



## Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

### Parent Forum Meeting

On Monday evening, I met virtually with the parent representatives for our half termly meeting. On the agenda for this meeting, we discussed how the school have exited the lockdown restrictions to date and how the recent extended National lockdown has had an impact on the school and our plans for resuming some further normality. We also discussed the value and importance of welcoming adult volunteers into school on a regular basis and making further improvements to the parent forum page on the school website. As always, it was extremely valuable to hear the thoughts and ideas from all of the parent reps and we have plenty of actions to work on to develop the school even further.

We also received several other items for the agenda which were raised by other parents, including the recent school photographs where there were varied views about the modern free pose style used and sports day.

If you would like to read the minutes of the meeting, then these have been saved to the school website and can be accessed at: [Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School - Parent Forum \(wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk\)](http://Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School - Parent Forum (wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk))

### Democracy



On Monday in assembly, I introduced the children to the British Value of Democracy. I explained what democracy is and more importantly how it works. It is important for the children to understand how democracy works for the country as well as within the school. As a school we encourage democracy through our whole school pupil parliament which encourages all children to have a voice and to have their ideas and suggestions listened to. Our next pupil parliament meeting will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> July.

### Arrangements for September 2021

Currently, we are very busy making the final staffing arrangements for September 2021. Next week, we will be sending home a letter to inform you who the class teachers will be and which staff will be supporting in those year groups so that you have a chance to discuss this with your child before they spend the morning with their new class teacher on 8<sup>th</sup> July. Spending time with their new class teacher and TA is important to support a smooth transition and it will help them to feel more at ease with the new adults and routines. We will also be making some changes to where the classes will be in the school and we will include this information in the letter next week also for you to share with your child.

### Class Attendance this week

	This week's attendance %
Donaldson class (R)	96.2
Darlings Class (1)	99.0
Jemison Class (2)	93.2
Da Vinci Class (3)	100.0!
Rosen class (4)	96.7
Wonders Class (5)	99.1
Beckhams Class (5)	97.0
Attenborough Class (6)	95.2

Congratulations to Da Vinci class this week for 100% attendance. Whole school attendance for the week is 97.2%.

### Head Teacher's Awards

This week, I have been busy meeting with children who are applying the school learning values to their work in class.

In Nursery, Eric showed great responsibility when he tidied up the carpet without being asked by a grown up.

In Reception, Millie, Rafe, Izzy and Eleanor all really impressed Mrs Goodman and myself with their resilient approach when completing their independent writing.



### House Points

This weeks house points

Red House - 440

Blue House - 504

Green House - 516

Yellow House - 483

Total house points achieved this half term:

Green House - 2,138

Blue House - 1,974

Yellow House - 1,939

Red House - 1,859



## Summer Holiday Club

We are very excited to announce that Kid Fit will be running a 6 week Summer Play Scheme at our School. They are a Lottery funded, Ofsted Registered organisation delivering services to schools for 15 years including Schools across Hertfordshire.

The Scheme is open to all local children from the age of 3 - 11. Limited Places. Childcare Vouchers accepted. There is a 10% early booking discount available for the next few weeks which can be applied at checkout: **BFP709**

**All bookings must be made through Kid Fit.**

For more information and to book please visit:

<https://kid-fit.class4kids.co.uk/camp/18>

Alternatively, you may contact Kid Fit directly on: [infokidfit@gmail.com](mailto:infokidfit@gmail.com)

## Photography Competition

I would like to thank every single person that donated and entered my competition, even those that just donated, as in the end I had over 100 entries and raised £354 for WWF.

The winners were:

In 3rd place with her beautiful photo of a sunset is Tegan.

In 2nd place with her fabulous photo of some flowers is Lily.

And in 1st place is Noah with his stunning photo of two red kites.

The winners of the class with the most entries (taking class size into account) were the Jemisons (yr 2), who will all receive a professionally made cupcake from Alex Hurt! Well done. By Eva (Year 5 Wonders)

## PARENT'S GUIDE TO A GROWTH MINDSET

*Your brain is like a muscle. When you learn, your brain grows.  
The feeling of it being hard is the feeling of your brain growing!*

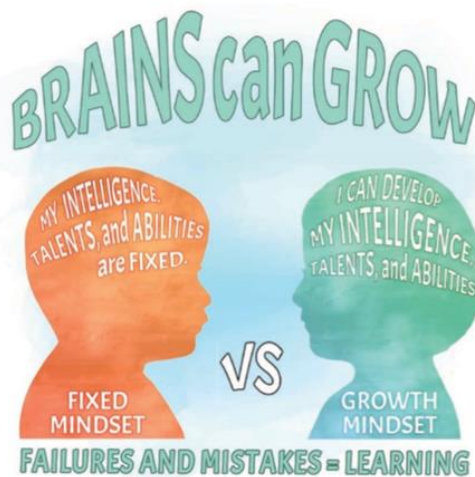
Big Life Journal

**PRaise FOR:**  
EFFORT  
STRATEGIES  
PROGRESS  
HARD WORK  
PERSISTENCE  
RISING TO A CHALLENGE  
LEARNING FROM A MISTAKE

