



Newsletter 21st May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This time of year is always an exceptionally busy time in schools. Everyone is working hard to try to ensure our children are supported with their wellbeing, which forms part of our daily ethos and is built into our curriculum throughout weekly PSHE sessions and beyond, as well as focusing and supporting our children's learning in order to help them make good progress, ready for their transition into the next year group. As a leadership team, we are planning for this term, but are also starting to plan for September, so a busy and exciting few months lie ahead. As always, your supportive approach will be essential in ensuring the best for our children, school staff and families. We are very proud of these strong relationships and really feel these are key to helping ensure our children have the best chances of succeeding and reaching their potential and, most importantly, feeling good about themselves. Many thanks for being on board and working with us, and making this last year the best it could be for our children.

Creative Arts Week

The children have enjoyed another fabulous themed week and across the school there has been excitement and enjoyment for learning. The theme of our creative arts week was 'Nature' which encouraged all classes to get outdoors and embrace the nature around our lovely school. The creative arts cover a wide spectrum of subjects including art, dance, drama, music, photography and poetry so teachers had lots of scope for planning a broad range of activities throughout the week. Here are some of the activities that each class took part in. Please also take a look at the photo gallery at the end of the newsletter.

Preschool - have been making natural paintbrushes, drawing self-portraits, putting on a fashion show and exploring a range of musical instruments and dancing.

Nursery - have been exploring natural materials by making paintbrushes, leaf printing and creating pebble pictures inspired by circles, swirls and spirals.

Reception - visited Forest school where they discovered a Dragons egg - the children wrote to the dragon, interviewed live dragons and practised using different media in order to create a picture of a dragon. They have also been learning Puff the Magic Dragon!

KS1 - have been inspired by The Snail and the Whale and Andy Goldsworthy. They made a Big Art picture outside of a snail using natural materials, created and performed with puppets and completed observational drawings of snail shells. They performed What a Wonderful World in Makaton.

Year 3 - have made sandwiches and discussed where the ingredients come from. They have written and performed their own radio shows. They have travelled to the Amazon rainforest, from which they have completed some creative writing and watercolour paintings.

Year 4 - visited Forest School to collect natural materials to create weavings. They have been finding out about plastic pollution in the sea with a Plastic song and have written poems about Peculiar Pets!

Year 5 - have learnt the song "I am the Earth", through which they have explored the idea of Mother Nature and created artwork using a range of different media. They have also completed Glass Art.

Year 6 - Have visited Forest School in order to take nature photograph. They have designed Go Ape models which they are building from sustainable/recycled materials and will be exploring Rennie Mackintosh design using watercolours.

Class Attendance this week

	This week's attendance %
Donaldson class (R)	99.2%
Darlings Class (1)	96.7%
Jemison Class (2)	91.9%
Da Vinci Class (3)	96.0%
Rosen class (4)	100.0%
Wonders Class (5)	99.0%
Beckhams Class (5)	98.2%
Attenborough Class (6)	97.1%

Congratulations to Rosen class this week for 100% attendance. Attendance for the whole school for this academic year is 97.6%.

Break the rules day

Next Friday (28th) is Break the Rules Day.....but with a difference. Unlike the last Break the Rules Day when the rules were the same for all classes, this time, each class has chosen their own set of rules to break. Children have been thinking hard about how they would like to break the rules for 1 day only. To break the rules however, they incur a fine of £1 for every rule they break!!!

Today, you should have received further information about the rules that your child's class will be breaking next Friday and details of how to pay via The Gateway in advance of next Friday please. Many thanks for supporting this event.

Head Teacher's Awards

This week, I have been busy meeting with children who are applying the school learning values to their work in class.

In Year 2, Felicity showed what a wonderful writer she is and how she is reaching her full potential.

In Year 4, Beau was nominated as he showed excellence writing his poem and achieved his full potential.

In Year 5, Eva M really impressed us with her resilience and love for learning in her maths lesson.

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Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

Holiday Club

We are really pleased that we are able to offer holiday club during the June half term (Tuesday 1st - Friday 4th).

If you would like your child to attend, then please complete the booking form which was sent home recently (alternatively there is a booking form available on the school website) and return it to school by Tuesday 25th so that the admin team can process the booking forms and payments. Children can attend morning or afternoon sessions or all day. You can also choose whether children attend for 1,2 or more days that week.

