

## Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### This weeks highlights



On Tuesday, Mike Mullen (a former world BMX champion) inspired, excited and enthralled the children and staff with his messages about resilience, determination, perseverance and having a growth mindset. He spoke to the children about Flearn (failures helps us to learn) and encouraged children to look for 'open doors' to learn new challenges as opposed to going straight to the 'closed door' when a challenge faces them. The Year 5 and 6 children also got to practice these life skills whilst learning some new BMX tricks. Didn't they do well!!! Look on our new Facebook page to see Mike performing one of his jumps.

### Anti Bullying

This week we have been reminding the children that bullying is defined as "repeated and intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally. It takes many forms and can include physical assault, teasing, making threats, name calling, cyberbullying - bullying via mobile phone or online".

The children have recently completed a questionnaire about bullying and I wanted to share the results with you.

Do you know what bullying is? **95% of children had a very good understanding.**

How friendly are the children at our school? **98% of children said that children are friendly or very friendly.**

Do you feel safe in school? **90% of children said that they felt safe or very safe.**

Do you think bullying is tolerated in this school? **99.5% said that it wasn't tolerated.**

Do adults deal with bullying straight away? **50% said that bullying was dealt with immediately.**

What would you do if you saw someone else being bullied? **100% of the children said that they would tell an adult and tell the bully to stop.**

These results overall were very positive, yet we can see that we need to ensure that all members of staff are addressing bullying immediately. Staff have already spoken to children who said that they don't feel safe in school to understand further when this might be happening and to action swiftly.

Attendance this week: Attendance for this week is 97.2%

Attendance overall: For the whole of the academic school year attendance is 96.4%

## Behaviour

In September 2019, we launched a new behaviour system called 'Good to be Green' and 'Great to be Gold'. As a school we have been closely monitoring the effectiveness of this new system whilst ensuring that high standards are being expected from the children by all staff and that the children are fully aware of the rewards for good behaviour choices as well as the consequences for poor behaviour choices. I am pleased to inform you that we have seen great impact from this new system and that the number of red cards at this point in the year has reduced dramatically since September.

September	31 red cards
October	17 red cards
November	22 red cards
December	12 red cards
January	11 red cards
February	11 red cards

We have recently made a few changes to what behaviours would see a stop and think, red and yellow card being given (as requested by the children in their pupil parliament meetings) and have displayed these posters around the school which will help poor behaviour choices being dealt with fairly and effectively by all staff. We have attached a copy for your reference too so that you can have discussions at home with your child should this be necessary.

## Parking in Rectory Lane

Again, I have been contacted by a resident who lives in Rectory Lane to complain that parents are being inconsiderate and parking across their driveway. They have also complained about parents being rude to them when they have been asked to move their car. Please be more considerate towards our local residents and park your car in the Children's Centre car park. I have advised the parent to take a photo of car registration plates of the offending vehicles and send the photos to the Highway agency. They will be able to contact the DVLA to get your details and will contact you directly about parking illegally over people's driveways. Please stop and think before you park your cars. I have also asked Mr. Starkey our site manager to patrol the road before and after school.

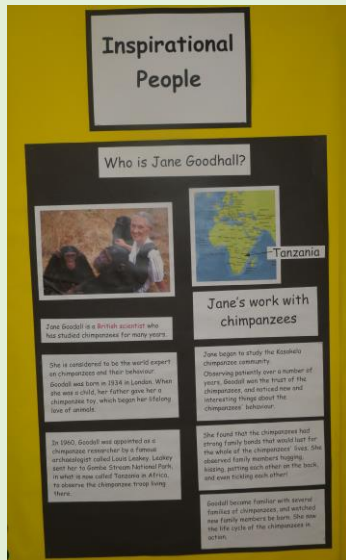


Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School, Rectory Lane, Watton at Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG <http://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>  
Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

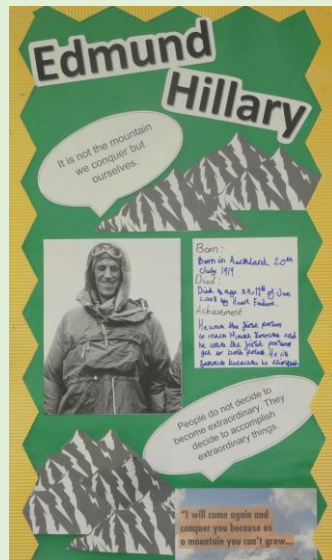
## Inspirational People

We have been talking to the children recently about people who inspire us by what they have achieved in their lifetime. Every half term, each class will choose a new inspirational person to talk about whilst discovering more about that person. This could be an inspirational artist, historian, geographer, scientist, sports person etc. We want our children to have high aspirations and want them to have no limits to what their ambitions are. We all believe that: "If you can dream it.....you can do it".

