



Head teacher's Roundup Tuesday 9th September 2025



Beginning of year reminders...



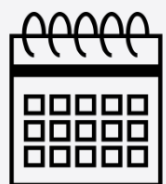
We currently have several children with severe nut allergies in school.



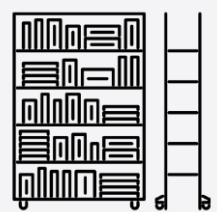
We will be sending homework booklets home next Monday for those parents and carers who would like to opt into our homework programme.



As we begin our new school year, please bear in mind that our Attendance Policy was changed last year in line with statutory government guidelines.



Dates for your diaries...



Local library opening times...



Beginning of term reminders...

Registration

Just a reminder that our registration window is between 8.35am and 8.45am, with pupils arriving after that receiving a 'late mark' in the register.

The gates remain open until 8.45am, when they will be closed. Any children arriving later than 8.45am should sign in at the School Office at the front of the school, though we would encourage all our children to arrive at school to begin at 8.35am with the rest of their class so that they don't miss any valuable learning time.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that children should not arrive at school any

earlier than 8.35am unless they are attending an 'Early Birds' session or Breakfast Club or unless an adult remains with them. This is because the playground is not supervised until 8.35am.

Scooters, bikes and tricycles on the playground

In order to preserve everybody's toes, shins and knees, we ask all children (including toddlers) and adults to dismount from their scooters and bikes at the school gates.

PE (for Years R to 6)

Class PE days are as follows:

Class & Age group	Class Teacher (s)	PE Days
Angel Fish EYFS (Reception)	Mrs Liz Pugh Mrs Carly Parkinson	Mondays
Rainbow Fish Years 1&2	Mrs Karen Giddings	Wednesdays Thursdays
Lionfish Years 3&4	Miss Charlotte Wilson	Wednesdays Fridays
Manta Ray Years 4&5	Mrs Selina Davenport	Tuesdays Fridays
Guppy Years 5&6	Miss Tiegan Mitchell	Tuesdays Thursdays

Children are asked to come to school wearing their PE kits on their PE days to maximise active learning time.

Please note that we will be teaching outdoor PE all year round and ensure that your child has a suitable waterproof jacket and footwear for outdoor PE in the colder, wetter months.

Payment for School Lunches

School lunches can be ordered on a daily basis, but must be paid for in advance.

Please note that as a school we are not permitted to provide credit to parents for services such as school meals, uniform and wraparound care.

Last year, we found that an increasing number of families were not paying their lunch bills and this not only put a strain on our already diminished budget, but also put us in danger of being accused of mis-spending public funds to benefit a small number of individuals, rather than ensuring that funding is spent equally on all our pupils.

Perhaps even more importantly than that, we have a duty of care to ensure that we do not

allow families to run up large debts that they are then unable to pay, which is why we now ask that all services, including school meals are paid for in advance via ParentPay.

In order to manage this issue, the Governing Body have written a 'School Meals Payment Policy' which outlines the steps the school will take in order to balance a child's needs to access a nutritious meal during the school day with the responsibility of their parents to pay in advance for that service. You can access the policy [here](#).

Healthy Snacks

All children in our Reception and Year 1&2 class are provided with a daily fruit snack, which is funded through the government's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme (SFVS).

However, pupils in Years 3-6 will need to bring their own snacks in for their mid-morning break. We encourage our KS2 children to bring in a healthy snack – for example: fruit, cereal bar, rice crackers or cheese. Like many schools, we ask them not to bring in chocolate, sweets or chocolate biscuits.

Class Information Letters

Class teachers will be sending out their class information letters at the end of next week. These letters contain important information about what the children will be learning over the course of the year and will also be made available on the school website.

If you need to contact your child's class teacher, you can always contact them via the email addresses below and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

Seahorses Pre-school Class

ESaunderson@wyton.cambs.sch.uk

Angel Fish Reception Class:

LPugh@Wyton.school

Years 1&2 Rainbow Fish Class - Mrs Giddings:

KGiddings@Wyton.school

Years 3&4 Lionfish Class – Miss Wilson

CWilson@Wyton.school

Years 4&5 Manta Ray Class – Mrs Davenport

SDavenport@Wyton.school

Years 5&6 Guppy Class - Miss Mitchell:

TMitchell@Wyton.school

Head teacher - Jo Phillips

Other Important Reminders for the Beginning of the Year can be found in our one-page reminder sheet, which can be found [here](#).



We currently have several children with severe nut allergies in school.

In order to ensure the safety of all our children in school, particularly those with life-threatening nut allergies, we operate a 'Nut-Free Policy' and ask that all staff, parents and carers adhere to it.

Our "Nut-Free Policy" means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts.

Occasionally, where parents forget we have this policy - or have missed an ingredient on the back of a packet – children with severe nut allergies may be unintentionally put at risk. Should this occur, school staff will politely replace the child's nutty snack with a safe one and send it home with a reminder email.



We will be sending homework booklets home next Monday for those parents and carers who would like to opt into our homework programme.

For all pupils, in all classes, we strongly encourage the following practice at home to consolidate

their fluency and build confidence in English and maths:

1. Daily reading (for Years 2-6) or daily phonics pack practice (for our EYFS and Year 1 pupils)
2. Times Tables Rock Stars (for our Key Stage 2 pupils) or Numbots (for our EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils) at least 3 times a week.
3. For pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6, we offer a free app – Spelling Shed - aimed at helping children to practise their spellings in fun and engaging ways, which we would recommend children use at least 3 times a week.

However, we also recognise that many parents and children would prefer a more substantial programme of homework and we therefore offer our optional additional homework packs, which are sent out each half term.

