



Newsletter 17th September 2021

This week

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been incredibly positive and it was wonderful to restart our long awaited after school enrichment clubs. These have been very popular and we have even managed to double the number of clubs that we now offer the children as well as increasing the selection of clubs for our very youngest children. As well as the after school clubs, we have also welcomed back Stevenage Borough Football Club at lunchtime everyday. They have been organising games and developing sporting skills whilst keeping the children active and having lots of fun. Mrs Gugerley has also started a lunchtime colouring club on a Thursday for KS1 which was extremely popular too. Next week the KS2 lego club which will be happening on Tuesday lunchtimes will also start.

In an earlier assembly this term, I talked to the children about their hopes and dreams for this academic year as well as for their future. Many of the classes took this discussion further in class and created their own hopes and dreams class displays. This display was created by Year 5.

[#highaspirationsforall](#)

Finally, a reminder to everyone who uses the Beane Valley Car park that there is an entrance and exit gate for drivers to use. Please do not enter and exit through the same gate as this has nearly caused several accidents last week. Thank you.



Attendance

We have had a positive start to attendance in most classes this term and last week awarded certificates in celebration assembly to 5 classes for 100% attendance.

If a child is regularly absent they may fall behind with learning, this makes attendance fundamental in making sure young people become successful learners. When children attend school consistently they are more likely to do well in their work but also build strong relationships and feel connected with the school community. Good attendance also demonstrates reliability which will help prepare children for life beyond education and looks positive to future employers.

Attendance top tips

- *Figure out the reasons for absence as this can help you understand where your child needs support in overcoming barriers to attending school
- *Try to establish a good routine early so that when your child does start school they are in good habits such as getting plenty of sleep
- *If appointments are needed for health reasons, try to make them during after school hours or out of term time where possible
- *Offer support with homework and take an interest in their learning
- *Attend parents evenings to discuss your child's progress
- *Take trips during school holidays rather than term time
- *Don't allow your child to stay off school for a minor ailment
- *Ensure your child has a good understanding of why attendance is important

Class Attendance this week

	This week's attendance %
Donaldson class (R)	92.4
Kerr Class(1)	90.4
Murphy class (2)	89.3
Lewis Class (3)	95.0
Dahl Class (4)	97.5
MacKenzie Class (5)	92.5
Blackman Class (6)	98.6
Horowitz Class (6)	89.5

Unfortunately there are no classes with 100% attendance this week.

School Uniform

After the school closure in the spring term, we offered some leniency with regards to school uniform. We understood that some children had outgrown some items of clothing, in particular their school shoes and we agreed that new shoes didn't need to be purchased at that point in time with the end of the school year not far away. However, the expectation is that all children are now wearing the correct school uniform, as explained in the uniform policy which can be viewed in our policies page of the school website. We have also added a quick guide to school uniform at the end of this newsletter. Please look particularly at the expectations for school shoes which should be worn and also hair accessories as we are noticing an increased number of elaborate and colourful ones at present.

Internet Safety

Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online - where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet.

Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about what they do and what sites they like to visit. If they're happy to, ask them to show you. Talk to them about being a good friend online

Put yourself in control

Install [parental controls](#) on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. Set up a user account for your child on the main device they use and make sure other accounts in the household are password-protected so that younger children can't access them by accident.

Use airplane mode

Use airplane mode on your devices when your child is using them so they can't make any unapproved purchases or interact with anyone online without your knowledge.

Stay involved

Encourage them to use their tech devices in a communal area like the lounge or kitchen so you can keep an eye on how they're using the internet and also share in their enjoyment.

Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. For example, the minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.

	Great to Be Gold	
Pre Sch	Leon E - he has been a great friend this week, he has been helpful and has made them feel happy.	Emma M - she has been an all-round superstar this week, she has been helpful and kind to her friends and has been a very happy girl.
Nur	Kennedy T for showing resilience during snack time. Great work!	Milly D for fantastic tidying and being very helpful around the classroom. Well done!
Rec	Jess - has been a good friend, an enthusiastic learner and working to the best of her ability. She has wow'd us with her phonics this week. Elliott - keeps us going with his wonderful smile. He has been working to the best of his ability in Phonics	Jethro - has shown amazing resilience with his learning this week. He isn't daunted if he finds something a little tricky and will keep on trying. He has also been a great role model with his sitting on the carpet.
Year 1	Lily H - Doing what she is asked first time and doing her best at all times.	Logan - Showing a great love of learning and being a fabulous role model in PE and Maths.
Year 2	Erin - for showing impeccable behaviour and great kindness at break time by helping a younger pupil.	Imogen - for making the right choices and demonstrating maturity and manners.
Year 3	Lexie - for showing a love of learning in all areas	Charlie - for being an outstanding role model to others Christian - for always working to the best of his ability.
Year 4	Ewen C - For demonstrating a love of learning. Ewen engages in his work, wants to please and makes good choices in lessons. Harley - For constantly making the right choices. Harley's behaviour for learning is fantastic.	Esmee T - For being well-mannered and working to the best of her ability.
Year 5	Blake S - for inviting another child to participate in an activity. This demonstrated respect and kindness.	Isabella S - for showing a love of learning. Her English and science work has been outstanding this week. Daisy T - for constantly making the right choices and setting a great example to her peers.
Year 6B	Lucia and Lillie for meeting their potential in maths and answering all the questions in class! Visible, active learners all week!	
Year 6H	Alessio - excellent focus in maths, thoughtful work when reading a variety of scales in maths. Zach - empathy with life for citizens in Ancient Greece, has written an entertaining yet factual comparison on Athens and Sparta	Sophie - achieving full potential - created a really funny story "HARUMPH!" in her own time at home.