Here are some photos of this half terms inspiration people.



Year 5



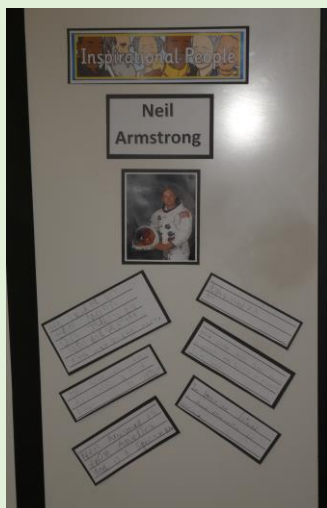
Badgers



Year 2



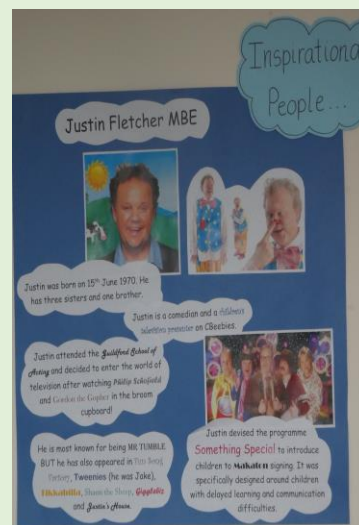
Year 3



Year 1



Reception



Nursery



Year 6



Our school values are at the HEART of everything we believe in.  
In March the school value we focusing on is 'Excellence'.

Healthy

Excellence

Aspirations

Respectful  
and  
responsible

Truthfulness

### . Great To Be Gold

**WE ARE PROUD OF YOU ALL. YOU ARE  
FANTASTIC ROLE MODELS AND HAVE  
GONE OVER AND ABOVE.**

Emilia R  
Caitriona S  
Edward S

Ben R

Harley  
Lenny  
Darcie

Jasmine L  
Jessica H

Charlie B  
Alessio  
Florence H  
Dexter H  
Dylan

Elsa D  
Oliver S

Rhys D  
Charlotte W

### Online Safety

This week we put the spotlight on TikTok  
What is TikTok?

Users can watch musical clips, record (up to)  
60 second clips, edit them and add special  
effects.

Is your child old enough?

**You must be over 13 years of age to use  
TikTok.**

Why should I be concerned?

Some of the songs used in this app may  
contain explicit language and sexual imagery,  
which may not be suitable for your child to  
view. If your child is using TikTok then we  
recommend setting the account as private.  
Internet matters explains how to here:

[https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-  
controls/social-media/tiktokprivacy-and-  
safety-settings/](https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/tiktokprivacy-and-safety-settings/)

Did you know?

Even with a private account, your child's  
profile information such as their photo and  
bio is still visible so ensure your child  
understands the importance of not adding  
personal information (e.g. address, age and  
phone numbers).

Next week we explore Whattaspp and give  
you some guidance to ensure your children  
stay safe online.

## Early Years WOW moments

### Pre-School

Taylor C-H - has been a star this week helping with tidying up and also has done great work during group time.

Freya B - is always a kind and helpful girl. She helps keep our preschool tidy and is a kind friend to all her friends.

### Nursery

Logan C - for offering to put something away for Mrs Goodman after she had used it (without being asked, he just noticed!)

Beatriz - she drew a picture and gave it to her friend, using really kind words and she also impressed us with her phonic knowledge!

Danny - he has been a maths wizard this week. He told Mrs Goodman that 21 is two tens and one more and he also knew that double 11 is 22!

Lottie R-M - has just had a really positive week with so many WOW moments...dressing up, asking where her friends were, clearly asking for a pear and joining in with phonics. Brilliant Lottie!

On Monday the staff had a netball match (for sports relief week) and the children watched us. Darcie in Year 5 wrote a report about the match.

"Green vs Blue - an intense, active netball game for the staff. The blue team scored a goal first in the first half. After half time, the blue team scored again but the green team got a goal back. The adult who was really a good sport was Mrs Clark as she was in her wheelchair. The blue team won 2:1"



## Headteachers Awards

Congratulations to Lydia B who has made fantastic progress with her writing so far this year and is really working hard to set herself new targets to achieve. I was also very proud of Florence H who made an amazing Harry Potter maths game for her homework project. Congratulations also to Theo C, Harley D, Oliver G, Summer AH and Libby P who also came and showed me their wonderful multiplication work by drawing arrays. Well done to all these children.

## Friends of Watton

### **Mother's day Pop Up Shop**

Our Mother's Day gift stall presents are nearly all bought but if you have any spare unopened gifts that others might like, that we could sell on the stall, please drop them in to the office. The Mother's Day Stall will be on Friday 20th March in the school hall, during school time. Your children will be helped to choose and pay for a lovely gift for their Mum, Grandma or other special lady in their life.

