



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

01.12 Christmas Craft Fayre, 12-3pm
07.12 Non-uniform day for £1
11.12 KS1 Christmas nativities, 2:15pm
12.12 KS1 Christmas nativities, 09:15
14.12 Christmas Crafts 3:30-5:30pm
18.12 KS2 Carol Concert, St John's 2pm
18.12 Stories Round the Tree, 6:45pm
19.12 Christmas Lunch and end of Term 2. Christmas/winter jumpers. 3:15pm dismissal
3.1 Term 3 starts
TERM DATES 2018-2019
Term 3 3.1.19 - 15.2.19
Term 4 25.2.19 - 5.4.19
Term 5 23.4.19 - 24.5.19
Term 6 3.6.19 - 19.7.19
Holidays should not be taken in

News Flash!



Thank you to the many helpers at tomorrow's Christmas Crafts & Fair. The afternoon kicks off at 12pm and there will be plenty of festive fun and food!

Gymnastics is CANCELLED on Friday, 14th December due to the Christmas Crafts and Supper with Santa afternoon.

Christmas/Holiday Clothes! Friday, 7th December : non-uniform £1. Winter colours, Christmas colours or something fun and sparkly! No football kit, please.

Wednesday, 19th December: Winter or Christmas jumpers. Standard uniform below.

KS1 Christmas Nativity! Letters will be coming home next week with details about the KS1 Christmas Nativity and tickets.



Dear parents, I had the privilege of taking three Year 6 students to a 'Digital Detox' retreat yesterday. The day was filmed by the BBC for the film 'Inside Out' which will air in the new year and is looking at the impact of games and screen use on young people. Three schools took part, primary and secondary.

A yoga teacher and life coach led the first session which drew out from the students the online activities they enjoy and the number of hours they spend each day gaming or on phones/social media. The primary children's average was 3-4 hours/day and it rose to 7-8 hours/day for secondary school children. Phones were then taken from the children and they went straight into a yoga session which was interspersed with discussions about how they feel after a long session online, how well they sleep, how tired they are in the mornings. The session was entirely non-judgemental and the children's honesty was evident. They all wished that they slept better and they all feel tired when they wake. After the yoga and meditative session, the feeling of wellbeing was tangible and the children were relaxed and chatty together.

When we broke for lunch, the children were keen to mingle as they had just had an unusual shared experience which is always a good way to break the ice. I sat back and watched our three Wateringbury children play a fun and highly competitive game of 'I Spy' which eventually took over the room and included every student. The 16 year olds who had arrived earlier that day glued to their phones were taking the most pleasure in the game. It was a delight to watch. Lunch would have been an entirely different experience if the children had had their phones. As one of our Year 6's said when asked what lunch would have been like with phones, "it would have been silent." Read their full reports on page 2.

The day closed with a guest speaker from Gillingham. David was a games addict and at the age of 29 was forced to change his life. Up until that time, he would spend 14-18 hours each day gaming. David's story was an inspirational one: he is now a tutor and life coach, working with young people and addictions. The children had really interesting and searching questions for him and they were clearly interested in what he had to say, how he changed his life and what life was like for him now. His message to the children was simple: 'you've got one life, make the most of it. Play games, absolutely, but grab every other opportunity as well. Put the game/phone/device down and go out and find something you enjoy and want to work hard at. You will surprise yourself if you work hard.'

I am looking forward to a digital-free Christmas. My family has agreed to put our phones and devices away for the week. I'm even dusting off my old SLR camera to capture photos non-digitally. I am sure we are all thinking about how we can make the holidays a particularly memorable one and I'm convinced that a digital detox Christmas is a good start.

Yours sincerely,

Chasey Crawford Usher, Headteacher

Contact us: 01622 812199 or office@wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

Website : www.wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

KLZ : www.klz.org.uk, then log-in with your child's log-in (in Homework Diary)



SCHOOL NEWS

Yellow Class explore Egypt!

During Ancient Egyptian day we made a Shaduf. It's something that lifts up water. We also made cartouches. They are usually oval and we wrote our names in them in ancient Egyptian language. We made pyramids which took a lot of team work. I think the funniest part was painting death masks. It was so much fun but can make a lot of mess!

Grace Burrows, Year 4



Year 3 sees the light! Can you decipher mirror writing or complete a mirror maze? These were just two of the baffling activities which Green Class took part in, as part of their science work on light.

Year 6 children and their thoughts about Digital Detox:

Aisa: When we went to the BBC, there was a man called David who told us a gobsmacking story. Firstly, when he was 12 he enjoyed gaming and spent 14 hours on his console each day. He ended gaming at 29 years old because he gained 27 stone in 10 years. He had to have surgery. After he told us that, I only spent 1 hour on my console (I used to spend 5-6 hours) and I stayed downstairs after dinner. This was my favourite part of the day.

Freya: We did yoga, we listened to gongs and David spoke to us about gaming. I will tell you about the games. We lay down on yoga mats with our shoes and socks off (yuck!). Then Mark, the instructor told us to place our masks on and let everything go. We all heard all kinds of different sounds: a small ding, a loud bang and smooth dong. It was very relaxing and took us to our happy place. It certainly took Jackson to his happy place because we heard him snoring!

Jackson: We talked to a man called David and he played for 18 hours and I thought about what if I went on my x-box for 18 hours? He showed us pictures of himself and I was shocked. He was 29 stone at 12 years old although he lost weight and is now really healthy. Now, he spends ½ hour on World of War Craft.



Christmas Table Decoration Competition

The School Council is holding a **Christmas Table Decoration** Competition. All decorations will be used to adorn our lunch tables on the last day of term whilst we enjoy our Christmas dinner. There will be a prize for the best home-made entry for each class. Entry fee is 50p.

Please bring decorations in during the last full week of term – from Monday 10th December and give your money to your class school council rep or to your class teacher.



CHURCH, SCHOOL & WORSHIP

Our Christian value for this term is
PEACE

Leading Lights Lead Worship!



Anna Chalk and Flora Szewczuk, from the school's Leading Lights group, took their first KS1 assembly on Wednesday. Their theme was fairness and the assembly included a story and a quiz which all the children enjoyed participating in. Our Leading Lights have the opportunity to help with worship daily as well as take on the considerable task of preparing worship.

SPORTS NEWS



We have all had an exceptionally busy week of football!

Year 1 children Olive, Hannah, Jahnavi, Jasmine, Max, Fred, Daniel and Charlie participated in a Football Workshop with Kent FA and Tottenham Hotspur Football Development Coach Nik Strizovic.

Nik also kindly supported our Year 6 Football Team later that day when they hosted Kings Hill Primary and the whole squad were delighted with their 7-0 victory. Special congratulations to Freya for her first goal of the season.

Next, the Year 5 boys team visited Laddingford Primary for a friendly fixture on Tuesday and six well executed goals by Sullivan and outstanding support play from John, James K and James N, together with solid defending from Hugo, Rohin, Lewis and Mathew in goal - meant they too were victorious with the game ending in a 8-2 win to Waterringbury.

Due to fading light, all outstanding matches for our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Football teams will be rescheduled in the New Year.

In the meantime, thank you so much to the players and families for supporting the football development programme at School.

Suzanne Parr
Sports Development Coach