

Newsletter 13th November 2020



Remembrance Day

On Wednesday, we remembered the brave men and women who fought to protect their country and acknowledged Remembrance Day with a 1 minute silence at 11am. Thank you to all the children and staff who purchased poppies and other poppy memorabilia and have worn them with pride this week. Some of you will hopefully have seen the display of poppies outside the school by the main gate where every child in the school had the opportunity to paint their own poppy to display. It certainly looks bright and cheerful.



Children In Need

Today, we participated in Children in Need 2020 and it was fantastic to see so many children come dressed in spotty clothing, yellow clothing or Pudsey clothing. Thank you for your donations too and in total we raised an amazing £323.00 which will be sent off to the Children in Need charity. This money will go towards funding local charities and projects who help to remove the barriers that are facing children and young people, so that they can thrive. Many children and young people are facing a range of disadvantages such as living in poverty, being disabled or ill, or experiencing distress, neglect or trauma. The money raised will go towards helping these charities improve the quality of the young peoples lives.

Great to Be Gold

In our assembly today, we celebrated this week's Great to Be Gold awards. Well done to the following children who have excelled this week. We are incredibly proud of you all.

Pre School: Joshua C - he has been really engaged in his learning this week. He has done some lovely maths and has had a go at writing his name.

Ruby H - she has just started at preschool and has settled in really well. She has also done well learning some of the preschool routine.

Nursery: Lola H - for being a fantastic role model and having great manners.

Amelia M - for showing a love of learning in all subjects and a willingness to learn new things.

Reception: Rafe B - for his outstanding effort with his writing. He wrote a poster about animals, seeing as he wants to be a survivalist (like Bear Grylls), Ethan S - so proud of his drawing AND how he put in an amazing effort with his letter formation in Phonics.

Year 1: Cait - for being so enthusiastic during lessons and showing a love for learning.

Martha - for being a fantastic role model and following the school rules.

Arien - for pushing himself with his learning this week by accepting challenges and working to the best of his ability.

Year 2: Charlie 5 for always following the school rules and working to the best of his ability. Erin H for being a great role model and always working to the best of her ability.

Year 3: Annabelle - for being an outstanding role model

Jonah - for his impeccable behaviour outside lessons.

Year 4: Zosia for really trying to focus, work hard and do the right thing in class: working to the best of her ability.

Beau - love of learning in all areas. Excellent work in science, maths and handwriting this week.

Year 5 (Wonders): Charlie B and Flynn - for being resilient and working to the best of their ability in writing to produce a final piece of writing for our class book.

Libby H - she meets all the criteria for GTBG all the time.

Corinne W - going above and beyond in Ms Ramirez's lesson

Aimee G - realising she is in the learning pit and thinking of ways to get out.

Year 5 (Beckhams) - Jess and Izzy for constantly making the right choices. Megan - for being an excellent role model.

Year 6: Megan H - for working consistently hard, particularly in maths. She is always polite and her behaviour is impeccable. Finlay D - For the effort, he has been putting into his work. We have been impressed with his writing and with his engagement in history lessons in particular. Darcie W - She consistently works to the best of her ability. The initiative she took to create a game for year 6 break times is still having an impact.

Headteachers Awards

Headteachers awards are now linked to our school values. This month our school value is 'Achieving your potential'. We are really proud of these children who have been working really hard in class to achieve their potential and have been chosen by their class teacher to receive this award. Eleanor S, Sam T and Erin in Reception class for their fantastic writing. Finlay in Year 6 for writing 2 pages in his English lesson.

Maisy in Year 3 for her great piece of story writing.

Billy in Year 2 for his diary entries. Lewis in Year 3 for his stone age writing. Edie in Year 1 for writing a fantastic letter in the role of a character.

Virtual tour of the school

On Wednesday, we had a media company in school to capture images of the children in their learning and play. Unfortunately, due to COVID 19, we are unable to open our doors to prospective parents to tour the school at present and so therefore, the virtual tour will show parents and carers what our school has to offer their child from the first day that they join us in the Early Years all the way throughout their primary years. We are looking forward to being able to share this video with the whole school and local community in the next couple of weeks.



