



# Waterhouses CE Primary Academy and Nursery

"Let your light shine"

*Make your light shine, so others will see the good you do and will praise your Father in heaven. Matt 5 v 16*

## **Newsletter 1 : 1-9-25**

Dear Parents/Carers,



I do hope you have all had a happy summer break whether you have travelled many miles or stayed closer to home. The staff and I are very much looking forward to welcoming back all pupils, including new children into KS1 and KS2. We are also pleased to welcome our new intake of children into Reception and Nursery.

I am also delighted that Mr Evans and Mr Bettany have joined our team and will be based in KS2.

### **Reception and Nursery Pupils**

To enable our youngest children to settle in smoothly into school, we are encouraging parents to bring their child into Ladybirds and stay with them for a few minutes. Mrs Hulme and Mrs Bradbury will be there to answer any questions you may have. We hope that this will help your child feel confident and comfortable to come into school like the other children after a couple weeks. From September 29th, parents will be asked to drop them off at the door and come into school with the rest of the children.

### **Mrs Linton**

Due to planned major surgery, I will be off work from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. I expect to be off for approximately 12-16 weeks. Mr Bettany will be covering my teaching commitments on Mon AM and Tues AM. If you have any concerns, which you would have normally raised with me, please speak to Mrs Hulme who is the Senior leader in school. Mrs Hulme will still be teaching in Ladybirds and would appreciate if you need to make an appointment with her, please do so via the school office.

### **Communications**



Each morning there will be a staff member on the door to pass on any messages to class teachers. Alternatively, you can message them directly via DoJo and they will do their best to respond by the end of the day. The school office will continue to send out communications via Email and DoJo. A newsletter is also sent out fortnightly. The school staff will use Facebook and/or DoJo to highlight any events which the children have taken part in.

### **Uniform**

If you have any uniform which is in good condition that your child has outgrown, we have a uniform bank to support our school community. Please hand any donations to the school office.



### **TMPF**

There has been a slight delay in the DFE rubber stamping our move from QEGSMAT to TMPF and it is hoped that our move will now take place during the Autumn term.

## **Swimming & PE**



We are so fortunate to have our own swimming pool. AquaVentures who will be teaching all our swimming again this year. All lessons will take place on a Tuesday. Our first school swimming will start next Tuesday 9th September. Please remember to name your towel and kit.

Please send your child into school wearing their PE Kit, with the exception of Ladybirds, Mrs Hulme will send a separate message via Class Dojo. Monday – White Tigers & Otters, Thursday Penguins

## **School Photographer**

Alethea Simpson will be coming into school to take photos of individual and siblings on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Parents who have preschool children are welcome to bring them into school to be part of the photos from 8.45am onwards



## **Attendance**



We pride ourselves on our excellent attendance data and we are in the top 10% of primary schools in England. Our recent Ofsted inspection also noted this. The governors, staff and QEGSMAT are keen to ensure that pupil punctuality and attendance is of the highest standard. All state schools are unable to authorise any request for holidays in term time. More information about this is on our website. If you do need to request leave for an exceptional reason, please contact me to discuss your situation beforehand.

Evidence and research show that pupils who arrive in good time and attend school have the very best chances of progress and success. School is open for pupils from 8:45am (unless attending Breakfast Club) and lessons start promptly at 9am. The Government does not set specific attendance targets, but schools are expected to set their own. An attendance rate of **95%** is generally considered good; this allows for children to miss 9.5 days for sickness/illness across the school year. Persistent absence (PA) is defined as an attendance rate of 90% or below. As previously, the school will send out the attendance data for your child for your information each half term.

## **Medicines in school**



There has been further guidance regarding giving medicines in school. As a result, we have taken the decision that our school will follow the new Early Years Statutory Safeguarding Information for all pupils that Prescription medicines must not be administered unless they have been prescribed for a child by a doctor, dentist, nurse, or pharmacist (medicines containing aspirin should only be given if prescribed by a doctor). Therefore, we cannot give Calpol etc.

## **Dates for the Year**

At the end of this letter, I've set out as many of the dates for the year that we have already have in place. Over the year, more will be added and reminders will be sent out by staff. A copy of each newsletter will also be put up in the school notice board. If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter at any time, please drop into the school office.

Best wishes,

**Rachel Linton (Mrs)**

Headteacher

## Statement from PTFA

On 14th July 2025 we held our AGM where Charlotte & Sarah stepped down from their roles on the committee. We would like to thank them for all their work over the past few years.

