



Newsletter 19th April 2024

To our parents and friends,

I hope that you and your children had an enjoyable Easter time and got to make some lovely new memories and enjoy the time together.

In the newsletter published before we broke up for the Easter holiday, we included information regarding the summer term after school club enrichment opportunities. The Gateway (to sign your child up for some of the after school clubs) went live during the Easter holiday. It is currently still open and there are still places available on some clubs including school magazine club, choir, book club and times table club. As always, we also have some after school clubs run by external club providers and for most of these clubs you will need to sign your child up via the information that we have sent home prior to the Easter holiday. From this term, we are also requesting that children no longer bring snacks along to eat in the clubs after school. We have been monitoring this for some time now and the general consensus from the staff who run the clubs is that the snacks causes several issues. Whilst eating a snack (which do vary considerably in size), children aren't able to join in with many of the clubs which means that some activities can't start until children have finished eating. We are still happy for children to have access to their water bottles during the clubs.

This week, I have met with the class teachers and teaching assistants to discuss the progress and attainment made by the children in the spring term. These meetings are always very professional and I'm always so impressed by the knowledge that the teachers and teaching assistants have about each and every child. During these meetings we specifically looked at the progress and attainment of the children in reading, writing and maths and plan interventions for those children who would benefit from some additional support. Teachers will be sending home the intervention letters by the end of next week.

Sponsored Bounce

Before the Easter holiday, all the children took part in our annual sponsored bounce fundraiser. This is a major fundraiser that we organise and the money raised this year is going to be used to purchase more laptops to extend our current range as well as to replace some of our older models. Please can we ask that all promised sponsorship money now be brought into school and handed to the class teacher or paid directly to the school via the Gateway. Like last year, we will be awarding prizes to the child in each phase across the school who individually raises the most money and a certificate for all of the children who bring in their sponsorship money, no matter how much this may be - every £ will make a big difference. We would really appreciate all the sponsorship money being sent in by the end of this month so that we can get more laptops into school as soon as possible. Thank you so much for your support.

Tesco Stronger Start Grant

We have recently applied for Tesco's Stronger Start Grant Award in order to further develop the outdoor areas in the early years. We were thrilled to find out that we have been successful in our application and during April, May and June, Tesco customers will be able to vote in store. We are hoping that our parents, families and community will be able to help us gain lots of votes during this time. The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive £1,500, the second placed project will receive £1,000 and the third placed project will be awarded £500. The following stores will all be taking part in the voting for this project: Stevenage Extra, Old Stevenage High Street, Stevenage Chells, Broadwater Stevenage, Woolmer Green and Hitchin. Please help us by spreading the word to your friends, families and work colleagues. Thank you.

Exciting News In Year 5

Back in the autumn term, all of the classes named after a living inspirational person, wrote letters to them. Some classes were lucky enough to get a response from their chosen inspirational person but others sadly didn't.

However, as we started this term, we received a very large package addressed to Grint class (named after Rupert Grint, the actor who plays Ron Weasley in the Harry Potter films).

Inside the package, he sent every child a Harry Potter writing quill and an amazing personalised letter where he answered every child's question that they asked him.

Mrs Higgins copied the letter for every child and put them in envelopes so that all the children had their own letter to open on the first day back. It really was a very exciting moment for the class when they realized who the author of the letter was!!



Choir Performance at Sele School



On Thursday evening, our choir performed at the Hertford and Ware Music association performance of 'Along Came Man' at Sele school. Our choir sang 'Arctic Home' as their individual song and then joined 3 other school choirs to sing a cantata about our Earth and how man should be caring for the environment and restoring the beauty of the planet.

A special mention for some of our pupils who performed either a solo (Isabelle B and Erin H) or was a reader to link the songs together (Ben R, Robson C and Eve W).

The parents and staff who attended this event were incredibly proud of our children who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and represented the school beautifully.

Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

In the last newsletter of the spring term, we informed you that the minutes of the Parent Forum meeting would be available to read on the website shortly. These minutes have now been added to the Parent Forum page of the school website and can be read in full at: <https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/virtual-office/parent-forum>

In this meeting we discussed the following:

- 1) School lunches - answering parent questions/concerns.
- 3) After school club snacks
- 5) School trips
- 6) Road crossing on Station Road

Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p>Jacey - Jacey has started Preschool this week and has had an amazing first week! Jacey has been really happy, exploring the environment and all the different activities set out! We're very proud of you Jacey!</p> <p>Miles - he has come back to preschool eager and ready to learn and explore new things! He has been getting involved in all the activities, using his fabulous imagination during his play! Great job Miles, we are very proud of you!</p>	<p>Peachy - Peachy has returned to Preschool after a short break with a great big smile on her face! Peachy has slotted right back into the preschool routine and has submerged herself in her learning. Great to have you back Peachy.</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p>Thomas Y - has been trying hard and showing a 'can do' attitude this week, he has been showing pride in his writing and working hard.</p> <p>Grace B - has also been trying incredibly hard with her writing. She has shown a real interest in learning the letter in her name and in her friends names too.</p>	<p>Louis G - for being a star starting in Nursery this week, he has been respectful, independent and brave! Well done Louis.</p> <p>Tallulah B - for showing pride with her name writing, she has tried hard kept on trying even when it was a bit tricky.</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p>India - for showing a love of learning and always trying her hardest, especially in Phonics.</p> <p>Vittori - for showing a love of learning and always trying her hardest, especially in Phonics.</p>	<p>Romilly - for always working to the best of her ability.</p> <p>Tanashe - for always working to the best of her ability and challenging herself with her learning.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p>George and Jolene - for working to the best of their ability in English.</p>	<p>Gianni - for being respectful to all the adults in class.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p>Francis R- for constantly making the right choices.</p>	<p>Riya L- for being well mannered at all times.</p> <p>Jethro B- for always following the rules in school.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p>Eleanor - for being well-mannered and showing kindness and courtesy to her peers and teachers.</p>	<p>Louis - for showing a love for learning and great enthusiasm about his reading.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p>Edward - for demonstrating all the Great to be Gold behaviours, all the time.</p> <p>Edie - for following the school rules and paying attention to all adults.</p>	<p>Imogen - for working to the best of her ability and always paying attention to all adults.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p>Christian - For having a great attitude towards learning this week. He has been focused and has worked hard during all of his lessons.</p>	<p>Charlie - For being an outstanding role model. Charlie always follows the school rules and always shows empathy and kindness towards his friends.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p>Alfie C - for showing a love of learning in all areas.</p> <p>Maisy -for working to the best of her ability in all subjects especially Maths and English.</p>	<p>Lenny - working to the best of his ability especially in English.</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:

