



WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome back everyone and a warm welcome to our new starters, new Pre-school and Reception children and families too. It was lovely to see so many smiley faces upon return this week and children settling happily into their new classes.

Key Dates

This term's key dates and events are outlined below. Further information for events and reminders will be posted on ClassDojo nearer the time, so please make sure you are signed up to ClassDojo, have allowed notifications, and that we have up to date contact details for you.

If you have any problems with ClassDojo, please contact the main office and Mrs Penswick will try and assist you.

KEY DATES SEP – NOV 26

**Weds 9th
September**

New year group talks (Years 1-6)
In classrooms, straight after school.
Repeat sessions: 3.20-3.50 and 3.50-4.20pm

**Thurs 17th
September**

Year 4 Trip - Warwick Castle

**Mon 21st
September**

Reception parents' Phonics and Reading talk, 3.15-3.45
(In the Reception classrooms)

**Weds 23rd
September**

Year 6 Macmillan Coffee afternoon
2.15pm - School hall (further details to follow)

Fri 2nd October

Non-uniform – Suggested £1 donation
(Raising funds for the children's BEST shop & BEST experience rewards)

Tues 6th October

Sibling & individual photos
School uniform for everyone on this day (Reception to Year 6).

Weds 7th October

Parent Book look drop in (Reception to Year 6)
Classrooms after school, 3.20-3.50pm
'Drop in' to your child's class after school to look at their books.

KEY DATES SEP – NOV 26

Weds 7th &
Thurs 8th October

School nurse - flu vaccinations
(*for those that have given consent only)

Fri 9th October

In school focus - World mental health day

Tues 13th October
&
Weds 14th October

Parents' Evenings:

Tuesday 13th October: 3.30-6.30pm (Reception to Year 6)

Wednesday 14th October: 3.30-5.30pm (Reception to Year 6)

Booking details to follow.

Thurs 15th October

House Cross Country / Cross country trials (Years 2-6)

Years 2-6: Please wear PE kit to school on this day

Reception Harvest Stay and Play 2.15pm

Fri 16th October

'Show Racism the Red card' - raising awareness

Wear something red with uniform / PE kit (no donation)

Tues 20th October

Harvest Festival 9am - Year 3 & Year 4

Years 3 and 4 parents are welcome to attend. Entrance via the side hall doors.

Year 5 and 6 STEM visitor sessions in school

Thurs 22nd
October

Last day of term

HALF TERM

Friday 23rd Oct – Monday 2nd Nov (inclusive)

Tues 3rd
November

First day of Autumn term 2.
Children return to school

Class Dojo

Please remember that class teachers will not access or respond to ClassDojo messages. To avoid important messages being missed, please either pass them on at the school gate to a member of staff on duty in the morning, or telephone/ email the school office
admin@waterwellsprimary.co.uk

Teachers can be spoken to directly at the end of the school day (once the children have been seen out) if it is of a less urgent nature.

Outdoor Play Resources

We are currently looking for donations of the following to enhance both playtime and forest school provision:

- Cycling helmets
- Old kitchen saucepans
- Small world toys (e.g. play figures/ characters/ dinosaurs, cars/vehicles, dolls, toy food etc.)
- Wooden pallets / planks
- Pipes/Drain pipes

If you have anything you are happy to donate, please drop them off outside the main office – thank you!

Nut Free School

Please remember that Waterwells is nut-free school. Please do not give your children any snacks, spreads, or lunch items that contain nuts.

Y6 Secondary School Applications

The deadline for Year 6 secondary school applications to the local authority is midnight on **Friday 31st October**.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions/transfer-to-secondary-school-or-from-middle-to-high-school-september-2027/>

