



# Newsletter

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Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020



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## Holiday Dates

### Half term:

17 – 21 Feb 2020

### Easter Holiday

Last day: 27/3/20

School open: 14/4/20

**Bank Holiday: 8/5/20**

### Summer half term:

25/5/20 – 29/5/20

Last day: 17/7/20

### First day back:

Monday 7/9/20

## Event Dates

Parents evening 12/2/20

## PE Kits

Please can you ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on a daily basis.

This is an important part of the curriculum, helping to promote healthy lifestyles, and it is important that all children participate.



## WOW!

Today we have received an amazing letter from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, the Minister of State for School Standards. He has congratulated everyone at Watcombe for outstanding attainment in the end of KS2 SAT tests last year - for 100% of pupils achieving the expected standard in writing and in maths! This means that our school has been placed in the top 1% of schools in the country for attainment in these areas.

## Author visiting

Local author David Lawrence - Jones is coming to talk to the children on the 5.2.20. He will tell us the inspiring story of how he became an author and there will be a chance to purchase his books. There will be a chance for the children to ask questions and order signed copies of his books if they wish. On Friday morning David will return to meet the children and personally sign books for them. For more information about the author: [www.davidlawrencejones.co.uk](http://www.davidlawrencejones.co.uk)

## Staffing

As I am sure many of you are aware, Miss Bailey is pregnant and will soon be starting her maternity leave at the end of this half term. I am pleased to inform you that we have been successful in appointing an experienced teacher to cover Miss Bailey until the end of this academic year. We are looking forward to Mrs. Tremlett will be joining the team and will be meeting the children in the final of this half term and wish Miss Bailey well for her maternity leave.

## Reading Snippet

Reading for just 15 minutes per day, to an adult, will make a **BIG** difference to children learning to read. This will accumulate to 456.25 hrs over 5yrs. That is a lot of words!

## Attendance & Punctuality

WOW - well done to everyone who has helped us really improve our attendance over last term. The absence rate has dropped again to better than the national average. I hope that everyone will continue with these efforts as it means that the children are having the best opportunities for learning in school.

Please can I ask, as well, that there is a drive to ensure that children are in school promptly for a 8.55am start. It is really important that the children are in their classrooms on time ready for their lessons. It can be very difficult to catch up if the start of a lesson is missed and very unsettling if you are not sure what is going on. Many thanks.

## PUNCTUALITY FACTS

10 MINUTES LATE EACH DAY =	NEARLY 1 HR A WEEK MISSED
	1 DAY MISSED PER ½ TERM
	2 DAYS MISSED PER TERM
	1 WEEK MISSED OVER A YEAR

## Bikeability

This week we have had the Bikeability team into school to talk to the children about the importance of learning to ride safely. There will be a bikeability course for Y5 children on 16 - 19/3/20.

