



A Pathway to Excellence

Waddesdon Village Primary School

School Lane, Waddesdon, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP18 0LQ

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Monday 26th September

Dear Parents,

We have an exciting opportunity to invite a dog into the school through a charity called Pets As Therapy (PAT). They are a national charity that enhances the health and wellbeing of thousands of people in communities across the UK. Their volunteers and their temperament-assessed pets visit establishments such as care homes, hospitals, hospices, schools and prisons, and bring smiles to many faces.

In a visit, children will read to the dog in a safe and relaxing environment. The Read2Dogs scheme helps to improve literacy skills and wellbeing in young people by developing their confidence, interest and enjoyment in reading. When a PAT Dog visits a school, their presence can boost a young person's motivation and morale. Dogs are non-judgemental and great listeners - they don't interrupt or correct - so they aid confidence and concentration levels. PAT Dogs are also known to encourage positive social behaviours, enhance self-esteem and inspire young people to relax and have fun.

This is such an amazing opportunity for the children to spend time with a trained dog.

Before we can start these visits, we would like to know if there are any children in the school who have an allergy to dogs. Please let us know by filling in the ParentMail form **by Friday 30th September**.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do get in touch. You could also take a look at the website: <https://petsastherapy.org/>

Kind regards,

Miss Cross



Registered Charity No 1092590