



## Newsletter 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that both you and your families enjoyed your half term break and that you had the chance to relax and have some well-deserved time away from the pressures of remote learning. We know how challenging the last half term has been for everyone in the school community and even though it was a short half term, I know that everyone was very glad to make it to the end.

You would have all heard in the news on Monday evening, where Boris Johnson announced that all children will be returning to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. This week, I have written to you a detailed letter outlining the return for children to school and practical as well as health and safety considerations which have been made to ensure that school is as safe as it possibly can be. We are all very excited about some normality being resumed again. I would like to thank you all personally for your hard work and support during this term. I know that this was no easy challenge for you all and I'm sure you will be thrilled that there is only one more week of remote learning left!!!

If, in the event of your child needing to self-isolate following a positive COVID test or that someone in your household tests positive, then the school will still be providing remote learning for them to complete. This won't be live Zoom lessons, but the work set will be in line with what the children in class will be doing. The remote learning will be saved on the school website.

<https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/virtual-office/remote-learning-guidance/remote-learning-planning-spring-2021>

### Children's toilet refurbishment

During the half term holiday, Mr Craik, our new site manager, has been extremely busy on site decorating parts of the school and overseeing the refurbishment of some of the children's toilets which are mainly used by the children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 5 at present. We are extremely pleased with the completed toilet refurbishment and I'm sure that you will agree that they now look fantastic.

**Before**



**After**



## Walk, Run, Cycle Class Competition

For the last 2 weeks prior to the end of the half term, I set a whole school challenge for all the children to get involved in. The initial challenge started off as a walk, run and cycle challenge but this developed over the 2 weeks and you and your children were logging a vast array of different physical activities that they were completing. The challenge was started during Children's Mental Health Week as we know that physical exercise has a huge potential to enhance our wellbeing. Just short bursts of exercise increases our mental awareness, energy and positive mood as well as increasing self-esteem and reducing stress and anxiety.

### Results

- 636 entries were logged over the 2 week period
- 312 entries were for children walking, 70 entries for cycling and 46 entries for running
- Yoga, football, dancing, scootering, workouts, trampolining and weights were also some of the most popular forms of exercise.
- 161 of the entries was for exercising for an hour and 139 entries was for exercising between 21 and 30 minutes.

So who were the most active overall?

Well done and congratulation to Year 6 with 171 entries.

Also congratulations to Year 4 (112 entries), Nursery (74 entries), Year 2 (64 entries), Year 5 Wonders (61 entries) and Reception (58 entries).

The top 30 active children were all sent certificates home in the half term holiday in recognition of how active they were during the competition. Well done to everyone who took part. Remember to keep being active during the next couple of weeks.

### Breakfast and After School Clubs

After reviewing the levels of parental interest for both the breakfast and after school clubs, I am pleased to inform you that both of these clubs will be running again as from 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Please complete the booking form (see attachment) and return to the admin team by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March so that we can make the necessary admin arrangements,

Thank you

### Parent Forum Meeting

Next Tuesday (2<sup>nd</sup> March) I will be meeting virtually with the parent reps from each class for our half termly meeting. The agenda for this meeting is already organised but if you have topics which you think would be good for us to discuss at future meetings, then please contact your class parent rep and let them know. They can share your ideas in the meeting on Tuesday. Many thanks.

## Stars of the week

We know how hard the children are working both in school and at home during the lockdown and we have been really pleased with the work that is being returned to teachers. Every week, the teachers will choose 2 children from every class who have just amazed them with their participation, engagement and fantastic work. Teachers will be sending out Star of the week certificates and badges via our Marvellous Me and Tapestry platforms.

	Stars of the week	
Pre Sch	Rory F has returned to school with a happy and positive attitude. He gives everything a go and does it to the best of his ability. Well done Rory, I'm very proud of you.	Eliza L has been a star with returning to school, she has been a brave girl coming back. She takes part well in the learning that we are doing with a can-do attitude. Well done Eliza.
Nur	Shiva- for settling back into the Early Years bubbles so confidently.	Olivia- for some fantastic number and quantity work this week.
Rec	Louis C - for the fantastic detail about his Superhero that he devised - called Superlaser!	Eleanor - for wanting to answer during our Zoom lessons!
Year 1	Eddie W - For his fantastic attendance, positive attitude and contributions during the live zoom teaching sessions.	Verity S - For being such a great role model at school by consistently showing exceptional behaviour, focus and effort.
Year 2	Mila working to the best of her ability	Finley S - good listening in live zoom lessons
Year 3	Neave D - for being an excellent role model and having a great understanding of zoom etiquette	Alfie M - for working hard in lessons and going over and above with challenging himself.
Year 4	Isabella S - for outstanding effort and participation during all lockdown learning.	Anya J -for outstanding effort and participation during all lockdown learning.
Year 5W	George S - for working hard in school, and at home. Sending completed tasks in daily and developing a positive attitude towards his additional work in school.	Matilda F - for engaging in the lessons and sending in good quality work, weekly. I had really positive comments from her mum about her attitude towards the work carried out at home.
Year 5B	Yuvraj M- for going over and above with his home learning. He has been completing extra work with his mum and has also been engaging in every single zoom lesson.	Amelie O- for setting a brilliant example and being a wonderful role model in the school bubble.
Year 6	Freddy F has been engaging really excellently with all the Zoom lessons - his contributions have always been appreciated - and he has consistently completed the activities. I have been pleased with his resilience when it has come to solving problems and with his level of thinking when reflecting on different issues. Well done Freddy.	Anna S always applies herself to her work and sets herself a high standard to achieve; this level of focus and effort has continued throughout the whole period of remote learning and I am so proud of her. She enjoys learning and challenges herself in different ways; she is naturally artistic and creative and thinks about details like accuracy and quality of presentation. Well done Anna.