The Learning Pit



The Learning Pit.....What is it? We are using the metaphor of the Learning Pit in order to help children face new challenges, build resilience and persevere when things get tough. Watch the video below for a brief and entertaining summary of what the Learning Pit is. You can find out more about The Learning Pit and its creator, James Nottingham, by clicking the link below.

<http://www.jamesnottingham.co.uk/learning-pit/>

Children and Challenge

Sometimes a child might react to a new challenge in these ways:

- Get frustrated
- Get upset
- Become anxious

All can possibly lead to them giving up and:

- Copying
- Asking the teacher (and hoping that they tell them how to do it).
 - Giving up and refusing to continue working.
 - Guessing with no prior thought.

Around school we have our Learning Pit displays that encourage children to think about challenges in different ways. This is Year 5's class display which has been created using their own 'learning pit monsters'.

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday

George A
12th Sept

Millie B
11th Sept

Connor P
12th Sept

Orienteering

During the summer holiday, we had the outdoor field and playground areas professionally set up as an orienteering course. This week, the staff were trained on how to start delivering orienteering lessons with their classes through their P.E lessons. Once the children have learnt the basic skills of orienteering, then they will use the skills learnt in their outdoor cross-curricular lessons. This is an incredibly exciting time for the school as we continue to increase the outdoor learning opportunities that all the children have in school. [#activelearning](#)
[#healthychildren](#)

Bike to school week

This year Bike to School Week takes place from 27 September to 1 October 2021. And for the first time, Sustrans want to try and track how many families take part.

Bike to School Week is a UK-wide event that Sustrans run every year in partnership with [Bikeability trust](#).

Together we celebrate cycling and scooting to school and [the massive benefits this brings to children's health and the environment](#).

Everyone can take part in Bike to School Week and there is no registration process for schools. Instead, all Sustrans ask is that you let them know if you and your family will be cycling or scooting to school from 27 September and 1 October by pledging your journeys [via the form below](#).

And your school journey can be made with any type of cycle, for example, handcycle, tagalong, cargo bike or scooter.

By pledging your journeys, you'll be in with a chance of winning a child's Frog Bike worth up to £400. [Read the terms and conditions](#).

They will also send you a free guide to walking, cycling and scooting to school with lots of great tips and activities.

[How to take part in Bike To School Week - Sustrans.org.uk](#)

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

Watton's Learning Behaviours

Learning Behaviour emphasises the crucial link between the way in which children and young people learn and their social knowledge and behaviour. In doing this the focus is upon establishing positive relationships across three elements of self, others and curriculum.

The learning behaviours that we teach, praise and acknowledge are:

Empathy
Achieve Potential
Resilience
Teamwork
Excellence
High Aspirations
Respect
Responsibility
Truthfulness

House Points

This weeks house points

Red House - 423

Blue House -535

Green House - 474

Yellow House - 536

Total house points achieved this half term:

Blue House - 890

Yellow House - 860

Green House - 826

Red House - 767



Books of Pride

Today, I was thrilled to be able to re start our Books of Pride with children in KS1 and KS2. Unfortunately, due to COVID, I haven't been able to meet with children across bubbles for some time now, but with the restrictions lifting and with lots of safety measures in school, we have been able to make this happen once again. Books of Pride is an opportunity for one child from all of the KS1 and KS2 classes to come and visit me with an example of their work which they are most proud of. They get to share their work with others who attend and get praised for their efforts and successes. They also get to have a drink and a biscuit which is always a highlight of their visit to me!



Headteacher's Awards

Many congratulations to Eric in Reception class, Mila in Year 3 and Maisy G in Year 4. They have all been nominated by their class teachers this week for a Headteacher's award. These children have all been demonstrating great learning behaviours this week.



Please park SAFELY

We need everyone to play their part in keeping the roads near schools safe.