Homework & Reading	Please see the homework overview below (2026-2027). If you have any questions about homework, please speak to your child's class teacher.
Reception	<u>Home Reading</u> Children progress through the following stages: - Sound ring - Progress to sound booklets. - Progress to ditty sheets (daily) - Progress to Read, Write, Inc. (RWI) books* two books (Floppy copy & book bag book) on a 3 day book change cycle. *Minimum 4 reads/4 adult signatures from home per week in yellow home reading records. Checked on Fridays. - Library book changed on Fridays.
Year 1	<u>Home Reading</u> - Read, Write, Inc. books (Floppy copy & book bag book) depending on colour group, children will either be on a 3 or 5-day book change cycle. - Minimum 4 reads/ 4 adult signatures from home in yellow reading record per week, checked on Fridays. - Library book changed on Fridays. <u>Spelling</u> - Half termly spellings (tested in school at the end of each term). <u>Maths</u> - Fluency sheet
Year 2	<u>Home Reading</u> - Read, Write Inc. books (Floppy copy & book bag book) depending on colour group, children will either be on a 3 or 5-day book change cycle. *Children then progress to Oxford Reading Tree scheme (ORT) when they finish Read, Write, Inc. Grey books. - Minimum 4 reads/ 4 adult signatures from home in yellow reading record per week, checked on Fridays. - Library book changed on Fridays. <u>Spelling</u> - Half termly spellings (tested in school in the last week of each term). <u>Maths</u> - Fluency sheet - Times Tables - From Spring term (January) of Year 2 – Online Times tables Rockstars (TTR)

Years 3-6

Home Reading

- Minimum 4 reads/ 4 adult signatures from home per week, checked on Fridays.

Books changed once read and signed.

Spelling

- Half termly spellings (tested in school in the last week of each term).

Maths

- Fluency sheet

Times Tables

- Online Times tables Rockstars (TTR)

Attendance

A reminder that if your child is not in school/ is unwell, please inform us by 8.30am either by email (admin@waterwellsprimary.co.uk) or leaving a message on the school answerphone (01452 881962—option1).

As part of safeguarding procedures, time is spent texting/emailing/calling and doing home visits to establish children's whereabouts if we are not informed.
Thank you in advance.

The Importance of Attendance

At Waterwells Primary, our current attendance rate is 96.5%, which is above the national average of 95.8% at this point for the school year.

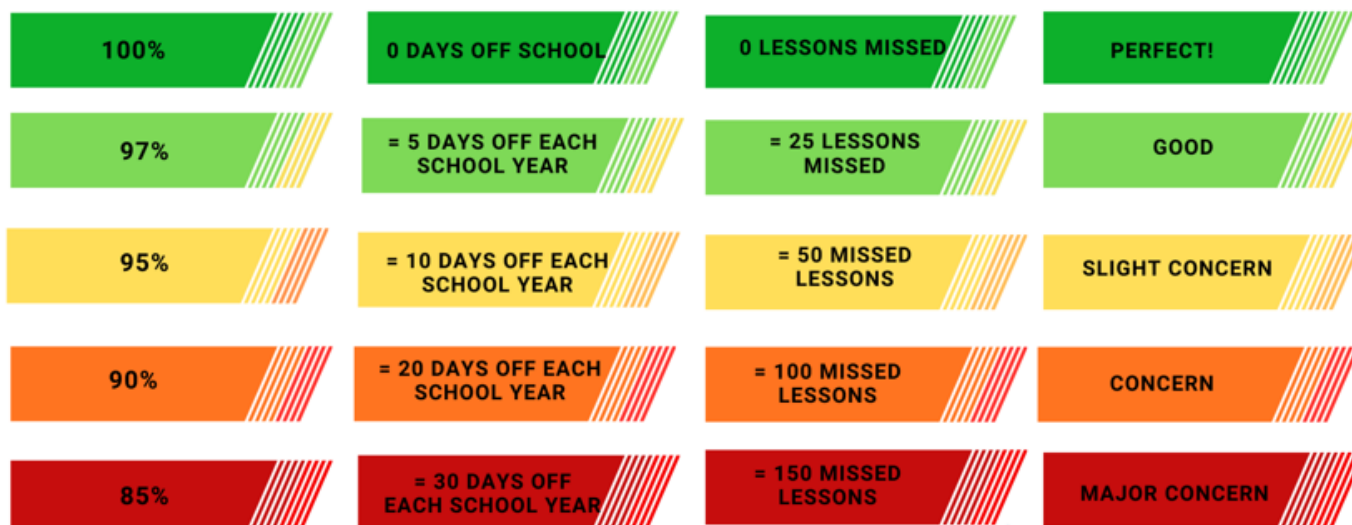
Regular attendance plays a key role in every child's success, both academically and socially. When children attend school consistently, they engage more fully in lessons, strengthen friendships, and maintain a structured routine that supports their overall well-being.

While we understand that some absences are unavoidable, we encourage families to prioritise attendance whenever possible. Every day in school helps build a brighter future for your child.

Let's continue working together to raise the attendance even higher!



How Much Time Are you Missing?



Every Day Missed = Lost Learning

Waterwells Primary Academy & Pre-School