### Children engagement

We are so proud of how many children are engaging with their remote learning during this lockdown. For the next few weeks we are going to celebrate the classes who have the highest % of children returning work to their class teacher to be marked (either by email, Purple Mash, Tapestry or leaving work in the drop off box). We know the children will be keen for their feedback and teachers have been asked to provide children with feedback on 1 literacy and 1 maths task per week. It will not be possible to give feedback on all the work that they send in to their teacher.

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Attenborough class
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Da Vinci class
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Wonders class
- 4<sup>th</sup> place - Darlings class
- 5<sup>th</sup> place - Beckhams class

### World Book Day 2021 -Dress Up

Normally on World Book Day, we would invite all of the children to come to school dressed as one of their favourite book characters. However, this year, due to the pandemic, we don't want to put additional emotional and financial stress onto our families and so therefore we have decided that the theme of our World Book Day will be 'Come dressed ready for a story' and we would like all children learning remotely from home to be dressed in their pyjamas for their live morning Zoom lesson. The children currently attending school are also encouraged to come into school in their pyjamas too. Please ensure that they have plenty of warm layers of clothing and will be warm enough to go outside at break times and lunchtime.

### World Book Day 2021 - 4th March 2021

This year the £1 book tokens are available electronically so click here to get your free book or get a £1 discount!

[https://www.worldbookday.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/booktoken\\_PrimaryUK.pdf](https://www.worldbookday.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/booktoken_PrimaryUK.pdf)

The token is valid from 18th February to 28th March. Watch out for more news about how we plan to celebrate this year.

**Our £1  
books  
line-up  
for 2021**





An open letter from Education Secretary Gavin Williamson to  
parents, carers and guardians

[https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/23/an-open-letter-from-education-secretary-gavin-williamson-to-parents-carers-and-guardians/?utm\\_source=24%20February%202021%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/23/an-open-letter-from-education-secretary-gavin-williamson-to-parents-carers-and-guardians/?utm_source=24%20February%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

Lockdown birthdays

Wishing all the children who have celebrated their birthday during the half term holiday and this week a very happy birthday.

Charlie O'N  
15<sup>th</sup> Feb

Sam B  
26<sup>th</sup> Feb

Maia I  
14<sup>th</sup> Feb

Lucas B  
25<sup>th</sup> Feb

Sophie-Ann B  
22<sup>nd</sup> Feb

Callum E  
18<sup>th</sup> Feb

Elena A  
23<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Megan C  
18<sup>th</sup> Feb

Nya S  
23<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Harry C  
16<sup>th</sup> Feb

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School, Rectory Lane, Watton at Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG <http://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>  
Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

### R.S.E Curriculum

Over the next few weeks we will be consulting with you about the new P.S.H.E/R.S.E curriculum which will commence from September 2021. In the consultation process we will be asking you to complete a survey as well as inviting you to join us on a Zoom session (within Key Stages) where we will explain the new Government guidance to you. Following that, we will provide you with a dedicated email address where you will be able to send in any questions or queries which we will answer for you. Look out for the letter and the survey being sent home next week.

### Dates for your Diary

#### **March**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> March - Parent Forum Meeting (2)
- 4<sup>th</sup> - World Book Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Governing body committee meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> - Science week
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Comic relief/sports relief
- 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> - Assessment Week
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - No Pens Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Early Years Virtual Farm Visits
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Last day of spring term

#### **April**

- 12<sup>th</sup> - INSET Day 3
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Children return to school
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - St. George's day

#### **May**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> - Geography fieldwork week
- 21<sup>st</sup> - No Pens Day
- 31<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> June - Half term

#### **June**

- 7<sup>th</sup> - INSET Day 4
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Sports Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Reserve sports Day
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Book fair arrives for 1 week

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## July

2<sup>nd</sup> - Enterprise Day

5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> - Assessment Week

12<sup>th</sup> - No Pens Day

14<sup>th</sup> - End of Year reports to parents/carers

21<sup>st</sup> - Last day of summer term

22<sup>nd</sup> - INSET Day