



Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School



Newsletter 20th March 2020

Neurodiversity Assemblies

This week we had 2 visitors to school (Pippa from the charity ADD-vance and Sophia from SEND) who came to talk to the children about 'Neurodiversity'. Neurodiversity means that brain differences are just that: differences. So conditions like ADHD and autism aren't "abnormal." They're simply variations of the human brain.

For children with learning and thinking differences, the idea of neurodiversity has real benefits. It can help children (and their parents) frame their challenges as differences, rather than as deficits. It can also shed light on instructional approaches that might help to highlight particular strengths children have. I would like to thank Mr Mehmet for organising both of these assemblies for us and proud to say that we are the first school that Pippa was aware of in Hertfordshire to be celebrating neurodiversity week.

Homework

After the Easter holidays, nearly all homework will be sent home electronically and no longer will paper copies be produced. As a school we are continually looking at ways to save money (and trees) and reducing copy costs is one way that we can work more efficiently and cost effectively. We will be sending home more details nearer the time about homework tasks will be communicated with you, but in the meantime please ensure that you can access the class blogs. Please speak to the class teacher if you are currently unable to do so.

Punctuality

We know you will appreciate that children who are late start their day at a disadvantage as lessons have already started and important information given. Other children's learning may also be disrupted by those children who arrive late. We expect all children to be in class by 08:50.

We understand that occasionally due to circumstances perhaps beyond anyone's control a child may arrive at school after the class doors have shut, however, for children who are frequently late a letter will be issued indicating the dates when the child has been late and expecting an immediate improvement in punctuality. If such an improvement does not occur then the Educational Welfare Officer will be informed.

Year 3 Volcanos

"We have been studying volcanoes. We made our own too! Firstly, at the beginning, we had to grab a bottle and tape it to a piece of cardboard. Next, we had to scrunch pieces of newspaper and stick it onto the bottle. We had to build it up until we got to the top. Then we had to make it stable enough. After, we had some Mod Rock, we had to wet it and stick it over the newspaper until the bottle was hidden. After that, we had to wait for it to dry. When that was finished, we painted it and it was so cool! The dripping lava out of the volcano was outstanding! Finally, we had our picture taken and it was fun".

By Poppy Smith Year 3



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 weekly newsletter.

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

Truthfullness

. Great To Be Gold

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

Darcy B
Gracie D
Edddie W
Felicity E
Fjori H
Erin H
Mila S
Ronnie H
Amelie O
Charles P
Lillie Mae W
Lily A
Willow S
Libby F
Amy R
Joe A
Noah T
Ruby H

Online Safety

This week we put the spotlight on Whatsapp.

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp.

WhatsApp is a free messaging app that
allows you to send messages and videos.
WhatsApp has a Group chat function which
allows up to 256 people to be added. Groups
are set up by one person (who is the admin)
and everybody in the group, even if they're
not one of your child's phone contacts will be
able to see all messages sent. If your child is
added to a group with someone they have
previously blocked, that person can still see
their messages and send them messages
through the group.

WhatsApp has been used in instances of
online bullying, for example sending nasty
messages or sharing images of other
children without their permission in order to
embarrass them.

WhatsApp does offer the ability to block
and report contacts.

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

Early Years WOW moments

Pre-School

Iris R - she had an amazing first day and settled well, Iris played well and did beautiful tidying up.

Francis R - has been making lot of good choices during the session and has been brilliant at listening.

Nursery

Erin B - for always washing her hands and singing the 'Happy Birthday' song without being reminded.

Samuel C - for helping nervous children and for being kind to others at the Mother's Day stall without being reminded.

Headteachers Awards

Congratulations to Oliver O, Sophie SC and Erin H who all wrote fanatastic stories about Meg and Mog. I was amazed at the writing talent of these 3 children in Year 1. This week I also awarded certificates to Isabella S and Shannon P for their consistently high standard of writing across the curriculum. I was also very proud of Charlie R who wrote an excellent and length creative story. Well done to all of these children this week. Finally, Chaya G who painted a beautiful watercolour picture of the ruins of the Ancient city of Troy.

20th - INSET Day

21st - children return to school. Start of summer term

22nd - Whole school Pupil Parliament meetings

May

7th - VE Day celebration

7th - Friends of Watton playout 3.15 - 5pm. Non uniform day

8th - BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED

11th - 14th May - K.S.2 SAT's week

21st - Year 3 class assembly

25th May - 29th May - Half term