



## APRIL/MAY 2024

To start this newsletter, I would just like to say a huge "thankyou" to everyone who sponsored me for my Swimathon event on Saturday 27th April. I managed to swim 200 lengths (5km) and, at time of writing, have raised £1,512 for our PTA. THANK YOU!! I have recently heard that other members of school community parents and children have also successfully taken part in the Swimathon- congratulations and well done to them!

### **YEAR 5 RESIDENTIAL**

It was a pleasure to take part in the Year 5 residential last week (Monday 22nd - 24th April). The children had a great time participating in challenges which included; caving, abseiling, bush craft and archery. They were all quite tired but having had lots of fresh air, fabulous food and a "good" nights sleep in the lovely rooms - they came home with smiles on their faces. I would like to thank Mr Smith, Mrs Ogilvie, Mrs Seymour, Miss Sparkes and Miss Gregory(trainee) who joined me on the trip. They gave up time with their own families to make it possible for us to have a great time - thank you all.

You will be able to see some pictures taken during the trip by following this link. Waterbeach Community Primary School - Hilltop 2024<sup>1</sup>

### **STATUTORY TESTS**

This year the **Year 6 SATs** will be taking part during the week commencing 13th May 2024. We will be supplying the children with their breakfast in the hope of settling them into school before the tests begin. The schedule is as follows;

Monday 13th May - English - Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Tuesday 14th May - English - Reading

Wednesday 15th May - Maths paper 1 and 2

Thursday 16th May - Maths paper 3

Friday - there are not any scheduled tests.

Papers are treated with the utmost confidentiality and are kept in a secure location before and after the tests. They are picked up by courier and marked externally - so school has absolutely no knowledge of results until they are released in July.

**Year 4 will be taking part in the Multiplication Tables Check** between 3rd and 14th June. This check is taken online and requires answers in quick succession, with a very short space of time in between questions. We ask you to please spend time with your child practising their tables - they have been taught - but it is only with practise that they will be able to use them efficiently.... ***please help!***

**Year 1 Phonics Screening Check** will be taking place during the week of 10th June. All children will be taking this unless they are assessed as not being able to access this check. Any children, in year 2, who have not taken or passed the check will also be retaking it during this week.

We have chosen not to participate in the Year 2 SATs this year.

There are a lot of tests and administrative details that need to be followed during the assessment season. All results will be reported to parents either at the end of the year in the final report, or in a specific letter designed to let you know results.

### **STAFFING AND CLASS ALLOCATION**

I would like to ensure parents are aware that we will not be allocating staffing or classes for next year until, at least, after half term. Teachers will, however, be working together on class lists. They will be using their knowledge of the children in their class in order to regroup them appropriately. As I have outlined every year, the make up of classes is very delicate and so cannot be easily changed once established. If you are aware of any **SIGNIFICANT issues which will affect your child's learning** - please do let us know. We cannot promise to satisfy everyone - but we will endeavour to do our best.

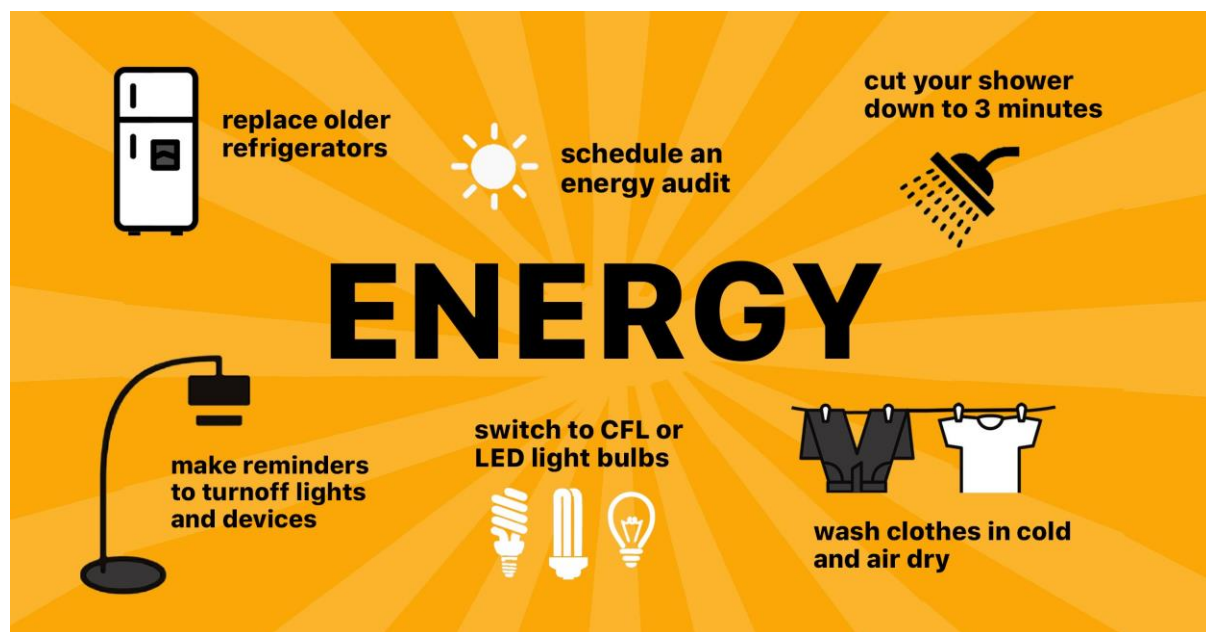
Thank you all for your continued support in our day to day running of the school. We have received some lovely messages recently. These always boost morale and are greatly appreciated! Thank you.

