



Newsletter 9th February 2024

To our families and friends,

On Tuesday, the whole school took part in this year's Safer Internet Day and all classes had an age appropriate lesson with their teacher. As a school, we teach a safer internet lesson at the beginning of every half term, in all classes, so that these important safety messages are being revisited, consolidated and built upon. The theme for this year was 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'. Earlier in the week, we sent an email with some guidance how to support your child to stay safe online especially in a world where so much technology is available for children to use. We hope that you have received this email and had a chance to look at how you can help to ensure that your child is staying safe online.

Further guidance and support for parents is available at: <https://www.saferinternetday.org/>

On Wednesday, we had an external advisor from Herts for Learning come into school to review our art curriculum. She was very impressed with the quality of the children's art work in their books and how their artistic skills are developing year on year.

This week, we have been especially proud of our Year 6 class who have taken part in their mock SAT's before they sit their end of KS2 SAT's in May. The children have been amazing and approached their mock tests with such positivity and enthusiasm.

On Wednesday afternoon, Year 6 and some children in Year 5 went to Wodson Park for a Sportshall competition against other local schools. We were thrilled that our boys team came first overall and our girls team came third overall. All of the children returned to school with their medals and were extremely proud of their achievements. (Report and photo are at the end of the newsletter)

Next week is the last week of this half term and we have lots taking place across the school. On Tuesday, we are looking forward to welcoming the Bubble Theatre Company for a Great Fire of London workshop with Year 2. They have been learning about this historical event this half term, so it will be a fantastic finish to their topic.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

We look forward to welcoming parents into school next Tuesday and Thursday to meet the class teachers. If you are struggling to book an appointment, then please contact the admin team who will be happy to help you. During your time in school, we invite you to take a look through your child's books and also take this opportunity to sample some of the school dinner options which will be available in the hall. Please enter and exit the school via the gates in the staff car park.

Next week, after school enrichment clubs led by the school staff will be cancelled because of the 2 parent evenings. However, all clubs run by external companies and the choir will still be taking place. The after school club run by Miss Knott will also be operational so this won't affect parents who require the wrap around childcare due to their work commitments.

Mini Progress Reports

Today, you will have received your child's mini progress report. These will have been sent home with your child today, so please check their reading bags if you haven't seen this yet.

The teachers have reviewed the progress that your child has made towards the targets that were set in the autumn term for the core subjects as well as setting new targets to work towards achieving over the next few months. These targets and the progress your child has made to date will be discussed at the parent/teacher meetings on 13th and 15th February but we like you to have the paper copy in advance to read. We hope you find these mini reports useful and informative at this point in the year.

French Learning App

Does your child love learning languages? In school, all children in KS2 (and from Year 2 in the summer term) have weekly French lessons. The teachers use a scheme called 'Language Angels' to support the delivery of lessons and there is now a Language Angels app available with lots of interactive games and karaoke videos which is completely free and available to all pupils.

You will find the app by visiting the Apple App Store from any Apple device and searching for 'Language Angels'. Look out for our angel character in the app icon so they know they're downloading the correct app. We have created a simple login which all your pupils can use to access and use the app.

Username: la2023app

Password: la2023app

The username and password are case sensitive. The app is completely safe for your pupils to use and there is no way for children to be able to contact or interact with anyone else on the app.

World Book Day

In the same week as World Book Day, we have arranged for Christian Darkin, an illustrator and animator to come into school for the day and lead an assembly and class workshops.

We are also in the process of organising lots of other fun World Book Day activities.

Children can come to school on World Book Day dressed as a book character or come dressed in their pyjamas/onesie ready for lots of story inspired learning.

Chess Club

Charlie Smith in year 5 has recently been helping to run the chess club at Hertford library. It runs from 12-1pm on Saturdays and is free to attend. Any level of player welcome. Charlie would love to see some of you there for a game!