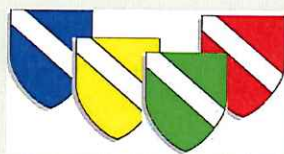


Clothing collection Fundraiser

A huge thank you to everyone who donated their unwanted items of clothing, hats and shoes last week.

We have since been informed that we raised an incredible £503. Thank you to everyone who made a donation and brought them to school last week. Also a very big thank you to the Friends of Watton for organising this event.

We will definitely be organising further clothing collections in the future so please continue to save your unwanted items until we have the next collection. Many thanks.



House Points

This weeks house points

Red House - 448

Blue House - 487

Green House - 475

Yellow House - 431

Total house points achieved this half term:

Blue House - 3,970

Green House - 3,940

Yellow House - 3,890

Red House - 3,742

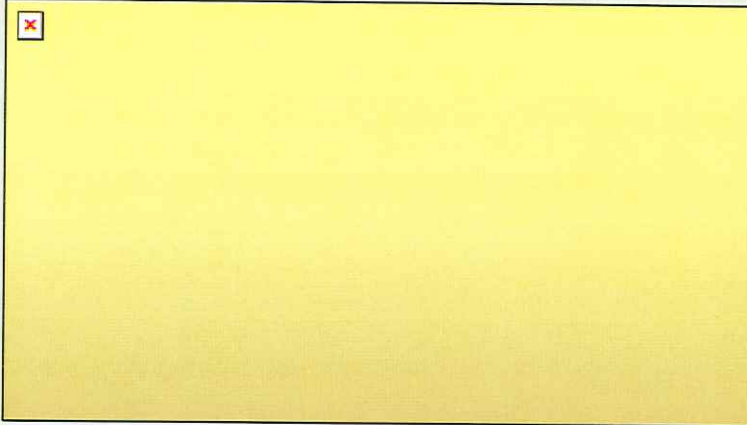
Huge congratulations to blue house who have won the most house points since returning to school on 8th March and they will be enjoying their reward next Thursday (27th). We have invited a company called Kidfit into school who will be organising lots of fun and exciting activities for the blue house to do in their phase bubbles. I look forward to telling you more about this in next weeks newsletter.

Pentecost

This Sunday (23rd May) is Pentecost which is a Christian festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension, held on the seventh Sunday after Easter. Janet Bird (a reader from the Beane Valley ministry team) has prepared a video about Pentecost for the children to watch and learn more about this Christian celebration. I hope they can find a few minutes to watch this over the weekend. <https://youtu.be/ekRA4ztcVrs>

Walk to School Week

This week we took part in Walk to School Week and launched this week with a whole school assembly. I shared my top 9 reasons for walking to school.



During this week 86% of the children walked or parked and walked to school on at least one day.

Birthday celebrations

Wishing all the children who have celebrated their birthday this week a very happy birthday.



HALF TERM FUN!

THE BIG HERTS HERO HUNT!

WHERE COULD THEY BE?

Join Pakiki Theatre on an action packed, family adventure show all about our county! Crack the clues, stir up the stories and master the map to find our very own Hertfordshire heroes of the past and future.

Book now at: www.hertfordtheatre.com £9.50

Hertford Theatre, The Wash SG14 1PS
Thursday 3rd June, 10am, 1pm & 4pm

Kindly supported by:
Cllr Bob Deering

East Herts Council

Arts Council England

Help me raise money for WWF

Amazing prizes available including a brand new Nikon camera, Hasbro board games and more

I'M RAISING MONEY TO HELP ENDANGERED ANIMALS. YOU CAN HELP BY ENTERING MY KIDS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION FOR 11 YEAR OLDS AND UNDER.

KIDS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

CLOSING DATE: 06/06/2021

To raise money for WWF each entry will need a minimum £1 donation. I am having a local photographer judge the competition to make it fair. To find rules, how to enter and more go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/WattonPhotoCompetition>

Artists of the week

As this week has been Creative Arts week, the teachers have nominated children for awards based on their contributions and personal successes.

