

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

Autumn term key dates and events are outlined below. **Further information for events and reminders will be posted on ClassDojo and text message reminders sent nearer the time**, so please make sure you are signed up to ClassDojo and My Child at School (MCAS), 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.

AUTUMN TERM	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception forest school lessons start (*every Wednesday)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Macmillan Coffee afternoon, 2.15pm (main hall)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Sibling & individual photos (details to follow)
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> & Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	School nurse – flu vaccinations (*for those that have given consent only)
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 3 - Cheltenham Literature festival trip
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5 Mini-police session – Role of the police
	Year 4 Corinium Museum Trip
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Book look drop in (Classrooms after school, 3.20-3.50)
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	World mental health day
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Non-uniform – Suggested £1 donation</b> <b>(Raising funds for the children’s BEST shop &amp; BEST experiences)</b>
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Parents’ Evenings</b> Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October: 3.30-6.30pm (Reception to Year 6) Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October: 3.30-5.30pm (Reception to Year 6)
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>‘Show Racism the Red card’ - raising awareness</b> <b>Wear something red (no donation)</b>
	Reception/Year 1 Harvest stay and play in classrooms, 2.20pm
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Years 3 & 4 - Harvest Festival, 2.40pm (main hall)
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Year 3 Stone age workshop
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Activity Days (Worcester University)
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Last day of term</b>
<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov (inclusive)</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	First day of Autumn term 2 / children return to school

## Class Dojo Messaging



Please remember that class teachers are not expected to access 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](mailto: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.

## Payments - My Child at School (MCAS)



**MyChildAtSchool** (4+)  
Bromcom Parent Portal  
Bromcom Computers Plc  
Designed for iPhone  
#12 in Education  
★★★★★ 4.5 • 22.2K Ratings  
Free

Please remember that we are now using MCAS (My Child at School) for all payments to the school (dinners, trips, t-shirts, etc). Please ensure that you allow notifications so that you know when a message has been sent, or a trip, etc has been added to your account.

## Outdoor Play Resources



We are currently looking for donations of cycling helmets and small world toys (e.g. play figures/characters, cars/vehicles, dolls, toy food etc.) to enhance lunchtime play opportunities. If you have any unused that you'd be happy to donate, please put them in the green donations box at the front of the school office!

## 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.

Many thanks for your understanding.

## Homework and Reading

Please see the homework overview below (2024-2025).

Year Group	Homework Expectations
<b>Reception</b>	<p><b><u>Home reading</u></b></p> <p>Children progress through the following stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sound ring.</li> <li>- Progress to sound booklets.</li> <li>- Progress to ditty sheets (daily)</li> <li>- Progress to Read, Write, Inc. (RWI) books* two books (Floppy copy &amp; book bag book) on a 3 day book change cycle.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p><b>*When receiving RWI books, minimum 3 reads/ 3 adult signatures from home per week in yellow home reading records, checked on Fridays.</b></p> <p>Library book changed on Fridays.</p>
<b>Year 1</b>	<p><b><u>Home reading</u></b></p> <p>Read, Write, Inc. books (Floppy copy &amp; book bag book) depending on colour group, children will either be on a 3 or 5-day book change cycle.</p> <p><b>Minimum 3 reads/ 3 adult signatures from home in yellow reading record per week, checked on Fridays.</b></p> <p>Library book changed on Fridays.</p>
<b>Year 2</b>	<p><b><u>Home reading</u></b></p> <p>Read, Write Inc. books (Floppy copy &amp; book bag book) depending on colour group, children will either be on a 3 or 5-day book change cycle.</p> <p>*Children then progress to Oxford Reading Tree scheme (ORT) when they finish Read, Write, Inc. Grey books.</p> <p><b>Minimum 3 reads/ 3 adult signatures from home in yellow reading record per week, checked on Fridays.</b></p> <p>Library book changed on Fridays.</p> <p><b><u>Times Tables</u></b> From Spring term (January) of Year 2 – <a href="#">Online Times tables Rockstars (TTR)</a></p>
<b>Years 3-6</b>	<p><b><u>Home reading</u></b></p> <p><b>Minimum 3 reads/ 3 adult signatures from home per week, checked on Fridays.</b></p> <p>Books changed once read and signed.</p> <p><b><u>Times Tables</u></b> <a href="#">Online Times tables Rockstars (TTR)</a></p>

You will see there is a heavy emphasis on reading as part of the homework timetable. It is well researched and evidenced that those who become fluent, competent readers, go on to be more successful across a range of subjects. The children do read regularly in school, however, it will significantly help your child's reading ability and language development if you read for short periods regularly at home too.

### Years 3-6

A [Home Learning enhancement](#) grid will be provided on ClassDojo each half term. Whilst this is not compulsory (it is optional) undertaking tasks will help reinforce pupils' learning and encourage pupils to develop their independent skills.

It is recommended that one task is chosen and completed per week and work can be posted on your child's profile on ClassDojo where your child's class teacher can view and acknowledge the home learning.