Friends of Watton Update

Happy Friday, Everyone ([Links will be underlined](#))

Tickets are still available for the **Leap Year Disco** on Thursday, **February 29th**. Please purchase your tickets on Classlist. This time, the DJ has promised to play the music at a more comfortable volume. You can buy your tickets by clicking on the following link: [HERE](#). Currently 3 volunteers have come forward, but we need 8 to run this event successfully. Please take a look at our volunteering sheet [HERE](#) and let us know if you can help.

The FOW are inviting you to participate in their **Leap Year Vault** project. The idea is to write a letter to your future self, imagining what you think will happen to you or the world around you in 2028. For instance, you could **speculate** on who will be the Prime Minister or what will happen in our Village of Watton at Stone. Or, you could tell us something about yourself right now and what you want to do in the **future**. You could include a newspaper clipping, write about it, or even **draw a picture**. The world is your oyster.

To enter, please go onto Classlist [HERE](#). There is £1 fee per entry, and your family is also welcome to participate; we are also hoping Mrs Etienne and the staff might consider entering a piece. The Vault will be locked **on February 29th** during the school DISCO. In **2028**, the Vault will be reopened again, giving you the chance to see how accurate your predictions were or to **reminisce** on what you were doing back in 2024. We will announce a date to open the Vault on social media so that Alumni students can be notified. Wishing you all a great weekend [FOW](#)

Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p>Ada - as always, she has been a superstar this week at Preschool. She has also gone out of her way to help others around her, talking another child through the special way we learn to put on our coat, and praising them when they did it! What a kind friend Ada, we are very proud of you!</p> <p>Jacob - he has grown in confidence during his time at Preschool and is becoming more independent when exploring the Preschool environment. Well done Jacob, we are very proud of you!</p>	<p>Lyra - she has been a super focused learner this week. She has joined in with all the activities, been very inquisitive asking lots of questions, and exploring through her play. A fabulous week of learning Lyra, well done. We are very proud of you.</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p>Eva - for challenging herself on the balance bike and building up her confidence. Keep up the good work, Eva!</p>	<p>Archie - for showing empathy and kindness to his friends. Well done Archie!</p> <p>Owen - for playing and sharing beautifully with his friends. Owen always has a positive attitude!</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p>India - for always being a great role model.</p>	<p>William - for being much more focused during carpet and learning times and working to the best of his ability.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p>Darci - for being an outstanding role model. She is always ready to learn and shows lovely listening skills</p>	<p>Logan - for paying attention to all the adults in class and following instructions. Arthur - for being polite and always well mannered.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p>Jacob S - for working to the best of his ability and taking pride in his art.</p>	<p>Jasper GO - for being an outstanding, well-mannered role model.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p>Sam - working to the best of his ability and producing some 'wow' writing.</p> <p>Logan - showing a love for learning in all subjects.</p>	<p>Millie - being an outstanding role model during group work.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p>Bobby - for working to the best of his ability. Bobby has been trying really hard, especially with his English.</p> <p>Verity - for always paying attention to all adults and following the school rules.</p>	<p>Eliza - for her love of learning. She has been enthusiastic in her learning and has been sharing some lovely ideas in our English lessons this week.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p>Misha - for love of learning - excellent report writing in English / Science.</p>	<p>Maia - for working to best of her ability in all subjects and for having a positive attitude.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p>Alex - for working to the best of his ability in all areas.</p>	<p>Darcie - for working to the best of her abilities and being a great role model.</p>

Headteacher's Awards



Each week, staff are constantly looking for children in the school who are showing awareness of one or more than one of our school learning values. These values will help children to become better learners as well as developing their relationships with others around them. Children are recognised for their achievements with being awarded Headteacher's Awards.

Reception:

Lila - for choosing to practice using her phonics to help spell during child-initiated learning and being very proud of what she has achieved.

Bem - for choosing to practice writing our spelling words and tricky words during child-initiated learning and also doing a great job at using his phonics to write a sentence.

