been achieved in such a short space of time. So far I have:

- worked one-to-one with a number of children to create pupil passports.
- met class teachers to plan the best provision and support for individual needs.
- secured professional visits to ensure children's needs continue to be well supported.
- delivered a whole-school staff update on inclusion and SEND.
- invigilated special access arrangements for pupils sitting the secondary transfer test.
- conducted workstation audits to ensure pupils have what they need as tools to support learning in class.

Next, we begin planning provisions, with our offering of early morning provision groups for invited pupils.

If you are new to the school or have new information you think is relevant to share with me as inclusion lead, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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

Earth House Mufti Day

The PTA Summer Fair seems like it was a long time ago now! Earth house won the inter-house competitions on the day, so have a mufti day as their reward.

This is on the 18th September, next Friday. Please mark it in your calendars, if your child is in Earth house!



Year 6 Meet Their Reception Buddies



What a lovely morning Year 6 had today. After yesterday's pressure of the Transfer Test, they enjoyed some play-based learning in Reception with their new buddies. We know they will be the perfect role-models for our newest pupils!

Voting Day!



It was such an important day today, for our pupils. Every child had the chance to vote for their favourite House Captain nominee after listening to their speeches in assembly, plus all the school roles were up for grabs in each class. We will soon count the votes and have new JRSOs, School Councillors, Rights Reps amongst other brilliant roles.

Well done to all the courageous children who went for these roles, and good luck!



PTA AGM – We Need You!

Our PTA AGM is **Thursday 24th September** at **5pm** in the School Hall, and all parents and carers are welcome. The AGM is a short meeting where we look back at the past year, share our plans for the year ahead and elect the new PTA committee.

All roles are open this year, and we need to fill our officer positions for the PTA to continue:

- Chair – Leads meetings, keeps plans moving and works with the school and committee.
- Secretary – Organises meetings, minutes, records and communications.
- Treasurer – Manages the PTA finances, banking, payments and annual financial reporting. This takes around 3–4 hours per month, with a full handover and ongoing support provided.

We'd also love more committee members. You don't need to take an officer role – committee members help make decisions, plan events and share the workload. You certainly won't be expected to help with everything!

If we cannot fill the required officer roles, unfortunately the PTA will have to disband. We have lots planned for the children this year and really want to keep providing the events, experiences and additional funding the PTA brings to the school.

Nominations must be received at least 24 hours before the AGM at pta@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk.

Even if you're only thinking about getting involved, please get in touch for a chat. We really do need some new people to step forward this year.

See you at the AGM!

Rocksteady Assembly

We had our first visitor assembly this week, from Rocksteady! Jamie entertained the whole school, explaining what each instrument was and how it sounded, the children especially enjoyed 'rock and roll hair'!



To sign up to this brilliant band club provision, please visit <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

Healthy Food Inspo: Snack-Tember

Snacks can play an important part in children's diets, helping to provide energy and nutrients between meals. This Snack-Tember, we are encouraging families to explore simple and nutritious alternatives to snacks at home that are high in saturated fat, salt and sugar.

Build a balanced snack

Try combining two different food groups to make snacks more filling and varied. Simple combinations could include:

- Fresh fruit with natural yoghurt
- Wholemeal crackers with cheese
- Vegetable sticks with hummus
- Wholemeal toast with banana

Family challenge

Ask your child to choose and help prepare one healthier snack this week!

The British Nutrition Foundation's Snack-Tember guide contains more information, ideas and easy recipes for families:

https://www.nutrition.org.uk/media/tvbb1hd1/snack-tember-parent_carer-guide-2026.pdf

Please remember that we are a nut-aware school. Food brought into school must not contain nuts or nut-based products, and families should always consider their child's individual dietary and allergy requirements.

School's Back!

Our pupils have been settling into their new routines well this week.

Keep an eye on your class pages on the website and our social media pages for event photos, we love sharing these with you!