**NOT FOR**  
TALENT  
BEING SMART  
BORN GIFTED  
FIXED ABILITIES  
NOT MAKING MISTAKES

**THE POWER OF  
"YET"  
SAY**

"YOU CAN'T DO IT YET."  
"YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET."  
"IF YOU LEARN AND  
PRACTICE, YOU WILL!"



**SAY**

"MISTAKES HELP YOU IMPROVE."  
"YOU CAN LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES."  
"LET'S SEE WHAT OTHER STRATEGIES YOU CAN TRY."

**RECOGNIZE YOUR  
OWN MINDSET**

BE MINDFUL OF YOUR  
OWN THINKING AND THE  
MESSAGES YOU SEND  
WITH YOUR WORDS AND  
ACTIONS.



**ASK**

"WHAT DID YOU DO  
TODAY THAT MADE YOU  
THINK HARD?"  
"WHAT NEW STRATEGIES  
DID YOU TRY?"  
"WHAT MISTAKE DID YOU  
MAKE THAT TAUGHT YOU  
SOMETHING?"  
"WHAT DID YOU TRY  
THAT WAS HARD  
TODAY?"

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This growth mindset poster is a great resource for parents so that you are aware of what we are promoting in school and how we are doing this. We actively encourage the children to try new challenges and challenge themselves, make mistakes which they will learn from and develop a positive attitude towards the power of 'yet'.

Last week the children had an assembly about growth mindset and many of you have been purchasing the yoyo's to support the children learning a new skill which they can't do.....yet!!

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School, Rectory Lane, Watton at Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG <http://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>  
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## P.E Kits

Like many other schools, we decided that following the return to school after the school closure, the children would come to school in their PE kit on the days that they had P.E lessons, rather than changing into their P.E kits in school.

There have been so many positive benefits (for both parents and children) to having children come into school in their P.E kits on the days that they have P.E, that we will be continuing with this practice when the children return to school in the autumn term. However, we would like parents to ensure that the children are wearing the correct P.E kits, including correct colour and items of P.E kit so that the children are just as smart in school whether the children are in school uniform or their P.E kits. A full list of the expected P.E kit can be found on the school website at: [Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School - Uniform \(wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk\)](http://Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School - Uniform (wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk))

## Friends of Watton

Since it's been very difficult to run events this year, we have decided to join the Big PTA Summer Raffle.

Each ticket costs £3 and for every ticket you purchase you will have 12 chances to win up to £5,000! At the same time 50% of the cost of each ticket sold will go to FOW, so we can raise funds for the school.

Tickets are limited so make sure you enter ASAP and hopefully we'll have a big winner from Watton!

<https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/friends-of-watton-sg14>

**Friends of Watton School**

**That summer feeling is on its way**

**WIN UP TO £5,000**

**£3 ticket enters you in all 12 draws**

- Help boost PTA fundraising
- Tickets cost just £3
- 12 chances to win up to £5,000
- Tickets are limited so once they're gone... they're gone!

**12 CHANCES TO WIN**

**HELP RAISE FUNDS**

To buy tickets, visit: **bigptaraffle.co.uk** and search for: Friends of Watton School

It is illegal for anyone under 16 years of age to purchase or sell raffle tickets. Anyone under 16 years of age who buys a ticket for The Big PTA Raffle 2021 will immediately forfeit the right to any prize. Closing date 11th July 2021. A raffle is a form of gambling. If you, or someone you know, needs information and/or help with a problem gambling, please call GamCare on 0845 000 133 or visit www.gamcare.org.uk



## Great to Be Gold

Following the recent period of lockdown, the staff have been really impressed with the behaviour and learning attitudes of all of the children who have remembered our Great to Be Gold values and expectations. Well done to the following children who have excelled this week. We are incredibly proud of you all.