Year 1:

Issac WP - for taking pride in his handwriting. His presentation is always neat.

Kayden - for his creativity in History and designing an amazing vehicle for the future.

Year 2:

Freya B- for being resilient and taking pride in improving her handwriting.

Jess P- for having high aspirations and showing creativity by writing poetry at home.

Year 3:

Izzy - for having pride in her presentation and meeting her handwriting target.

Bettie - showing empathy and kindness to everyone.

Ethan - for having resilience and meeting his reading target.

Year 4:

Joshua - for his handwriting, Josh has really been trying hard to improve his letter size and formation.

Dylan - for being creative in our carnival themed P.E lesson.

Year 5:

Carmelita -for having pride in her handwriting. She has produced more controlled letter shapes.

Billy - for having high aspirations in swimming.

Year 6:

Ewen - for being a great team player and persevering when things were tough.

Theo - for his beautiful handwriting.

This Weeks attendance %

Dixon (R)	97%
Bay Class(1)	96.8%
Pendleton Class (2)	93.8%
Ezra Class (3)	98.1%
Shepherd Class (4)	95.2%
Grint Class (5)	94.5%
Straker Class (6)	100%

Whole School Attendance this week 96.38%

Whole School Attendance this term 96.74%

Well done to Straker for 100% attendance.



Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Alfie C - 4th February

Rafe B - 7th February

Lily H - 9th February

House Points

This week

First place - Red House - 459

Second place - Yellow House - 454

Third place - Green House - 450

Fourth place - Blue House - 445

This Term

First place - Red House - 2,364

Second place - Green House - 2,350

Third place - Yellow House - 2,334

Fourth Place - Blue House - 2,332

House Point Winners Spring 1

Congratulations to Red House who have accumulated the most house points this half term. At the beginning of next week, I will be meeting with Ollie and Robson (Red house captain and vice house captain) to discuss what the Red House reward will be on Friday 16th February. We will provide an update of the reward they chose to have in next week's newsletter.

Sportshall Competition



We took a team of year 5 and 6's to Wodson Park on Wednesday for a Sportshall competition. This was an indoor athletics event where the children had to run, jump and throw. The running involved relay races including going through a tunnel. The field events involved standing long jump, standing triple jump, vertical jump and chest push. All the children really tried in the races and our baton changing was brilliant. In the field events, the children competed in teams of three, and had their scores added together. At the end of the main competition, there was javelin and speed bounce. Our teams were amazing with the girls coming 3rd and the boys came 1st.

Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

February

12th – 16th – Pre school stay and share week

13th – Parents Evening 4pm – 7.30pm

15th – Parents Evening 3.30-5.30pm

16th – No Pens Day

16th – Red House Point Reward Treat

19th – 23rd – Half Term

29th – FOW disco 3.20pm – 4.45pm

March

4th – Saltmine Theatre Company performance

7th – World Book Day

8th – FOW Mother's and Others stall

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

26th - Sponsored Bounce
27th - Parent Forum Meeting 6pm
28th - End of Term 2.15pm
11th - 15th - Assessment week

April

15th - INSET Day
16th - Children return
16th - 19th - Pupil Progress Meetings

May

7th - Reception class screening checks
13th - 16th - Key Stage 2 SATS
20th - 24th - Mental Health Week
27th - 31st - Half Term

June

3rd - Inset Day
4th - Children return
3rd - 14th - Year 4 Multiplication Table Check
10th - 14th - Fitness Week
11th - Sports Day 1
12th - 14th - Year 4 Hudnall Park
17th - 21st June - Year 6 PGL residential (Caythorpe)
25th - Reserved Sports Day
10th - 14th - Phonic Screening
28th - Watton's Got Talent Show

July

1st - 5th July - Assessment week
16th July - Year 5/6 Production 6pm
17th July - Reports out to Parents
18th July - Year 5/6 Production 2pm
23rd - Year 6 leavers assembly

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

23rd July - End of Term 2.15pm