WATERGATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

Spring 2026

Headteacher's Message

Spring Term has been another busy one at Watergate! The new building is progressing well and we are excited about moving all the children over to the Bellingham site in September.

Classes have been working hard and discovering the joy of stories through our 'Into the Woods' topic. Next term our topic is 'Over the Rainbow' which will be a celebration and exploration of colours in all their forms.

It has been wonderful to see so many parents and carers coming along to our Coffee Mornings and attending our Spring Festival. There will be more opportunities to join in our activities next term at our Community Lunch and Fun Day. We look forward to seeing you soon ! **Linda Matthews**

Happy Times at Holbeach

Every Wednesday afternoon some of our Sky Class pupils put on their hi-vis vests and walk over the curly bridge in Ladywell Fields to Holbeach Primary School.



They are having a great time getting to know the Holbeach pupils and spending time with them. It's a brilliant opportunity for them to develop their communication and social skills.

Thank you Holbeach!

School Council Make a Big Decision

This term has been a busy one for our School Council. They have made some big decisions about what our classes should be called in September. They all put their thinking caps on to decide on some new class names.



From September classes will be named after some of our favourite animals. How exciting! We have more big decisions to make soon too - watch this space!

There is a buzzy bee on every page of the newsletter - Can you spot them all?

Amber Class News

Amber Class have had a wonderful Spring Term together. We have been enjoying lots of interactive stories together and we loved dressing up for World Book Day! We went to Bellingham to visit the farm animals and loved being able to get up close to them. Pupils are getting more confident every day and love sharing playful moments together. Well done Amber Class!

















Olive Class News

This term, Olive Class has been diving into the world of storytelling! We have shared several wonderful sensory stories, including We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Three Animals and a Troll (based on The Three Billy Goats Gruff), Dig Dig Tip Tip, Jasper's Beanstalk, The Gingerbread Man, and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children have loved using their senses to bring these tales to life—especially exploring the 'edible mud' during our bear hunt and interacting with the bird puppet in Three Animals and a Troll.













Olive class recently enjoyed an inspiring visit to the brand-new ArtPlay Pavilion at Dulwich Picture Gallery. This immersive, sensory-rich space allowed the children to step directly into the world of art. The pavilion is divided into four elemental zones—Sunlight, Water, Wind, and Earth—each reimagining classic masterpiece from the gallery's collection as interactive adventures.



Sky Class News

This term has been full of exploration, creativity, and wonderful learning experiences for our class. The children have enjoyed a rich blend of sensory stories, outdoor adventures, creative arts, and opportunities to build friendships and confidence across different settings.
Our trip to the Dulwich ArtPlay Pavilion was a highlight. The children explored the space with excitement, building confidence in climbing, balancing, and imaginative play. We visited the local park, giving the children regular opportunities to enjoy fresh air, practise turn-taking, and develop gross motor skills.

We brought stories to life through sensory exploration. The children engaged with textures, sounds, movement, and role-play. Some of our pupils went to Holbeach Primary school, where they made new friends, joined group activities, and practised social communication in a larger setting.

The children have made fantastic progress this term; growing in independence, communication, creativity, and confidence. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and look forward to more exciting learning in the summer term.













Chestnut Class News

This term, we have truly enjoyed exploring and learning through a range of wonderful stories, brought to life through rich sensory experiences. We have loved reading and immersing ourselves in Goldilocks and the Three Bears, We're Going on a Bear Hunt, The Magic Paintbrush, and Walking Through the Forest.

These stories have provided fantastic opportunities for engaging, hands-on learning — from cooking and dancing to thinking, problem-solving, and using our communication skills in many different ways.



World Book Day was a fantastic celebration of the joy of stories. We all dressed up and came together to share our love of books and the wonderful imaginations they inspire.

Our friendships continue to grow, and it has been lovely to see these connections strengthen over time.

We have also had a wonderful time travelling, exploring and discovering new places in our community.

Wishing you a lovely Spring Break!















Ruby Class News

In Ruby Class we LOVE messy play! The children have been taking part in messy play opportunities every day including playing with shaving foam, flour, bubbles, corn flour jelly and dry rice! We love using our hands to get messy, and we are also developing our fine motor skills by using tools within our play such as splatters, sieves, potato mashers, spoons and cups.



Playing alongside our peers and adults has helped us to develop our communication skills including making requests for items, making choices, using communication boards and recognising symbols. We love when adults play with us and have engaged in so many lovely interactions.

Some of the children also dressed up for World Book Day! Take a look at their amazing outfits!