Artists of the week		
Pre Sch	Gianni M - he loved making our natural paint brushes this week. He found some great things to make the brushes with and then spent ages creating his picture.	<p>Lola H - she has enjoyed dressing up and dancing this week. She has shown us lots of her moves and her funky fashion sense.</p> <p>Eliza L - she worked incredibly hard on her self portrait. She focused on all the features on her face including her beauty spot and her lovely curly hair. Well done all of you we are so proud of you.</p>
Nur	Olivia - for her beautiful real nature inspired creation.	Jacob - for his pebble pattern. He was careful to select the same colour pebbles for his creation. He took his time and was very precise.
Rec	Ethan S - for being a very animated dragon when I interviewed him. He has an excellent dragon roar.	<p>Rafe - for being an interesting dragon to interview. He came up with some thoughtful answers to my questions</p> <p>Erin - for her brilliant question - which she wrote and illustrated by herself - Dear dragon, do you fight wolves?</p>
Year 1	Penny J - for her fantastic concentration and effort during still life sketching.	Arien L - for his enthusiasm and positive attitude throughout the whole week.
Year 2	Maia - for her imagination and creativity in role play	Ben - for his participation and leadership in creating a large scale picture
Year 3	Annabelle - for her careful sketching and then great use of water colour to create an amazing picture of the rain forest.	<p>Esmee - for her excellent performance skills in our English radio report.</p> <p>Caitlin - for her superb skill in creating an Iron Age clay pot in our history lesson.</p>
Year 4	<p>Ronnie and Maddie for creative skills and use of natural resources in weaving.</p> <p>Beau and Riley - fabulous poetry writing with their creation of peculiar pets.</p>	Bella and Jasmine - lots of energy, effort and beautiful singing voices in our song about the dangers of plastic in The Natural World.
Year 5W	<p>Corinne- Her enthusiastic singing voice carried through the room, keeping everyone in time and inspiring them to sing with her.</p> <p>Emily - Art and design is a great strength of Emily's, perfection, quality and detail shine through each piece.</p>	Eva R - Creative in many ways: music, drama, writing, art and poetry, there are no ends to her creative talent.
Year 5B	<p>Luke P- Putting in so much effort and taking time with his artwork.</p> <p>Zach W- Always editing and improving his work to ensure he is happy with the final result.</p>	Sophie I- Creating a visual stimulus to support a point of view.

Year
6

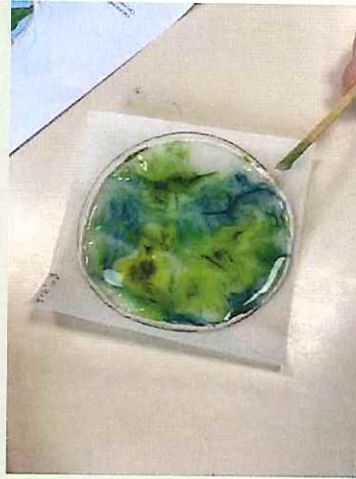
Ava - she consistently invests in her learning; all her work is presented to a high standard and she shows a commitment to achieving her very best. The level of her imagination and her skills in design have been particularly evident this week in our craft activities. There is much for her to celebrate and be proud of.

George - he has focused really well learning to compose artistic photographs. He captured a butterfly beautifully this week and demonstrated how much his skills have developed recently. He was very proud of his photo.

Creative Arts Week Photo Gallery



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Dates for your Diary

May

28th - Feel Good Friday and Break the Rules Day

31st - 4th June - Half term

June

7th - INSET DAY 4 school closed

21st - Parent Forum meeting 6pm

28th - Years 3 and 4 trip to Woodhall

29th - Years 5 and 6 trip to Woodhall

July

2nd - Enterprise Day

6th - Sports Day

6th - New to Reception (September 2021) virtual parent meeting 6pm

8th - Year 6 transition day to secondary school

8th - Reception - Year 5 Meet your New Teacher

8th - New to Nursery (September 2021) virtual parent meeting 6pm

8th - Year 6 transfer day to secondary schools.

9th - Sports Day reserve

5th - 9th - Assessment Week

12th - No Pens Day

12th - 9am - 10am New to Nursery September 2021 stay and play

13th - 9am - 10am New to Reception class September 2021 stay and play

14th - 9am - 10am New to Nursery September 2021 stay and play

14th - End of Year reports to parents/carers

15th - 9am - 10am New to Reception class September 2021 stay and play

21st - Last day of summer term

22nd - INSET Day 5

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