Miss Green

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk/gallery/?pid=9&gcatid=1103>

Eco council update - please read - important information included.



I am so proud of the team for their work on the presentation made to a small group of parents at the end of last term. The council constructed the presentation with me and also talked it through to explain what our work for the Green flag entails. Great work!

They are now embarking on the preparation for our Energy Free Day on May 20th. **Please note that there will not be any hot lunches on this day** as the kitchen will not be using the ovens. There will be a mix and match salad option to support the work that the children are doing to save energy. Teachers will not be able to use Smartboards or laptops and in the staff room the tea urn and electric appliances will not be allowed. This is only for the one day but we hope to show how much energy we use every day.

What an achievement!



One of our children, William Cons, came to a school council meeting last year with an idea to support the younger children in school with their reading. He asked if we could create a small cosy corner for the little people to read during break times and lunch time. The school council were very keen to pick up on this idea and set about raising as much money as possible to make it happen. This took most of last year and we were then only waiting for the play house, at the end of the play ground, to be moved. This was a tricky job as it had been in situ for a long time and it needed very

careful handling. Thanks to Mr Gilzean we finally had our reading corner house in situ. William and Griffin Dunn, who had been key fund raisers, went with Mrs Graves and Miss Green to a shop and bought comfy throws, rugs, cushions and baskets for the reading area. They then decorated the house, with a lot of help from Mrs Waddup. On Monday 29th April, William and Griffin officially opened the reading house and the children now have use of it on a day by day timetable. We would all like to thank William for such a great idea.

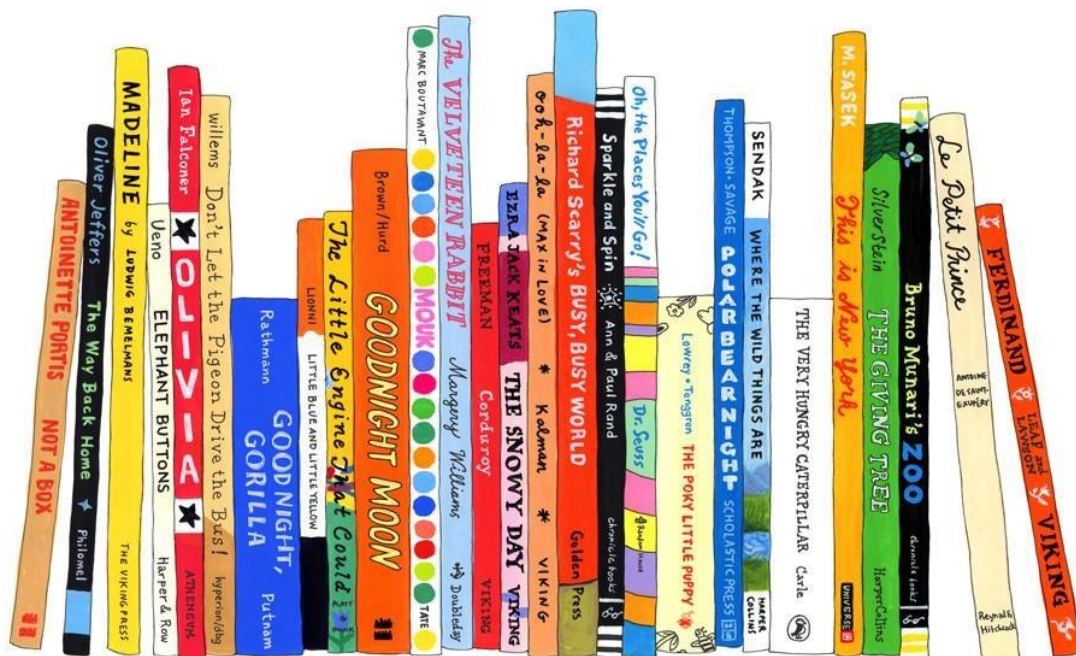


*1 - Look at our lovely Reading House.*

Look out - letter coming soon!



Would you like to donate a book to keep our wonderful library up to date?



We have a school Amazon wish list which you can access from the link here: <https://amzn.eu/27FHm4w>

Thank you for your support.