Please make a note in your calendar to send the children into school with some money on the 20<sup>th</sup> - gifts will be available from £1+ (or forward this to your other half!!).

### **Last weeks quiz**

We'd like to thank everyone who attended or helped at the quiz last Saturday, we all had a great time and raised well in excess of £2,000, with match funding from Barclays Bank. Well done to The Secret Seven who are 2020 FOW Quiz Champions.

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

We're also planning for the Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday (10th April), so keep a look out on Classlist for more information and tickets!

## Facebook

We are continually looking for new and innovative ways to increase communication with our parent community. It has been widely recognised that social media is one of such ways. Please 'like' our new Facebook page so that you can be fully informed.

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

Why do we want to do this?

- The children do so many great things in school and much of this you don't get to see or hear about. We would love to be able to share photos and videos of things happening on the day in school.
- We want to make our communications more timely and share more with you.
- It's a useful way to share important information with you, such as school closure due to bad weather.
- Sometimes we update information on our website, so we want a better way to inform you of this.
- It's a great way to share other important information and links with you that wouldn't normally be a part of our standard letters or termly newsletter.

## Stevenage Borough Football Club First Team Player Visit



This Tuesday, the children who attend the after school multi skills sports club, run by Stevenage Borough Football Club, had a surprise when 2 of the First team players (Dean Parrott and Elliott List) came to visit them and join in the session. They joined in the games with the children and had a chance for a quick Q and A also.

## Writer of the week

### My Buddy - by Amy R (Herons)

Thick beams of sunlight stream through the window, its bright fingers creeping over my bed. The smell of toast wafts into my bedroom and my tummy tells me sternly to get up! I quickly get changed into a shirt and jeans and then race downstairs. At the breakfast table, Mum waits for the toast to pop up and my taste buds dance with delight as they are teased by the wonderful smell.

At that moment, Mum turned, winked at me and smiled,  
"I have a surprise for you later!"

No longer is my mind interested in the toast - it is only interested in ..... The surprise!

"What is it? What is it?" I ask, barely containing my excitement.

"You'll see - I am not telling no matter how many times you ask", she says, mysteriously, not giving me the key to her secrets.

A rush of warmth fills my body and I ponder what will happen next. I dash outside to the car with my head buzzing like bees at work. Adrenaline courses through my veins and energy races through my body like a power surge. A million questions whizz through my head.... What is the surprise? Are we going out for the day? Is it a shopping spree? I love shopping. What could it be?

The journey goes on and on and I am starting to think we will never get there, when, suddenly, we come to a halt outside a tall building towering over our car. As it is still early, I wouldn't have expected anywhere to be open, but an "OPEN" sign clearly states I am mistaken. Greenery

covers the building completely and ivy and climbing roses greet me, along with their sweet smell.

What could be inside? I grow hotter, as much due to excitement as the morning sun. What do I hear? What are those strange, whimpering and snuffling noises?

And then I see him..... golden ears dangle from a furry head. A wet nose shimmers and sparkles in the light. Hazelnut-brown eyes stare at me with a mischievous glint. A long tail wags with excitement and there is no mistaking what this gorgeous creature is!

"A puppy!" I exclaim. I have wanted a puppy for as long as I can remember. Tears silently trickle down my face but these are not tears of sadness..... but tears of joy. I feel my heart may explode with happiness.

"Well?" says a kind voice from behind, "you must be Steph. Here for a puppy? Then just choose one to take home."

It feels as if I am touching a cloud. There was no question of choosing my favourite, for he had chosen me. His soft, gentle, trusting eyes mean there is only one puppy for me..... I look into those eyes and see a lifetime of friendship and adventure ahead of me.

This was more than a surprise... this was a piece of my heart. My Buddy. My best friend.

### March

- 16<sup>th</sup> - whole school assembly (neurodiversity) part I
- 17<sup>th</sup> - whole school assembly (neurodiversity) part II
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Mother's Day stall (Friends of Watton)
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Year 5 visit to The Houses of Parliament
- 31<sup>st</sup> - No Pens Day

### April

- 1<sup>st</sup> - House point winners reward afternoon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Year 5 class assembly
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9.30 - church service
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Great to be Gold reward with Mrs Etienne
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - end of term 2.15pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Friends of Watton Easter Egg Hunt
- 20<sup>th</sup> - **INSET Day**
- 21<sup>st</sup> - children return to school. Start of summer term
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Whole school Pupil Parliament meetings



## May

6<sup>th</sup> - School Class Photos

7<sup>th</sup> - VE Day celebration

7<sup>th</sup> - Friends of Watton playout 3.15 - 5pm. Non uniform day

8<sup>th</sup> - BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED

11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May - K.S.2 SAT's week

21<sup>st</sup> - Year 3 class assembly

25<sup>th</sup> May - 29<sup>th</sup> May - Half term