DRIVERS SHOULD NOT:

- park on yellow zig zag markings.
- park on double yellow lines at any time, or on single yellows during restricted hours.
- park or drive on footpaths.
- park within 10 metres of a junction, as this decreases visibility.
- block driveways or dropped kerbs.

You may be issued with a fixed penalty notice.
Thank you for your cooperation.




Parent Forum

The Parent Forum consists of parent representatives who meet once every half term with the Headteacher to discuss school-related issues. Regular, open and constructive communication and consultation with parents is important to the continuing success of the school. The Parent Forum provides a mechanism for the school to discuss proposed initiatives and an opportunity for parents to express their observations, concerns and ideas. If you would like to nominate yourself as the parent rep for this academic year, then please email admin@wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk to express your interest. Equally, I would be very happy for last years parent reps to nominate themselves should they wish to continue with this role.

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

Uniform guidance

	Items of Uniform	Guidance notes
Standard uniform	grey trousers, grey shorts, grey skirt, grey pinafore dress (approximately knee length),	Trousers and shorts must be a tailored fit, e.g. no jogging bottoms, leggings or sports shorts Skirts should be no higher than 2" above the knee
	white polo shirt, white blouse or white shirt	Items specified must have a collar, e.g. NO T-SHIRTS!
	Dark green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan, with school logo preferred	Hoodies are NOT permitted
	White or grey socks, grey or green tights	Any socks/tights on show must be school colours Socks/tights MUST be worn at school
	Hair accessories should be kept as simple as possible and be green or neutral in colour	
Optional uniform	green and white checked summer dresses	Dress length should be no higher than 2" above the knee.
	Logo green fleece/jacket	
FOOTWEAR		
	Black shoes (not boots or trainers)	Shoes MUST be black, e.g. no visible patterns/logos etc Shoes must be flat, e.g. NO HEELS Shoes must have backs on them and be closed. In extreme weather conditions all children should come to school with a change of suitable footwear. All footwear should be clearly labelled to identify ownership. Please don't send children to school with lace up shoes if they are unable to tie their laces independently.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children MUST attend school unless they are ill. • From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has Covid. <p>NO • Instead, they will need to book a PCR test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms, and the test result is negative.</p>
<p>YES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should <u>stay at home</u> and should book a PCR test), NOT a Lateral Flow test. • If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test. • If your child tests positive for Covid, they will need to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test.

Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

September

Week beginning 27th - House Captain speeches and elections

29th - Year 1 phonics parent meeting 9am

October

1st - Harvest church visit

4th - Creative arts week

5th - No Pens Day

6th - Year 1 phonics parent meeting 2.30pm

18th - EYFS Farm visit

19th - Parent meetings 4pm - 7pm

20th - Parent meetings 3.45 - 5.45pm

22nd - Feel Good Friday (pm)

25th - 29th - Half Term week

November

4th - Parent Forum meeting 6pm

10th - Whole school pupil parliament meeting

11th - Remembrance Day

15th - 19th - Anti Bullying Week/Feel Good Week

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

26th - No Pens Day
29th - 3rd Dec - Assessment week

December

6th - 10th - Christmas performances to parents
15th - Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day/Visit from FC
17th - Feel Good Friday
17th - End of term 2.15pm
20th - INSET day 2
21st - Occasional Day

January

5th - INSET day 3
6th - Children return
12th - Parent Forum meeting 6pm
24th - 29th - International Week

February

2nd - No Pens Day
8th - Internet Safety Day
11th - Feel Good Friday
14th - 18th - Half Term week

March

2nd - Whole school pupil parliament meeting
3rd - World Book Day
7th - Science and Technology Week
8th - Parent meetings 4 - 7pm (virtually)
9th - Parent meetings 3.30pm - 5.30pm (face to face in school)
17th - No Pens Day
18th - Comic Relief Day
21st - 25th - Assessment week
22nd - Parent Forum meeting 6pm

April

1st - End of Term 2.15pm
1st - Feel Good Friday
19th - INSET Day 4
20th - Children Return
23rd - St George's Day

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

May

Throughout May - KS1 SAT's

9th - 12th - KS2 SAT's

16th - Citizenship week

16th - Parent Forum meeting 6pm

16th - No Pens Day

27th - 3rd June - Half Term (including an extra day for the Queen's Jubilee)

June

6th - INSET Day 5

7th - Children return

Week beginning 6th June - Year 1 Phonics screening check

Throughout June - Year 4 multiplication check

13th - Health and Fitness week

14th - Sports Day 1

15th - Whole school pupil parliament meeting

17th - Sports Day 2 (Reserve)

28th - Parent Forum meeting 6pm

29th - No Pens Day

July

4th - 8th - Assessment week

18th - Reports to parents

22nd - Feel Good Friday

22nd - End of Term 2.15pm