



September Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term!

It has been a pleasure to welcome our children back to school. Seeing them return full of excitement and enthusiasm, and settle so quickly into their new routines, has been wonderful. Their positive start to the term makes us all excited for the opportunities and successes that lie ahead in the weeks and months to come.

As we begin the new term, please remember to keep an eye on your emails and check Arbor regularly for new in-app messages. This will help ensure that you stay up to date with important information, upcoming events, and key dates throughout the year.

You can also find key dates and copies of school letters on our website. Letters are available in the Parents section, while upcoming events can be found in the school calendar.

We value the strong partnership between home and school and it has been wonderful to meet so many of you at our Year Group Welcome meetings. We look forward to continuing to work closely with parents and carers to support every child in being the very best they can be. Together, we can help our children thrive and enjoy a successful and happy year ahead.

Best wishes,

Ms Corner-Brown
Head teacher

Dates for your diary



October

2nd Individual School Photograph day
5th Netball match v Roundhill
7th and 8th Parents Evening
13th Netball match v The Grange
16th Break up for Half term

November

2nd School closed for INSET
3rd Children return to school
13th Y5/6 Break the Rules Day
13th Fireworks Evening in School
19th -20th Year 5 Bikeability Group 1
23-24th Year 5 Bikeability Group 2
25th -26th Year 5 Bikeability Group 3
30th Year 5/6 Movie Night

December

7th KS2 Carol Service 1.15pm
7th FS2 Nativity 2.30pm
8th KS2 Carol Service 9.15am
8th FS2 Nativity 10.30am
11th Year 1/2 Theatre trip
11th Year 4 Christmas Sleepover
12th Christmas Wonderland Event
18th Last day of term

Don't forget all dates can be found on the calendar on the school website

Attendance champions!



Well done Ash class for having the best attendance this month with 99%. A treat is coming your way!

Attendance

Give your child the best start, support their attendance in school. Remember every day counts!

Why is attendance important?

Good attendance at school is absolutely crucial to children's success at school and we are extremely grateful for the support we get from the vast majority of families. Improving school attendance is a priority and is monitored very closely to ensure families understand the link between good attendance and children fulfilling their potential.

Simply put, if children are not in school they can't learn.

The average rate of attendance for children at Wadsworth this term is currently 96.5%. In previous years it has been much higher and we are working to improve attendance once again. You can check your child's individual attendance on the Arbor app.

Remember every day counts!

Monitoring attendance

Good attendance is 95% and above. Attendance of below 90% is classed as 'persistent absence' as it is the equivalent to a child missing half a day a week of lessons. *Can you imagine what might happen if you took half a day a week off work EVERY week?*

What we do

- Attendance for every child is monitored weekly by our attendance officer Miss McKane and Ms Corner-Brown
- School will not authorise holiday in term time unless in 'exceptional circumstances.'
- As soon as a child reaches 92%, they are placed on a watch list.
- If a child drops to 90% or below you will receive a letter from the head teacher and placed on a 6 week review
- After 6 weeks if attendance has not improved you will be invited to a meeting with the head teacher to discuss how we can support you.
- If attendance continues to decline you may be reported to the Local Authority who may issue a Penalty Notice



There is a new National Threshold for when a Penalty Notice must be considered by school. This is 10 sessions (1 session=half a day) of unauthorised absence within a 10 week period. Penalty Notices are issued by the Local Authority to each parent and paid to the Local Authority.

First offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the fine will be £80 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the fine will be £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days.

Third and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

A penalty notice will not be issued. The case may be presented at court and may result in fines of up to £2500.

Class Attendance this term

Each month the class with the best attendance or most improved attendance will be rewarded with a treat from Ms Corner-Brown. This month attendance is:

Elm 96%	Pine 96%	Maple 96%		
Willow 96%	Ash 99%	Juniper 98%	Beech 97%	Rowan 96%

Free School Meals: Important Changes from September

The government has announced an important change to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility. From September, all children in England whose families receive Universal Credit will be entitled to a free school meal, regardless of household income.

What does this mean for families?

Currently, families must have an annual household income of less than £7400 (after tax and excluding benefits) to qualify for benefits-related Free School Meals. From September 2026, this income threshold will be removed for families receiving Universal Credit, meaning more children will become eligible.

Do I need to apply?