Inspirational People

This half term, the teachers have linked their inspirational person to the curriculum that they are teaching. We hope that we are able to continue to inspire our children to fulfil their hopes and dreams in their own lives.

Pre school - Mary Anning (fossil collector)
Nursery - Captain Sir Thomas Moore (former
British army officer who raised money in the
run up to his 100th birthday during the COVID
19 pandemic)

Reception - Bear Grylls

Year 1 - Wassily Kandinsky (abstract artist)

Year 2 - David Attenborough

Year 3 - Margaret Conkey (archaeologist)

Year 4 - Ann Bancroft (first woman to reach the North Pole on foot)

Year 5 (Beckham) - Ada Lovelace (computing pioneer)

Year 5 (Wonder) - Charles Babbage (computing pioneer)

Year 6 - HRH The Prince of Wales

House Points

This weeks house points

Red House - 379

Blue House - 430

Green House - 418

Yellow House - 451

Total house points achieved this half term:

Blue House - 1255

Green House - 1210

Red House - 1100

Yellow House - 1236



Attendance

We have had a great week with attendance. Huge congratulations to Jemison, Wonders, Attenborough, Darlings, Beckhams and Da Vinci class all achieving brilliant attendance. For w/c 9th November attendance is 97.0%. Whole term percentage is currently 97.1%. Well done everyone.

Internet Safety

This week, we are providing parental guidance about online gaming.

Coronavirus lockdown will mean that children and young are likely to be spending more time online while at home. Online games can be a great way for them to keep busy and stay in touch with friends and family but it's important that children play safely.

What are online games?

Gaming is a great way for young people to relax, socialise with their friends and have fun. Children can play on games consoles, apps or websites, mobiles, tablets, PCs, or through smart speakers and virtual reality headsets. They can also chat to other players using messaging platforms for gamers, or watch livestreams of well-known gamers.

What are the risks of online games?

Being bullied

Children may be deliberately excluded from a game by their friends, or criticised for how well they play. Other players may swear or use abusive language over voice chat, and this can be upsetting for your child.

If your child is experiencing bullying in online games, tell them they can talk to you another family member, their teacher at school or contact Childline. Show them the blocking and reporting functions in a game, so they can prevent bullies from contacting them.

Talking to people they don't know

Some games are designed to be played in teams or against other people, and sometimes players can be based in different locations. This means young people can easily play with people they don't know and haven't met. They can communicate using voice, video or text chat. Some gamers use voice chat to discuss tactics and many games have a chat room.

Young people can also use other platforms, like Discord and Reddit, to learn tips about the games they play and speak to other players with similar interests. Many popular games have official channels with thousands of members. There's a risk of young people being groomed on these platforms.



Friends of Watton

We're very pleased to announce that we have got a new Treasurer for FOW - thank you to Abi Brown who has joined the committee and will take over from Mick Starkey as soon as it is possible to do handovers. We'd also like to thank Mick for all his hard work for Friends of Watton over the past two years - he was responsible for organising and building some amazing playground equipment including the bus and the boat (amongst many other things) that will benefit children at the school for years.

Class 5p Challenge

Our Class Coin Challenge starts next Monday (16th) each class will be given a bottle to fill with 5p coins (and any other coins you have) - the class with the most cash at the end (27th) will win a class treat!

Raid your money boxes, save your change and search down the back of the sofa and help raise funds for the school!

We're very restricted as to the events we can run at the moment so we really appreciate all your support, so we can raise as much for the school as possible!

Xmas Jumper Sale

We're planning to run our Christmas Jumper sale again this year (with some changes due to Covid), so please start digging out any outgrown Christmas jumpers and tops that you are happy to donate. Please drop them into the school office in a bag and they will be quarantined before they're sold.

Watton At Stone Nursery Admissions 2021-2022



Was your child born between

1st September 2017 & 31st August 2018?

Please come to our **NURSERY ADMISSIONS** meeting on;

Thursday 19th November at 6:00pm

We will be sharing all the key information and guidance to apply for your child's Nursery place.

