

## Newsletter – Tuesday 17 January 2023

### Headteacher’s message

A very happy new year to you all and welcome back to term 3. It has been a lovely, focused start to term and the children have all returned to school positively and are enjoying their new themes and topics.

I would like to take a moment to share some of our national assessment data with you from 2022. Following Covid, there is no requirement for schools to publish their data as it is recognised that pupil performance has been significantly affected by lockdowns. In spite of this obvious disruption, we were pleased with how our pupils performed and thought that you would be interested in some of the headlines. Below is a snapshot of our KS2 (Year 6) SATs data from last year and the results of our phonics screening check in Year 1 compared to national data.

KS2 (Year 6) Outcomes 2022	School	National Average
Achieving the combined standard in Reading, Writing and Maths	66%	59%
Reading	79%	74%
Writing	85%	69%
Maths	71%	71%
Grammar Punctuation Spelling	76%	72%

Year 1 Phonics Screener	School	National Average
% pupils passing the national screener	83%	76%

A high percentage of our year 6 cohort also joined a grammar school this year with 48% of our pupils gaining a grammar school place. This is well above the county average of 20%.

Best wishes  
 Mr. Hackett

### A new reading challenge for Warden House

This term, we have set the children a new reading target to encourage them to read at home as much as possible. We have challenged the children to earn **22,500** “points” between now and July.



If they can do this, then Mr. Hackett has agreed to arrange for an ice cream van to visit the school and will buy everybody an ice cream! The children are very excited about this and are certainly up for the challenge.

- Year R, 1 and 2 children – (and those not on Accelerated Reader) will earn ½ point for every time they read at home. Please make sure that each day this is entered into your child’s reading record so that staff can record this in school.
- Those children on our Accelerated Reader system in Years 2-6 will earn points for every successful quiz that they take. These will be monitored and logged by school staff.

Children can view how many points are available for each book by looking at the label inside the front cover. Parents can monitor this too through the [Accelerated Reader “home connect” function](#).

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We will monitor the progress towards this target regularly and share updates with you and the children in assemblies and newsletters and on social media.

Please do visit our [school website](#) to find out more about how Accelerated Reader works.

### Year 4 Christmas carol performance

We were very proud of four of our Year 4 pupils who took part in the Deal Community Carol Concert on Walmer Green during the first Saturday of the Christmas holiday.



Tia, Indira, Layla and Indie-Rae sang several carols as a solo group accompanied by the White Cliffs Symphonic Wind orchestra.

They received some very positive and complimentary feedback from those in attendance. Very well done girls!

### Lateness

On Wednesday last week, a near record 36 families arrived late at school after 8:45am. This number of late pupils is difficult for the office team to manage and causes an increase in stress at what is already a very busy time of the school day.

We would urge all of our families to do everything possible to ensure children arrive at school in good time ready for the start of the school day.

Children who regularly arrive late can often:

- find it hard to settle at the start of the school day;
- miss important information at the beginning of lessons
- Feel embarrassed, self-conscious and worried about missing out.

Punctuality is an essential life skill that needs to be taught from the very beginning.

Please note that we cannot usually authorise late arrival after the registers have closed. Any absence caused by lateness will be unauthorised and can potentially lead to a penalty notice being issued to families.



Please can all parents and carers do all they can to ensure that children arrive in school on time each day between 8:40am and 8:45am. Thank you for your support with this matter.



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### Young Voices 2023

Our Young Voices choir are very much looking forward to attending the annual concert at the O2 this coming Thursday. The children will be singing alongside 8000 other children in front of an audience of nearly 20,000 people!



They will also be performing with Heather Small (lead singer from The 'M' People) too! We are very much looking forward to hearing all about how they get on.

### London Road Roadworks

As you will be aware, the London Road entrance to the school has been significantly disrupted by road works. We are not currently able to run our road crossing patrol due to concerns about wider safety.



We ask that parents continue to find alternative, safer ways to travel to school in the mornings. We have been informed that the roadworks should be completed by the end of the week, however we will confirm this with you as soon as we have final confirmation.

### Job vacancies

We currently have two important job vacancies advertised on our school website. The posts advertised are for a 'School Receptionist' and an 'Attendance and Admin Assistant'.

Please [click here](#) to view further details on our school website and feel free to share them with any one that you know who may be interested in joining our fantastic team.

**Warden House Primary School**  
School Receptionist

**Could you be our new School Receptionist?**

We are looking for a highly organised, efficient, flexible, friendly and reliable School Receptionist to carry out a range of duties to ensure a welcoming front of house at our fantastic school. You will need excellent IT, interpersonal and literacy skills, possess confidence and initiative and a willingness to contribute to the continued improvement of our wonderful school. Previous school office experience and experience of using Office 365 would be an advantage. We offer a positive and thriving school environment, a great staff team and a commitment to continuing professional development.