	Great to Be Gold	
Pre Sch	Milly D - she tried hard during our group times this week. She has persevered and shown resilience. Well done Milly.	Josh C - he always makes the right choices at preschool. He is always helpful and kind to both the adults and his friends.
Nur	Freya H - for always listening so well and always ready to do her best at everything.	Taylor - for showing great skill at extending his friendship group over the last few weeks.
Rec	Lily H - She has also shown an outstanding attitude to learning this week - writing in school and setting challenging reading targets at home. Frankie H - He has shown an amazing attitude to learning, particularly with maths. He has been setting himself maths problems to solve and had been a great role model in his phonics group.	Bettie-Sue G - She's a good friend, she always puts her best effort into her learning and is well-mannered and polite. She has also wow'd us with her maths this week...and we like to be wow'd!
Year 1	Eliza H- for having a positive attitude towards her learning and trying hard to meet her targets. Darcy B- for outstanding efforts during phonics and demonstrating a love for learning.	Jack R - for his enthusiasm for learning and working to the best of his ability. Verity S- for always following the school rules and constantly making the correct behaviour choices.
Year 2	Rose H- For being a fantastic role model. Rose has been making the right choices and working to the best of her ability; she has really impressed us this week. Well done Rose.	Billy C- For paying attention to all adults and making the right choices. Billy has been ready to learn in all of our lessons. Well done Billy.  Monty K- For paying attention to all adults and trying hard to keep focused on his learning. Well done Monty.
Year 3	Archie P - he has an amazing love for learning. He is always enthusiastic and works to the best of his ability, accepting and putting into practice any feedback that is given.  Libby P - she works quietly and always works to the best of her ability. She is respectful to all adults and children alike and is a fantastic role model. Well done, Libby.	Lenny - he comes to each lesson trying his very best. He shows a love of learning and is always respectful.
Year 4	Charlie R - for determination while training for sports day. Excellent effort when completing circuits of the field.	Beau C - for team spirit and being excellent role model in athletics when he stopped to support another child in his race.
Year 5W	Austin M- being kind and helpful to his adults and friends.	George S- Showing independence in all his learning this week.
Year 5B	Aimee A - for showing a love of learning and taking great pride in her presentation.	Isabella C - for working to the best of her ability and producing some great work

Year 6	<p>Jamie H - he has impressed me with how he is facing the challenges inherent in his part in our performance. I commend him for his commitment to learning all aspects of the role. Jamie has also produced another piece of quality writing this week and there is much to celebrate in his skill now as a writer.</p>	<p>Freddy F - he has been putting consistent effort into the rehearsals for our play and I am impressed with the way his character is developing. He also went on to complete a piece of persuasive writing that really showcases his growth as a writer. He can be rightly proud of his achievements.</p>
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### COVID Safe Book Fair

- Children will be able to walk around and look at the books in a display case during this time. (No touching).
- Parents can continue to pay for books online since they are unable to attend the fair with their children. They must use the online payment form on the Scholastic link ( Please insert link) or buy a Gift Voucher from [bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers](http://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers).
- Once the payment has been made online, the payment reference will need to be entered on the Parent order form and then handed into the School Office.
- Please note the payment can only be made to Scholastic and School cannot accept any cheques or cash for the books.
- Once the form is received, the orders will be collated by the School from the stock we will be given or will be ordered if necessary. Please note: the order cannot be processed online, only the payment.
- We will forward an order form for your convenience should you wish to use the gift voucher option.

For more details, please take a look at the following link which will take you directly to the school website:

[Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School - Scholastic Book Fairs](http://wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk)  
([wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk](http://wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk))

Last date for orders will be 6<sup>th</sup> July at 1pm

### Could you foster?

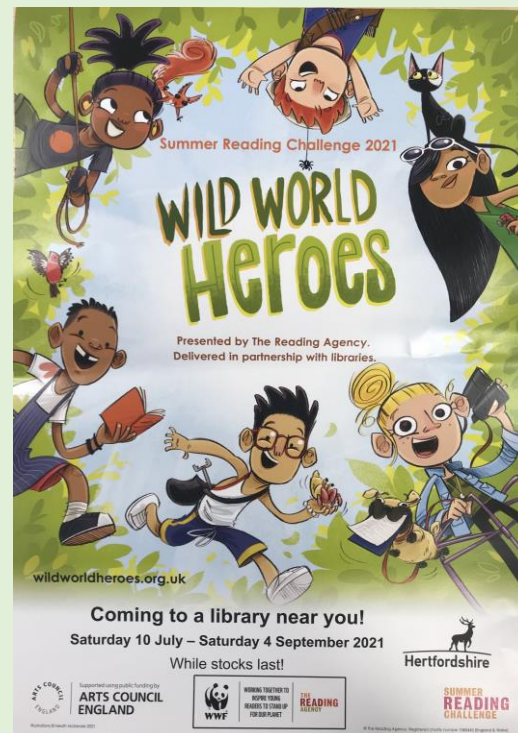
Nexus Fostering is a well-established and highly regarded fostering agency, based in Ampthill, who are urgently seeking full time and respite foster carers throughout the area. The agency is rated Ofsted 'Outstanding' in all areas and place a high premium on the quality of support and care that they provide to every one of the foster carers and, in turn, the children and young people placed with them.