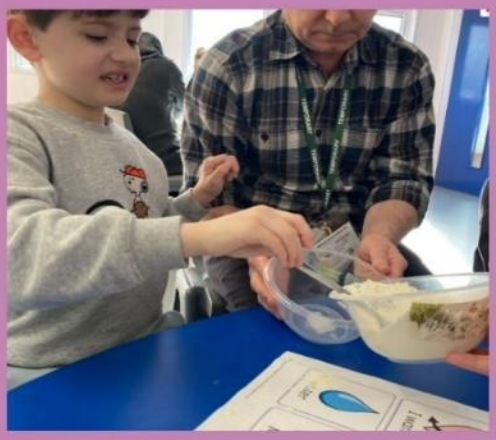






Lavender Class News

Lavender Class have had a wonderful term! We all had a brilliant time at Godstone Farm and loved spending time outdoors and meeting all the animals. Pupils have been developing their communication and independence skills and learning how to take turns, share and follow our routines.
We loved hearing stories and dressing up on World Book Day. We're looking forward to seeing even more progress next term. Well done Lavender Class!













Primrose Class News

Primrose Class have been thoroughly enjoying the start of Spring, making the most of every opportunity to explore the outdoors. We have enjoyed visits to the Dulwich Play Pavilion, our weekly Friday trips to the park and our time in Forest School. There, the children have been busy digging, planting and immersing themselves in the calm outdoors. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm flourish as they explore the world outside of Watergate school.

















Red Class News

Wow! What a busy term for Red Class! We have been enjoying all sorts of new experiences this term. We have loved Taekwondo and developing our physical skills in MOVE. We have also loved meeting lots of animals both in stories and in real life! We are looking forward to even more exciting learning opportunities in the Summer. Well done Red Class!













Green Class News

Green Class had a lovely Spring Term! We enjoyed special sessions exploring sensory objects, new materials, and sounds. We have been building our confidence and making great progress towards our learning goals, building a solid learning routine day by day while remembering to stay happy and enjoy each day at school.



















Yellow Class News

We have had a wonderful spring term in Yellow Class. The children have explored our topic of "Into The Woods" in different ways; creating woodland inspired artwork, getting creative in our cooking sessions and learning new stories through lots of sensory exploration and investigation.

We have loved taking part in regular music sessions with our incredible Paloma, the children have made some amazing progress with their musical skills and it has been amazing to see this develop every week.

The visiting farm was a real highlight for Yellow Class and we loved meeting the animals, the Shetland pony was a fan favourite! Yellow Class celebrated World Book Day in their own way, opting to create costumes for the grownups instead of wearing them themselves. We were inspired by the story of "Where the Wild Things Are", we made giant claws, Wild Thing tails and masks for Yellow Class team to wear, it was a wonderful day! A fantastic term for Yellow Class and we are excited to see what the next term brings.



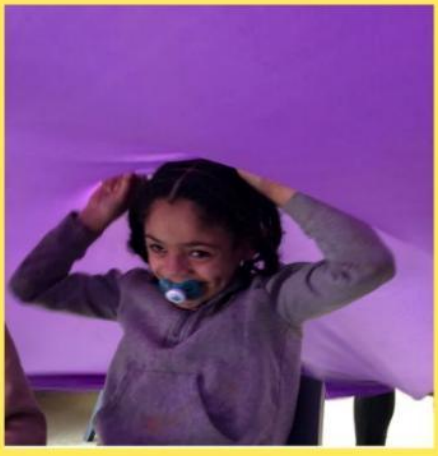












Blue Class News

Blue class have had an absolutely amazing term!

We have all really loved our topic Into the Woods and have especially enjoyed meeting lots of characters and exploring different stories as a class! Our favourite stories have been The Three Little Pigs and The Princess and the Pea where we really enjoyed going on a journey through the woods and into a storm to help our Prince find a Princess!

We have loved being creative and expressing ourselves in every session we do and we are looking forward to our next topic and continuing to learn new things every day in the summer term!















Violet Class News

Violet Class have had a brilliant term. We had great fun on our trip to the Tate Modern for the I AM Festival . We met lots of new people, explored sensory art and took some fun pictures of ourselves.



We have also been busy cooking, doing taekwondo and enjoying stories. We had a visit from the Curiousity Chest where we explored lots of fun sensory story props along to a fantastic performance.

Last week we were lucky enough to be visited by Sherwood mobile farm where we got up close to some amazing animals!













Pink Class News

In Pink Class, we have been focusing on developing our eye-hand coordination skills to become more confident and independent in our learning and daily activities. We are exploring ways to communicate our needs using our preferred methods. We have also been learning how to take responsibility for our belongings, keep our things and resources organised, and grow our independence with essential life skills, such as tidying up our classroom. Additionally, we are developing an understanding of our school day, the activities it includes, and how to access learning independently, building confidenceour in managing tasks along the way.