Joanne Harvey has now been elected as Chairperson and Rachael Shaw as Treasurer. We look forward to continuing to raise funds to enrich the children's time at our school.

We hope that you will continue to support us in attending events and maybe even join us for a friendly social at one of our meetings. If you are interested in being involved (however big or small!) please send us your contact details to [waterhousesprimaryptfa@gmail.com](mailto:waterhousesprimaryptfa@gmail.com) and we can add you to our WhatsApp group.

Please also follow us on our Facebook page - Waterhouses CE Primary Academy PTFA to keep up to date with upcoming events.

Thank you from Jo, Rach & the PTFA team



## Dates for the Year 2025-6

### Autumn Term 2025

1 Sept	INSET Day for Staff
2 Sept	Children return for Autumn 1
5 Sept	Forest School for White Tigers this half term each Friday Aut 1 Half termly homework set
9 Sept	Little Wandle Phonics Workshop for Reception and any Y1/2 parents who wish to attend. This is a repeat of the workshop from last year but everyone welcome.
26 Sept	9:15am Celebration Assembly                      PTFA Pig race evening
30 Sept	Y3-6 Primary Stars Golf at Parwich
1 Oct	Grandparents Lunch
3 Oct	9:15am Harvest Festival
7 Oct	White Tigers : Derby Faith Trail – details to follow
10 Oct	Individual and siblings photos
13 Oct	White Tigers : Safe and Sound at Leek – details to follow
15 Oct	3.45 -6pm Parents Evening
22 Oct	Aut 1 Half termly homework to be handed in
23 Oct	3.45 -6pm Parents Evening
24 Oct	School closes for half term

3 Nov	School opens for Autumn 2 Flu Vaccines R – Y6 Aut 2 Half termly homework set
6 Nov	Y5/6 Bikeability
7 Nov	Forest School for Penguins this half term each Friday
11 Nov	Y3-6 Primary Stars Cross Country at Parwich
14 Nov	Children in Need Day
24 Nov	Y3 Bikeability
28 Nov	9:15am Celebration Assembly
3 and 4 Dec	Y1/2 Christmas Play 2:15pm
10 Dec	Aladdin - Buxton Panto – more details to follow
11 Dec	Parents Christmas Lunch – details to follow
12 Dec	Ladybirds Nativity – 9:30am
15 Dec	Aut 2 Half termly homework to be handed in
16 Dec	6pm :Community Carol Service
17 Dec	Children's Christmas Lunch
19 Dec	School closes for the Christmas holiday

### Spring Term 2026

5 Jan	INSET Day for Staff
6 Jan	Children return for Spring 1
7-9 Jan	White Tigers: Stanley Head : more details to follow
9 Jan	Forest School for Otters this half term each Friday
20 Jan	Primary Stars Event at Waterhouses R- Y6
27 Jan	Primary Stars Event at Waterhouses Y3,4,5 and 6
30 Jan	9:15am Celebration Assembly
4 Feb	3.45 -6pm Parents Evening
12 Feb	3.45 -6pm Parents Evening
13 Feb	School closes for half term holiday
23 Feb	Children return for Spring 2

27 Feb	Forest School for Ladybirds this half term each Friday
5 Mar	World Book Day
11 Mar	Mother's Day lunch – 11:30am children to sing. Lunch served at 12 noon
17 Mar	Primary Stars Event at Waterhouses R- Y6
20 Mar	9:15am Celebration Assembly
27 Mar	School closes for Easter holiday
<b>Summer Term 2026</b>	
13 Apr	INSET day for Staff
14 Apr	Children return for Summer 1
4 May	School closed for Bank holiday
11-14 May	KS2 SATs
22 May	9:15am Celebration Assembly School closes for half term holiday
1 June	INSET day for Staff
2 June	Children return for Summer 2
16 June	Primary Stars Rounders at Parwich
26 June	Sports Day - Ladybirds AM Y1-6 PM
3 Jul	Reserve Sports Day
7 and 8 Jul	Queen Elizabeth's Y7 Transition days
9 July	White Tigers and Penguins Play : 2pm and 6pm
10 Jul	9:15am Celebration Assembly Annual reports sent out to parents
14 Jul	Last Swimming for the year 3.30 and 4pm : Meet the Teacher
15 Jul	3:15 – 4:15pm Drop in Parents - a chance to discuss your child's report
16 Jul	2:30pm Leavers Assembly
17 Jul	School closes for the Summer holidays