To find out more about becoming a foster carer or a respite carer in Stevenage and the surrounding areas please call 0800 389 0143 or email [foster@nexusfostering.co.uk](mailto:foster@nexusfostering.co.uk)

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## Summer Reading Challenge



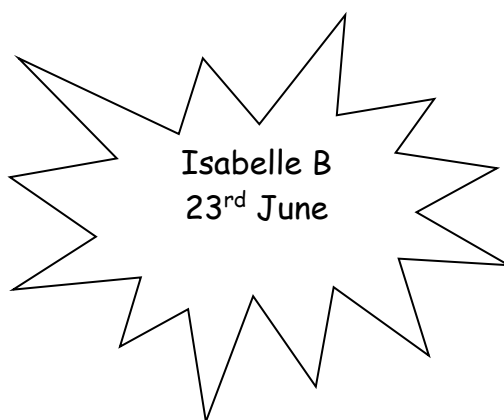
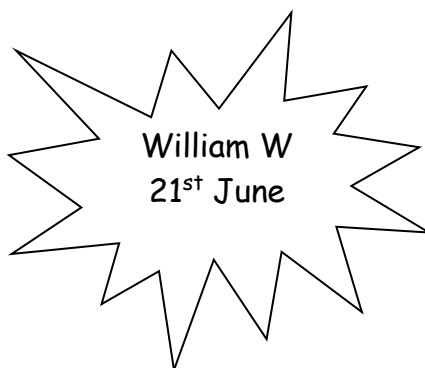
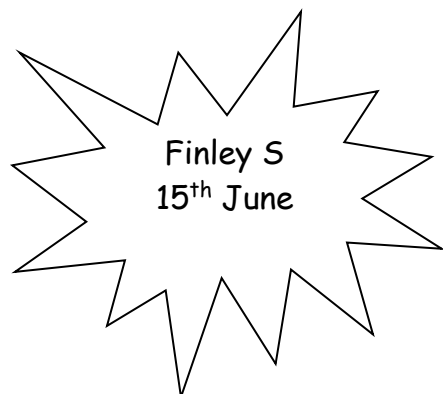
The summer reading challenge is a national initiative which aims to keep children reading between 10<sup>th</sup> July and 4<sup>th</sup> September. This year's theme is 'Wild World Heroes'. The challenge focuses on taking action for nature and tackling real world environmental issues. In the challenge, children will be able to join 6 fictional characters who are learning about the importance of the environment while helping to make the fictional town of 'Widerville' a better home for everyone.

The challenge is to read 6 books over the summer holiday. For every 2 books the children read, they will be rewarded with a set of stickers and when they have completed the challenge, they will receive a bookmark, certificate and medal.

When we return to school, children can show their teacher their medal and be entered into a prize drawer to win an Amazon voucher!!

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### Happy Birthday to.....



.....who have all celebrated a birthday in the last fortnight.

### Dates for your Diary

#### June

- 28<sup>th</sup> - Years 5 and 6 trip to Woodhall
- 28<sup>th</sup> - NSPCC assembly
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Years 3 and 4 trip to Woodhall
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book fair arrives (1 week)

#### July

- 5<sup>th</sup> - Sports event (Nursery and Reception)
- 5<sup>th</sup> - whole school pupil parliament meeting (pupil voice)
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Sports event (Years 1,2 and 3)
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair finishes

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6<sup>th</sup> - New to Reception (September 2021) virtual parent meeting 6pm  
7<sup>th</sup> - Sports event (Years 4,5 and 6)  
8<sup>th</sup> - New to Nursery (September 2021) virtual parent meeting 6pm  
8<sup>th</sup> - Meet the new class teachers for September 2021  
12<sup>th</sup> - No Pens Day  
12<sup>th</sup> - 9am - 10am New to Nursery September 2021 stay and play  
13<sup>th</sup> - 9am - 10am New to Reception class September 2021 stay and play  
14<sup>th</sup> - 9am - 10am New to Nursery September 2021 stay and play  
14<sup>th</sup> - End of Year reports to parents/carers  
15<sup>th</sup> - 9am - 10am New to Reception class September 2021 stay and play  
15<sup>th</sup> - 'Be Your Best' workshop Years 4 and 5  
16<sup>th</sup> - Enterprise Day  
21<sup>st</sup> - Last day of summer term  
22<sup>nd</sup> - INSET Day 5