Oscar - for showing lots of perseverance with his writing and taking pride in what he has produced.
Kaylee - for being imaginative with her writing ideas.

Year 1:

Amelia H - for taking pride in her handwriting presentation.
Ellis - for showing empathy towards his peers and being helpful.
Lillian - for always being respectful.

Year 2:

Amelia M- for taking pride in her handwriting and always presenting her work beautifully.

Year 3:

Bella - for having pride in her presentation and working hard to implement taught letter joins.
Mayci - for having high aspirations and achieving her goals.

Year 4:

Lexie - for her effort to improve her handwriting using the skills she has learnt in handwriting lessons.
Sam M - who has shown respect in all our lessons this week.

Year 5:

Rose - for being resilient during athletics and keeping up a good pace with her running.
Henry - for taking time to ensure his handwriting is neat and working on his handwriting target of consistency. He is really proud of his achievements.
Felicity - Well done for demonstrating resilience this week during maths. You completed some extra homework which has secured your understanding of a challenging topic.

Year 6:

Cornelius - for developing his own metacognition
Alfie M - for having consistently neat handwriting and demonstrating pride in his presentation.

This Weeks attendance %

Dixon (R)	97.1%
Bay Class(1)	99%
Pendleton Class (2)	97.4%
Ezra Class (3)	97%
Shepherd Class (4)	100%
Grint Class (5)	97.7%
Straker Class (6)	100%

Whole School Attendance this week/term 98.3%
Well done to Shepherd & Straker for 100% attendance.



Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



17th April - Logan T

19th April - Bertie S

19th April - Mila S

House Points

This week

First place - Blue House - 429

Second place - Green House - 411

Third place - Yellow House - 393

Fourth place - Red House - 382

This Half Term

First place - Blue House - 878

Second place - Yellow House - 799

Third place - Red House - 753

Fourth place - Green House - 751

. Lollipop Lady

We are delighted that Jenny, the lollipop lady will be returning to her role as of Monday 22nd April. I am aware that some parents have expressed their concern recently about crossing the road safely with their children, in the absence of Jenny. I am sure that you will therefore be delighted to hear this news and will welcome her back when you see her next week.



Help Needed For Swimming

Next week, children's swimming lessons start for the summer term. This term, Year 4 children are going swimming but we really need an additional adult to go with the children and the school staff so that we are in the correct child:adult ratio. If you are available on a Thursday between 10.15 and 12.15, then we would love to hear from you. Please can you contact the admin office to express your interest. Many thanks

School Lunches

Have you seen the new lunch menu yet for the summer and autumn term? The menu works on a 3 week rotation and there are lots of new meal choices for the children to choose from. The new menus are available to view on the school website:

<https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/virtual-office/menus>

Families Feeling Safe

Supporting families with Protective Behaviours

BROXBOURNE
starting
May 2024

**A FREE course for Mums, Dads,
and Carers of children 5-19yrs**



Friday mornings
9.30am—11.30am
3, 10, 17, 24 May, 7, 14, 21, 28 June &
5 July
At
Wormley School Community Room
Cozens Lane East,
Bloxbourne, EN10 6QA

**Are you looking for some strategies and new ideas
to help improve family life? This course can help
you to**

- Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together
- Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour
- Respond to a range of feelings e.g. stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Improve communication to build better relationships
- Build on your own and your child's strengths
- Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe

Places are funded for families within Hertfordshire

For eligibility and to book your fully funded place
please contact:

Tel: 01992 303331 Opt. 5



Please like us on Facebook for further
updates @familiesfeelingsafe



Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

April

- 22nd - Year 4 trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor temple
- 22nd - After school clubs commence for the summer term
- 23rd - Year 5 and 6 KNEX challenge
- 24th - Residents meeting with HCC (flooding of playground, alleyways and residents gardens)

May

- 1st - Group photos (Braiswick photographer)
- 7th - Reception class screening checks
- 10th - Year 1 class trip to Mountfitchet Castle
- 13th - 16th - Key Stage 2 SATS
- 20th - 24th - Mental Health Week
- 21st - Year 6 Lancaster Model
- 22nd - Year 4 and 6 trip to Woodhall Estate
- 23rd - Year 1 class assembly to parents 9am
- 27th - 31st - Half Term

June

- 3rd - Inset Day
- 4th - Children return
- 3rd - 14th - Year 4 Multiplication Table Check
- 10th - 14th - Year 1 Phonics screening assessments
- 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

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

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
23rd July - End of Term 2.15pm