



Newsletter 17th December 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, we've made it through the Autumn term! Everyone has worked so hard in school to keep everyone safe, and without the support of you, our families, this would not have been possible- we thank you very much!

I hope by now, that you have all had a chance to watch your child's class assembly or Nativity performance and that you thoroughly enjoyed it, despite you not being able to come into school to watch in person this year.

We have had a really busy week at the end of this term. The kitchen staff served a wonderful Christmas lunch on Wednesday which was followed by the whole school pantomime. Again, this was a new experience as it was a virtual production but with all the normal pantomime laughs, groans and bad jokes!!

The children wore Christmas jumpers too on Wednesday as we were raising money for the young people in the local community who are homeless at Christmas time. I am delighted to announce that we raised £211 and this money has already been sent to the charity to help them at this time of year. Thank you for all giving so generously.

I would finally, like to wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year too.

Christmas Bubbles

At the time of going to press, the revised rules for Christmas states that from 23rd December to 27th December, you may choose to form a Christmas bubble: three households will be able to form a Christmas bubble so they can spend time together in each other's homes, places of worship, or outdoor spaces. You should not meet socially with friends and family in your home or garden unless they are part of your Christmas bubble. In all other settings and for dates outside of 23rd-27th December, you should continue to follow the guidance for tier 2. Keep safe, everyone!

House Point Winners

This week, the blue house celebrated their success after working so hard to achieve 3,268 house points this half term. All of the blue house enjoyed their playtime with the new outdoor equipment, followed by juice and a treat (socially distanced of course).



Pencil Cases

Thank you for ensuring that children have had their own pencil cases and equipment in school this term. With children having their own equipment, it has reduced the risk of children spreading the virus between each other. However, we are noticing that many children are now requiring some of their equipment in their pencil cases to be replenished or replaced. We are asking all the children to bring their pencil cases home over the Christmas holiday as this will be a great time for you to check and replace equipment as required (especially their glue sticks). Please ensure that these are returned to school on the first day back of the spring term

Application for Reception Year Group

Please be aware that the online application form for Reception Year group places for September 2021 is now open. If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 and they are due to attend Reception class in September 2021 you must complete this form to secure a place. If your child is currently in our Nursery, you must still complete an online application form to secure a place in Reception for September 2021. The online application form can be found at <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-junior-and-middle-schools/primary-junior-and-middle-school-places.aspx>

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2021 and the National Offer Day is 16th April 2021.

December learning value -

Resilience

Our school learning value this month is RESILIENCE. This is such an important skill to teach children of all ages

Resilience is being able to bounce back or recover quickly from difficulties. The ability to recognise the need for a different approach and to adapt to solve a problem.

Examples of Resilience:

- trying something different when what you're doing doesn't get results
- learning from mistakes
- not giving up when something is hard
- embracing challenges

We are really proud of these children who have been working really hard in class to show great resilience and have been chosen by their class teacher to receive this award.

Reception - Lewis SC

He spent several days trying to go down the fireman's pole on the new equipment. He was determined to succeed and after some coaching, he has now been successful.

Year 2 - Dexter H

He has shown great resilience in all of his learning this week, especially in design technology.

Friends of Watton

We just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the FOW fundraisers this term, we have raised over £1000, which is amazing considering the situation.

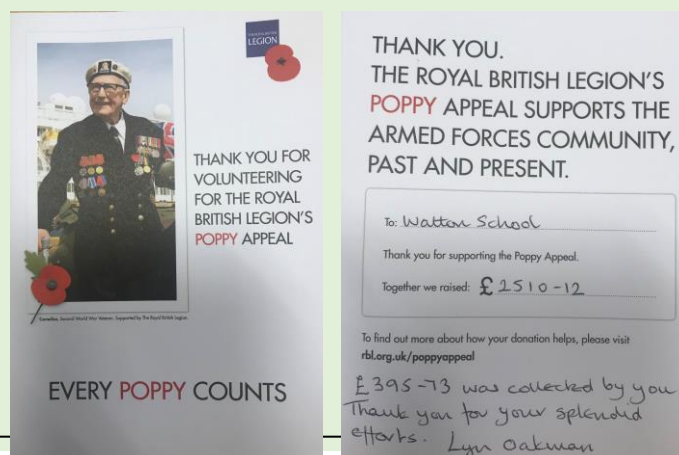
We'd like to try to get prepared for next Christmas for the Christmas jumper/ clothes sale, so if after Christmas you find any that won't fit next year and you'd like to donate them, please bring them into the school office in the new year. Lastly, a reminder again about Easy Fundraising and Amazon Smile. If you buy almost anything online you can donate to FOW without any cost to yourself - just

visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wattonatstonesch/>, create an account and then choose a shop you'd like to buy something from and simply click through to the retailer. You can also support us through Amazon Smile - just visit smile.amazon.co.uk and choose The Friends of Watton School. FOW will get a % of the money you spend through both Easy Fundraising and Amazon Smile - it's really easy!