**Salary Scale:**  
 Veritas KR 3— KR 4 Term time only—plus 5 days. This equates to £16667.65 - £17704.36 pro rata  
 (FTE is £19293 - £20493.00)

The post is for 37 hours a week, 8:00 - 4:30 Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 4:00 Friday, term time only—plus five additional days throughout the year. If you feel you have what it takes then we would love to hear from you. *Please note that Veritas MAT is committed to flexible working. Applications for term time only/ part-time/full-time and job-share appointments will be considered.*

Visits to the school are positively encouraged. Please contact the school office to find out more and arrange a convenient time. Please contact Mrs Zoe Bennett, on 01304 375040 or email: [office@warden-house.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@warden-house.kent.sch.uk) to book a visit. For further details and an application pack, please visit the Vacancies section on our school website.

*The closing date is Wednesday 25 January 2023 at 10:00.  
 The date for interviews is Tuesday 31 January 2023.*

Warden House Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced 'Disclosure and Barring Service' (DBS) check.



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Headteacher : Mr R Hackett BA Hons PGCE NPQH

National Support School

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### Warden House Primary School Attendance and Admin Assistant



#### Could you be our new Attendance and Admin Assistant?

We are looking for a highly organised, efficient, flexible, friendly and reliable attendance and admin assistant to carry out a range of duties in ensuring the successful running of our school. The successful candidate will need excellent IT, interpersonal and literacy skills, possess confidence and initiative and a willingness to contribute to the continued improvement of our wonderful school. The post involves the management and monitoring of school attendance on a day to day basis, dealing with admissions, updating computer systems, maintaining and updating records and carrying out a wide range of administrative roles that are a key part of the day to day life of our school. Previous school office experience and experience of using Office 365 would be an advantage. We offer a positive and thriving school environment, a great staff team and a commitment to continuing professional development.

#### Salary Scale:

Veritas KR5 Starting salary Term time only plus 5 days is £17,792.40—£18741.07  
 (FTE is £20,595.00—£21,693)



The post is for 37 hours a week, 8:00 - 4:30 Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 4:00 Friday, term time only—plus five additional days throughout the year. If you feel you have what it takes then we would love to hear from you. Please note that Veritas MAT is committed to flexible working. Applications for term time only/part-time/full-time and job-share appointments will be considered.

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If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school office who will be happy to book appointments on your behalf.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be available during parents' evenings and will be based in the school hall. Further details will be sent out about this nearer the time.

### Whole school science day

On Friday 10 February, we are excited to announce that we will be holding a whole school science day – supported by teams of scientists from Pfizer's. Children from across the school will spend the day taking part in a range of workshops and activities sharing a range of amazing science. Further details to follow nearer the time.



### Parents' Evenings

Our next parents' evenings take place after school on Tuesday 31 January and Wednesday 1 February. As always, should you have any more urgent questions or concerns please do contact your child's class teacher to discuss these as soon as possible.

Please click here to visit our [online parents' evening booking system](#) to book your 10-minute appointment. Make sure that you use your child's "preferred" forename that matches our records (no abbreviations).



We're working towards Artsmark  
 Awarded by Arts Council England





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Thanks to Mrs. Marsh for her hard work in organising what should be an amazing day for our children.

### Potential Teacher Strikes

As you may be aware from the news, members the country's largest teaching union (the NEU) have voted in favour of strike action. As of yet, we are uncertain as to how this potential strike will affect Warden House, however we will make sure that we inform you as soon as possible if it is likely that any industrial action will impact on your child's ability to attend school.



For your awareness, the two potential strike dates are Wednesday 1 February 2023 and Thursday 2 March 2023.

### Bigfoot Pantomime 2023

Following the postponement of our in-school pantomime last term, we were delighted to welcome

Bigfoot Arts Education into school last Friday to perform their rearranged Christmas pantomime. We laughed until we cried! Huge thanks to Bigfoot Arts Education for such a superb show. The children (and staff!) absolutely loved it and laughed until they cried!



The best quote afterwards came from one Year 5 pupil: "I'm not bothered we didn't go to the Marlowe panto now - that was way better!"

We are also pleased to announce that we have provisionally booked a whole school trip to the Marlowe Theatre pantomime "Aladdin" for Term 2 next school year. We will share further details with you in due course.

Key Dates for Terms 3 2023	
<b>Term 3 begins</b>	<b>Tuesday 3 January 2023</b>
<b>Swimming Sessions for Pupils in Year 5 Pandas Class</b>	Every Monday starting on 9 January 2023
<b>Swimming Sessions for Pupils in Year 5 Giraffes Class</b>	Every Tuesday starting on 10 January 2023
<b>Parents' Evenings</b>	Tuesday 31 January 2023 and Wednesday 1 February 2023
<b>Whole School Pfizer's Science Day</b>	Friday 10 February 2023
<b>End of Term 3</b>	<b>Friday 10 February 2023</b>
<b>Start of Term 4</b>	<b>Monday 20 February 2023</b>
<b>World Book Day 2023</b>	Thursday 2 March 2023