Orange Class News

What a fantastic term it has been for Orange Class! We've all had so much fun learning, exploring and trying new things together. One of the highlights was retelling the story of The Three Little Pigs. Orange class enjoyed bringing the tale to life through creative play and storytelling.

We also celebrated Valentine's Day by making delicious edible hearts, which was a wonderful way to combine creativity with a tasty treat! As a class we have enjoyed engaging in a variety of STEM activities, experimenting with different materials to create art and discovering what happens when colours are mixed together.

Dress-Up Fridays have been a huge success, giving everyone the freedom to choose who or what they would like to be. It has been lovely to see their personalities shine! Our cooking sessions have also been a big hit, with everyone exploring new flavours and enjoying making food together.

Most importantly, it has been absolutely wonderful to see confidence and independence grow throughout the term. Amazing job, Orange Class. We are so proud of you all!











Silver Class News

We have been thoroughly enjoying the Into the Woods topic, exploring different learning opportunities thorough sensory stories and creating work based on characters, props and events from these. We also flipped and raced with pancakes, as well as making pancake art and preparing and eating some yummy ones too!















Peach Class News

This term, Peach Class have been enjoying lots of fun outdoor activities. The children loved doing shadow drawing and exploring light and dark, as well as making seed balls and learning about planting and how things grow. They also had a great time spotting outdoor animals and natural objects, building their curiosity about the world around them.

We celebrated Lunar New Year by making mud "spring rolls," which was lots of messy, imaginative fun. These activities have helped the children develop their communication, sharing, and enjoyment of learning through play. Well done Peach Class!











Lime Class News

Lime Class has had a fantastic Spring Term, filled with growth, laughter, and teamwork! We have been placing a strong focus on developing our independence skills, especially through our engaging cooking sessions. Pupils have been learning to follow simple visual recipes, take turns, measure ingredients, and safely use equipment.

Pupils are becoming more confident in expressing their needs, making choices, and engaging with both adults and peers. It has been a joy to see their understanding grow and their personalities shine through new forms of communication.

We have been busy strengthening our fine motor skills and dexterity through a range of hands-on activities. We have been practising pencil grip, hand strength, and control through fun, purposeful activities, and it has been fantastic to see the progress in both confidence and precision.

Most importantly, Lime Class is a happy school family. We have built strong relationships based on respect, kindness, and fun. We laugh together, support each other, and always strive to do our best—while making sure we enjoy the journey along the way!















Aqua Class News

Aqua Class have a great Spring Term. We had a wonderful time enjoying our farm experience at school. The students loved meeting and interacting with the animals, showing curiosity, confidence, and lots of smiles throughout the day. It was a fantastic opportunity for hands-on learning and creating special memories together. We are looking forward to more exciting learning opportunities next term.











Gold Class News

Gold class loved our 'Into the Forest' topic, where we explored the stories of The Gingerbread Man and Goldilocks. Highlights included making gingerbread men biscuits, acting out the story and even dressing up as the gingerbread man himself and trying not to get caught as part of our PE circuits!

The children enjoyed lots of sensory play and art based on oats and became experts at making porridge which was just right! They also made delicious teddy bear toast and very cute teddy faces by collaging different shades and types of paper.

We have been having so much fun at our own class market stall, following our staff performance of Baby Goes to Market on World Book Day! From counting vegetables and trying new tropical fruits to designing African print tshirts and making fruit kebabs, all the children have enjoyed lots of wonderful, bright moments!












Purple Class News

Purple pupils have had lots of fun developing our physical skills through dance lessons, where we use lots of different props and find different ways to move to music. On 5th February Fart Club celebrated National Fart Day with lots of exciting games and activities, including fart bingo, fart yoga and a fart hunt.















Purple Class News

Watergate pupils are really enjoying sessions with Aquila Taekwondo. We learn lots of different moves, including kicking, punching, blocking, pushing and breaking boards. It gives us a lot of confidence and improves our social skills.

Aquila Taekwondo delivers SEND sessions every Monday from 6pm-6.50 at Prendergast School. For more information, please see their website: www.aquilataekwondo.com.













Family Support



Coffee Mornings

This term we have had some great coffee mornings together. Thanks to everyone who came along, and if you haven't been yet we hope to see you soon.

If you need any support then don't hesitate to contact our Family Support Worker, Carol Powell on C.Powell@watergate.lewisham.sch.uk



Fun Day

Our annual Fun Day is coming up next term. We would love any donations for raffle prizes and the bottle stall. We are keen to have some good quality prizes so if you are able to donate something (or know someone who can) we would be very grateful. Please drop off any donations to the main site in Bellingham.



School Uniform

If your child has outgrown any Watergate School uniform - especially jumpers, then please do donate them back to the school. Bring them in to Carol at the Bellingham site and they will be gratefully received by other families. Thank you