We're looking forward to hopefully being able to run more events in the Spring term and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Poppy Appeal

This year we raised a fantastic: £395.73 The Royal British Legion local rep has asked me to pass on their thanks to you all for your generous support.



Attendance awards

This term, we have been really pleased with the children's attendance and it has been great to see that they have been attending school regularly. This term, more than any other term, it has been so important for children to have great attendance, following lockdown where the children weren't able to attend school.

Yesterday, we had an attendance raffle where prizes were awarded and all the children who have had attendance of 95%+ this term.

Congratulations to:

Nursery - 1st prize - Mila McP

2nd prize - Frankie RM

3rd prize - Beatrice W

Reception - 1st prize - Erin B

2nd prize - Mayci T

3rd prize - Rafe B

Year 1 - 1st prize - Sam B

2nd prize - Joshua G

3rd Prize - Poppy C

Year 2 - 1st prize - Isabelle B

2nd prize - Eve W

3rd prize - Noah H.J

Year 3 - 1st - Ewen C

2nd - Oliver G

3rd - Alfie C

Year 4 - 1st prize - William W

2nd prize - Lucas B

3rd prize - Shannon P

Year 5 (Wonders) - 1st prize - Austin M

2nd prize - Lucia AB

3rd prize - Charlie C

Year 5 (Beckhams) -

1st prize - Charlie M-H

2nd prize - Zach W

3rd prize - Ava H

Year 6 - 1st Prize - Hollie A.

2nd prize - Amy R

3rd prize - Willow S

Reporting Positive COVID 19 Cases in the Christmas holiday

As you may have seen in the news, the government have asked that schools monitor any cases of COVID-19 in the school community during the Christmas holidays.

If a pupil or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 having developed symptoms within 48 hours of finishing at school (up until Saturday 19th December) then the school should be contacted so that close contacts can be made aware of the need to self-isolate.

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

For the first 6 days after teaching ends (ie: until 23rd December), if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until Monday 4th January.

Please alert us of any confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the children or staff via the below email ONLY. This is the only email address that will be monitored during the Christmas holidays: Covid19@wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk

If we are alerted to a case of COVID-19 , the close contacts of the case will be advised by letter to self-isolate for 14 days from either the first day of symptoms, or if asymptomatic, 48 hours before the test, with this being day 0.

Links with the Community

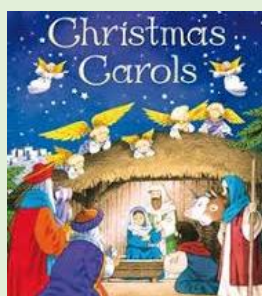
Christmas Carol Trail 2020 ... Find **8 posters** in Watton shops and outside St Andrew and St Mary's church that tell the Christmas story. Use the **QR code** to listen to a Christmas Carol.

Sunday 20th December 5pm Christmas Carols and Readings

OUTSIDE St Andrew and St Mary's **CHURCH** seating inside for those who are elderly, infirm etc

Pre- BOOK with Churchwarden iknght@ntlworld.com

Be Jolly Careful..., Bring a mask, Keep social distancing... **Wrap up warm...** Bring a lantern/candle in a jar... **Painted Christmas Rocks for the church porch...** Nativity pictures to display... **Decorations to add to the church Christmas tree...** a warm drink...



'CHRISTMAS ROCKS' PAINT a flat stone with a star, baby in a manger, sheep, king etc to leave outside. **LOOK OUT** for 'Christmas Rocks' and **MOVE** them around your village. Remember to **SANITISE** your hands each time you move a 'Christmas Rock'. **BRING** all the Christmas Rocks to the **CHURCH** porch by **Christmas Eve 24th December**. Stones will be displayed until 6th January 12th Night (Epiphany) when we take our Christmas decorations down. Each Church will pack their 'Christmas Rocks' away ready to **DISPLAY** again **NEXT** Christmas. **SEND** photos of your Christmas Rocks to Rev Jenny jennygrayrectory@gmail.com for an online

Happiness

Equality

**Achieve
Potential**

Resilience

Teamwork

Healthy

Excellence

Aspirations

**Respectful &
Responsible**

Truthfulness

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

Dates for your Diary

January

4th - INSET Day 2
5th - Children return to school
18th - 22nd - Creative Arts Week
25th - Parent Forum meeting 6pm

February

3rd - No Pens Day
9th - Internet safety day
15th - 19th - Half term

March

4th - World Book Day
5th - 9th - Science week
12th - Comic relief/sports relief
15th - 19th - Assessment Week
16th - Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm
17th - Parent Consultations 3.45 - 5.45pm
22nd - No Pens Day
26th - Last day of spring term

April

12th - INSET Day 3
13th - Children return to school
23rd - St. George's day

May

3rd - 7th - Geography fieldwork week
21st - No Pens Day
31st - 4th June - Half term

June

7th - INSET Day 4
10th - Sports Day

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Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

17th - Reserve sports Day
30th - Book fair arrives for 1 week

July

2nd - Enterprise Day
5th - 9th - Assessment Week
12th - No Pens Day
14th - End of Year reports to parents/carers
21st - Last day of summer term
22nd - INSET Day