Venue: Due to COVID 19 this will be a virtual meeting held on Zoom. Meeting details will be shared before the meeting, to book your place and to find out the meeting code please contact the school office.

Revised Whole School Risk Assessment

The risk assessment for activities in school during the COVID 19 pandemic has now been updated and shared with all staff and Governors to ensure that we are all aware of and following the guidance. A copy of the risk assessment has been saved to the school website for you to access and read.

https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/home/school-reopening-information

Watton At Stone Reception Admissions 2021-2022



Was your child born between

1st September 2016 & 31st August 2017?

Please come to our **RECEPTION INFORMATION** meeting on;

Friday 20th November at 1.30pm

Or

Monday 23rd November at 6:00pm

We will be sharing information and guidance about how to apply for your child's Reception place.

Venue: Due to COVID 19 this will be a virtual meeting held on Zoom. Meeting details will be shared before the meeting, to book your place and to find out the meeting code please contact the school office.

Our school values are at the HEART of everything we believe in.



Parents and Carers requiring to self-isolate

If you are a parent or carer and have been asked to self-isolate as part of a bubble at work or because you have come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus – you must follow the national self-isolation guidance and stay at home for 14 days: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/how-long-to-self-isolate/

- This applies even if you have no symptoms and/or you have received a negative test result as it can take 14 days for transmission
- Self-isolation rules do not apply to the rest of your household, they can still attend work or school and complete day to day tasks in line with Government guidance
- If you develop symptoms while self-isolating, your entire household must begin self-isolating immediately
- If you would normally travel with your child(ren) to nursery, school or college, alternative arrangements should be made
- If you cannot make alternative travel arrangements for your child(ren), then they too must stay at home. Please contact your school or education setting directly for advice on remote learning in this situation

Please do not send child(ren) to school if they have any symptoms of coronavirus. If you're not sure, consult the online NHS symptom checker at: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

Only book a test if you or your child(ren)develop symptoms, book at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 if you do not have internet access.

Headteacher: Mrs N. Etienne Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

Remote Learning

If your child is self isolating and waiting the results of a COVID 19 test or your child has had a positive COVID 19 test result and so therefore also self isolating, we have class work prepared and uploaded to the website so the impact on your children's learning is minimized. Teachers have prepared a daily maths, English and topic activity which is in line with what learning is happening in class. Don't forget also that the children will have homework to complete, daily reading and access to any Purple Mash activities. KS2 children also have access to Times Table Rock Stars. The learning is accessible on the children's page of the website. https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/children/remote-learning-autumn-2020

This year Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 16th December



Dates for your Diary

November

16th - 20th - Anti bullying week/well being week

19th - Prospective Nursery parent Zoom meeting 6pm

20th - Prospective Reception parent Zoom meeting 1.30pm

23rd - New outdoor equipment to be installed in Nursery and Reception outdoor area

23rd - Prospective Reception parent Zoom meeting 6pm

24th - No Pens Day

30th - 4th Dec - Assessment week

December

2nd Dec - last catch up club this term

11th - Enterprise Day

16th- Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day.

17th - Last Day of autumn term

January

4th - INSET Day 2

5th - Children return to school

18th - 22nd - Creative Arts Week

February

3rd - No Pens Day

9th - Internet safety day

15th - 19th - Half term

March

4th - World Book Day

5th - 9th - Science week

12th - Comic relief/sports relief

15th - 19th - Assessment Week

16th - Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm

17th - Parent Consultations 3.45 - 5.45pm

22nd - No Pens Day

26th - Last day of spring term

<u>April</u>

12th - INSET Day 3

13th - Children return to school

23rd - St. George's day

May

 3^{rd} - 7^{th} - Geography fieldwork week

21st - No Pens Day

 31^{st} - 4^{th} June - Half term

June

7th - INSET Day 4

10th - Sports Day

17th - Reserve sports Day

30th - Book fair arrives for 1 week

<u>July</u>

2nd - Enterprise Day

5th - 9th - Assessment Week

12th - No Pens Day

14th - End of Year reports to parents/carers

21st - Last day of summer term

22nd - INSET Day