Our optional additional homework packs for each year group include:

- Lists of all the spellings to be covered in each year group for the half term (organised by week).
- Access to Doodle Maths and English, adaptive apps that provide more substantial practice in English and Maths, tailored to the child's current skill level.
- Additional activities to support the half term's Maths learning for each year group.
- Ideas for supporting children's reading at home.
- Ideas for projects and experiments in Science, History or Personal Development.

Pupils whose parents have opted into our optional additional homework provision will receive a homework folder with 3 components:

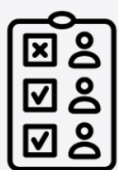
- 1) A parent information booklet – this booklet contains ideas for completing homework tasks and half termly spelling lists as well as exciting optional home learning projects and will be reissued every half term.
- 2) A pupil homework log – this booklet provides a place for pupils to record their reflections on their learning each week.

- 3) An exercise book (for optional use) – this exercise book is intended for pupils to use if they choose to complete a homework task on paper, rather than using an app.

Homework tasks can be completed on any day within the school week or at the weekend to fit in with busy family schedules and ideas on how children might complete these tasks are included in the new parent information booklet.

Homework booklets will be taken in on Monday mornings, marked by staff and then given back on a Monday at the end of school ready for the school week and there will be regular prizes and recognition for home learning records completed.

If you would like to sign your child up for our optional, additional homework provision for this term, please use [this link](#). The deadline for signing up for this term is Thursday at 3.15pm.



As we begin our new school year, please bear in mind that our Attendance Policy was changed last year in line with statutory government guidelines.

As you will be aware from coverage in the national press and on social media over the past year, the government introduced new statutory guidance for schools on improving attendance in August 2024.

This guidance is underpinned by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which champions the right of all children to be educated and to spend recreation time with their peers in schools and is aimed at ensuring that all schools across the country respond fairly and consistently to school absences so that these rights are universally upheld.

Amongst other things, new guidance removed the headteacher's discretion to authorise term-

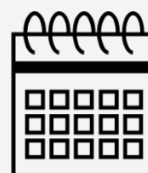
time leave of absence and introduced tougher penalties for parents who choose to take their children on holiday in term time.

It also introduced tougher legal responses for parents who allow patterns of absence to form around weekends, school holidays or minor ailments.

However, the guidance also makes clear the school's duty to support families who are experiencing genuine barriers to achieving good attendance and we welcome this, as our aim has always been is to support parents and carers to secure the best possible outcomes for their children, both academically, socially and emotionally.

Our approach to implementing the government guidance is outlined in our Attendance Policy, which you can view via [this link](#) or on our school website. You can see the government's statutory guidance document here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>.



Dates for your diaries...

Our online calendar is the best way to keep up to date with upcoming school events. The link to our online calendar for parents is here: <https://teamup.com/ksqqpu66iy6t7uiyt3>

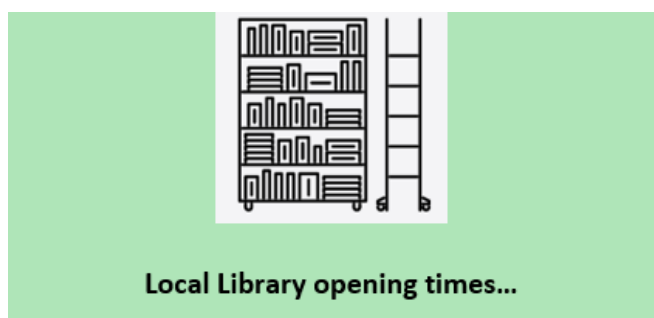
School Events upcoming this half term:

- w/b 15th September – Clubs begin
- Tues 23rd September – Y1/2 Meadow Hall Farm visit
- Tues 30th September – Wyton Marathon
- Tues 7th October – Individual & sibling photos

- Weds 22nd October 3.20pm – 4.30pm – End of half term 'Meet the teacher and Book Look'
- Fri 24th October - Last day of half term
- Mon 3rd November – First day of Autumn half term 2
- Thurs 13th Nov – Flu vaccinations
- Wed 26th Nov – Christmas Fayre, 3:15-4:30

WSCA (PTA) events upcoming this half term:

- Wed 24th September – WSCA AGM, 6pm
- Friday 17th October 7.30pm – Bingo
- Thurs 23rd October – Halloween disco



Don't forget that our local libraries are open again this year (opening times below) and don't forget that the mobile library service stops at Wyton on the Hill, on the main road just outside the school on the 3rd Wednesday of every month between 3.05pm and 3.40pm.

For details on how to access the mobile library service, please use this link:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/visit-a-library/mobile-libraries>

St Ives Library:

Opening time notes

Closed on bank holidays.

Opening times

Monday: 9.30am – 7pm
 Tuesday: 9.30am – 5pm
 Wednesday: 9.30am – 5pm
 Thursday: 9.30am – 1pm
 Friday: 9.30am – 5pm
 Saturday: 9.30am – 4pm
 Sunday: Closed

Availability: All Year

For further information, including directions, please visit:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/st-ives-library>

Huntingdon Library:

Opening time notes

Closed on bank holidays and between Christmas and New Year.

Opening times

Monday: 9.30am – 5pm
 Tuesday: 9.30am – 5pm
 Wednesday: 9.30am – 7pm
 Thursday: 9.30am – 1.30pm
 Friday: 9.30am – 5pm
 Saturday: 10am – 4pm
 Sunday: Closed

Availability: All Year

For further information, please visit:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/huntingdon-library-and-archives>

For further information about other local libraries, please follow this link:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/visit-a-library/your-library>

And finally...

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries, concerns or suggestions you may have regarding any aspect of school life. I am always happy to meet via telephone, Zoom or in person – or you can always catch me on the playground first thing every morning.

Best wishes,

Jo Phillips (Head Teacher)