Yes. Free School Meals are not awarded automatically, even if you receive Universal Credit. Parents and carers must submit an application to confirm eligibility. You can apply online by clicking the link below

[Apply for Free School Meals](#)

Need help?

If you need support completing an application, contact the school office who may be able to help or contact Nottinghamshire County Council on 0300 500 8080

Playground antics!

Operation Groundforce!



The raised beds in nursery and Elm class were in desperate need of replacement and with tight budgets school could simply not afford to replace them, so it was Team Wadsworth to the rescue! During the summer holidays, a fantastic team of staff, their families and governors came together to transform the Nursery and Elm Class playgrounds by removing the old planters and building new ones.

Not only that but Mrs Porter, Mrs Marinelli-Buxton and Mrs Mangiza also made it their mission to take down the old sheds in the playground and replace them with new ones. All in the blazing heat of the summer!



Working side by side for a whole week, the team learned new skills, tackled challenges and to make our school an even better place for our children to learn and play.

Our very own *Groundforce Team* should be incredibly proud of what they have accomplished. Like we tell our children, 'You never know what you are capable of until you try!'

We look forward to seeing the children enjoy these new outdoor spaces for years to come.

Stonehenge comes to Wadsworth!

You may have noticed the Trim Trail in the big playground looks a little different this term. During the summer holidays an annual inspection identified that some of the parts need to be replaced. With estimates for renewal in the region of £20000 we are working on securing funding to carry out the work. Until then we have our very own Stonehenge!

PTFA events

Fireworks night

Our annual Firework evening will take place on the 13th of November this year. As always it promises to be a fabulous evening for all the family.

Keep your eye out for tickets going on sale. These will also be available to buy on the evening.



Helpers needed

The ongoing success of our PTFA relies on the generosity, time and commitment of our parents. Working together you would be helping to create memorable experiences and opportunities for every child at Wadsworth. It really does make a difference, but without your support it simply isn't possible. Our PTFA is in desperate need of extra hands to help out. If you have any time to spare please do get in contact with Liz at wadsworthptfa@gmail.com.



Did you know the funds raised by our PTFA:

- Provide Christmas presents for every child
- Purchase Easter eggs for every child
- Have purchased almost £2000 of reading books in the last year alone
- Have provided playground equipment and picnic tables
- Paid for £1100 of sensory equipment and resources to promote well-being for our children
- Provides uniform for those in need
- Subside coaches for school trips

But without volunteers this is simply not possible. If you have any time to spare and lend a helping hand please do get in contact with Liz at wadsworthptfa@gmail.com



Safeguarding tips for parents

In each newsletter we will include useful information and top tips for parents and carers to support you in keeping your children safe.

Is Your Child Livestreaming?

Ofcom, the UK's online safety regulator, updated its research into children and livestreaming on 10 September. Its research shows that livestreaming is now a relatively common part of children's online lives and highlights particular safeguarding risks because everything happens in real time.

Many children enjoy watching live videos of gaming, hobbies, challenges and other activities online. But did you know that some apps, games and platforms also allow users to **broadcast live themselves?**

Unlike recording a video first, livestreaming gives children little opportunity to reconsider what they have shown or said. They could accidentally reveal their school, location or other personal information, interact with people they don't know, or feel pressured by comments from viewers. A livestream can also be recorded by somebody else and shared afterwards.

A few useful things to check:

- **Ask your child whether they ever “go live”**, not just what videos they watch.
- **Look together at the apps and games they use** and find out whether they include livestreaming.
- **Check privacy and location settings** and who can watch, comment or make contact.
- **Talk about what should never appear on camera**, including personal information or anything that identifies where they live or go to school.
- **Reassure them that they should stop and tell you** if anybody online asks them to do something that makes them uncomfortable.

Livestreaming can be creative and enjoyable. The important thing is knowing when children are using it and helping them understand that **“live” can quickly mean public — and what happens on camera may not disappear when the stream ends.**

For further advice:

CEOP Education – Live streaming: a parents and carers guide

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-live-streaming/>

NSPCC – Livestreaming and online video apps

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/livestreaming-online-video-apps/>

Don't forget you can find lots of useful websites on our school website including our [Safeguarding Directory](#) which contains lots of information on how to access support. Paper copies of the Safeguarding Directory are available in school reception.