



Newsletter 30th September 2022

To all our families and friends,

On Monday this week, the children in Reception to Year 6 all went to church for our annual Harvest Festival service. The children sang their harvest songs beautifully after only having a few singing assemblies this term to practice. Some children in Year 6 read some Harvest poems and Reverend Jenny spoke to the children about the true meaning of Harvest. It was a lovely service which was enjoyed by everyone. A huge thank you to all of our families who donated items for the harvest display. Reverend Jenny was amazed by how generous everyone had been and said that currently the food banks are really struggling to meet the needs of local residents and so therefore our food contributions will be really appreciated. It's great to know that as a community we are able to help others.



Gold School Games Mark

We are thrilled to have been awarded yet again the Gold School Games Award for the last academic year. As a school, we pride ourselves with not only the quality of our P.E curriculum but also our commitment and dedication to keeping children active throughout the day. In order to achieve the award, here are some of the criteria we had to achieve:

- Maintaining and growing the school's engagement in the School Games and our delivery of 60 active minutes per day.
- Creating positive experiences by ensuring physical activity and competitions that are designed to reflect the motivation, competence and confidence of our young people.
- Creating positive experiences that support the character development of our young people.
- Working with the staff, pupils, parents and Governors to explain how the School Games makes a meaningful difference to the lives of children and young people.

A huge thankyou to Mrs Stevens for working so hard to not only achieve this award but for also ensuring there is a high quality of P.E provision for all of the children who attend our school.



We were awarded the Gold Standard for the
Year running.

Friends of Watton Update

Music Bingo is next Friday (7th) so have a chat with the other Mums in your class and get a group together - it's loads of fun with great music!

Get your tickets via Classlist (you don't need to be a parent to buy so you can send the link on) -

<https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/viaw/927400655>

We will be holding The Friends of Watton School AGM on 17th November 2022 at 8pm in The Bull and your first glass of prosecco is on us!

As parents/ carers at the school you are all trustees of FOW, so please join us to hear about the money we've raised this past year and about our upcoming plans and events. As a charity we legally need to hold an AGM and we need to have a certain number of attendees, plus we'd like to hear your ideas and feedback!

Governors Update

Since the term began, the governors have been involved in a number of meetings. Last week Friday Liz Aston, Mrs Etienne and I met with Terry Willis, a consultant from Herts for Learning, to discuss the Governors' Strategic Leadership. We explored where we feel the governing bodies' strengths and areas for development are and set an action plan for the coming academic year.

It was lovely to see all the children happy in their new classes as we walked around the school and Terry was very impressed with what she saw.

On Wednesday this week, we met as a full governing body to agree on the roles of governors and the topics that need monitoring according to the school development plan.

We look forward to working with the school this year to continue to ensure a high quality of education.

This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	97.9%
Macintosh Class(1)	98.6%
Antonelli class (2)	99.1%
Anning Class (3)	99.7%
Goodall Class (4)	99.1%
Galileo Class (5)	98.2%
Wallace Class (6)	98.6%

Whole School Attendance this week: 98.75%

Whole School Attendance this term: 96.7%

This year, we are due to be open for 189 days which equates to 378 sessions with registration in the morning at 08:50 and after lunch in the afternoon. Attendance is affected if a pupil is not present at school for any whole session including registration. The class with the best attendance each week will win the Attendance trophy to keep in class until the following Friday.

Our Attendance target each week is 97%

Parent Forum Meetings

The Parent Forum consists of parent representatives who meet once a 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 year's parent reps to nominate themselves should they wish to continue with this role. Our first meeting this academic year will be on Tuesday 8th November at 6pm.

Big Questions Across The Curriculum

Our Big Questions really make the children think deeply about their thoughts, ideas and responses. There generally is no wrong or right answer to any of these questions but the children use a debating style to really explore their question in depth. Take a look at the Big Question that your child has been discussing in class recently and ask them the same question. Do other people in the family agree or disagree with their opinion?

Reception - Why do mistakes help us to learn?

Year 1 - Why do people do art?

Year 2 - Why is having values and beliefs important and how can we form them independently?

Year 3 - Could a plant eat a human?

Year 4 - If you could choose one rule for the entire world to adhere to, what would it be and why?

Year 5 - What are the similarities within different religious communities?

Year 6 - How would humanity change if all humans' life expectancy was significantly increased?



Black History Month

Throughout the year, we celebrate diversity of ethnicity within our curriculum. However, we also raise the awareness of this in October for Black History month. Over the next 3 weeks of this half term, the children will be learning about 2 black inspirational people from the world of music, sports and from history each week. Next week they will be learning about Stevie Wonder and Heather Small who have both made huge contributions to the world of music.

Reception and Year 1 phonic meetings

In the autumn term, we like to meet with the parents of children in Reception and Year 1 to show you how phonics is taught in school so that you can support your child more effectively at home. Phonics is the key skill that underpins the children's reading and writing and great emphasis is placed on the teaching of these skills in Reception and Year 1.

Year 1 meetings are on Thursday 6th October at 9am or Friday 7th October at 2.30pm.
Reception meetings are on Tuesday 1st November at 9am and Wednesday 2nd November at 2.30pm.



Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	<p>Dylan C has been such a kind friend this week he has been looking after the toys at Preschool and also his friends.</p> <p>Fred G has grown in confidence this week when coming into Preschool and it has been lovely to see.</p>	<p>Molly W has been an all round superstar this week, she has been helpful and kind.</p>
Nur	<p>Romilly B - for showing a love of learning in our Jigsaw lesson this week and getting involved in the task in hand. Well done, Romilly!</p> <p>George B - for showing a love of learning in all we do and always sharing his ideas about a range of topics. Great work George!</p>	<p>Grace M - for being very brave when coming into school and walking through the door with a smile on her face. Keep it up Grace!</p>
Rec	<p>Henry A - for being an amazing friend, for always having something interesting to tell you about and his encyclopaedic knowledge!</p>	<p>Darci T - for being an enthusiastic learner; even when things aren't easy, Darci will always put in her best effort.</p> <p>Jordan T - for being an all-round superstar and pleasure to teach. Always smiling, always willing to join in, always happy to help.</p>
Year 1	<p>Jethro - for working to the best of his ability- especially in phonics and his writing this week.</p>	<p>Blanche - for settling in so well and participating in every activity.</p>
Year 2	<p>Grace - for always making the right choices and being well mannered.</p>	<p>Ethan - for impressing his teachers and working to the best of his ability.</p>
Year 3	<p>Gracie - working to the best of her ability. Superb work in English and Maths this week.</p>	<p>Arien - constantly making the right choices - excellent behaviour in the last two weeks.</p>
Year 4	<p>Erin H- for being a fantastic role model and her love of learning.</p>	<p>Charlie S - For trying really hard, working to the best of his ability and always being polite to adults.</p>
Year 5	<p>Ewen C- awarded during science club for his love of learning. He planned and produced a PowerPoint all about animals.</p>	<p>Bertie S- for working to the best of his ability. Bertie always wants to do his best and always aims to impress.</p>
Year 6	<p>Lucy G and Lacey B for being two best friends that want to sit together but do not let it impact their learning and behaviour. They are both very engaged at all times, quick to settle and always show a love for learning.</p>	

House Points

This Week

Red House - 367

Blue House - 384

Green House - 443

Yellow House - 402

This Half Term so far

1st Place Green House - 1,295

2nd Place Yellow House - 1,259

3rd Place Blue House - 1,185

4th Place Red House - 1,215

Drumming 1:1 Lessons

Last year, we were thrilled to start 1:1 drumming lessons for children of all ages. This was particularly popular with the previous Year 6 classes, but as they have now left the school, our numbers have dropped considerably and the music service has informed us that it is no longer financially viable for them to come into school.

We would love to encourage more children to start learning to play the drums so that we can recommence the weekly drumming lessons.

The cost for weekly lessons is: £13.75 per 20 minutes or £20.00 per 30 minutes.

If you are interested, then please send an email to learn@h-c-m.co.uk or phone on 01920 460646.



Read, read and read some more

We cannot stress enough the importance of reading on a very regular basis i.e every day preferably but at the very least five times a week for every child across the school. We want children to immerse themselves in the enjoyment of reading and to develop a love of books and a variety of authors.

Recommended Reading List

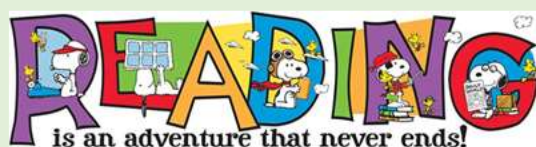
Take a look at the link below for a recommended reading list by Year Group.

[creating-a-reading-spine-hand-out-2137908.pdf \(scholastic.co.uk\)](https://www.scholastic.co.uk/creating-a-reading-spine-hand-out-2137908.pdf)

The recommended books have a blurb by the side so that parents and children can then select a book to buy and read.

School Library Visits

Regular visits to the school library encourage your children to read different types of text, so please ensure that your child looks after the book that they bring home to share and keep it safe until it needs to be returned the following week. Lost or damaged books mean less for our library and will have to pass the replacement cost of the books onto parents.



Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Hattie H - 25th September

Joshua G - 26th September

Sam T - 27th September

Theo C - 28th September

Blake S - 28th September

Frankie R - 30th September

Headteacher's Awards



Each week, staff are constantly looking for children in the school who are showing awareness of one or more than one of our school learning values. These values will help children to become better learners as well as developing their relationships with others around them. Children are recognised for their achievements with being awarded Headteacher's Awards.

Reception:

Isaac H - for always showing interest and curiosity in what he notices around him - he can talk about what interests him and use amazing language to describe what he notices.

Year 1:

Nathan - for demonstrating great teamwork skills in English and Science today.

Year 2:

Louis - for having high aspirations whilst story writing.

Logan - for sharing with others and showing kindness and empathy

Year 3:

Cait - for being respectful to others in her P.E lessons.

Jack B - for being independent in his writing lesson and having pride in his achievements.

Year 4:

Felicity - for being a great team member in P.E.

Monty - for his resilience in his learning, especially maths when he finds it challenging.

Year 5:

Alfie C - for showing resilience in his maths lesson.

Caitlin S - for having high aspirations and taking risks in her P.E lesson.

Year 6:

Bella - For being resilient and taking risks in her work. Always gives her best.

Zosia - For being reflective and respectful to others.

Maddie - For being reflective and being independent all day today.

Watton At Stone Nursery Admissions

2023-2024

Early Years Quality Standard
gold award

Nurturing staff and environment

Nursery led by
qualified teacher



30 hours available

Was your child born between
1st September 2019 & 31st August 2020?

Please join us for a **Nursery Tour** and parent meeting on:

Monday 28th November at 6:00pm

Or

Tuesday 6th December at 6:00pm

Come along to see the Nursery classroom and the rest of the school. Please contact the school office on 01920 830233 to book your place. In the meantime please look at our virtual school tour at: <https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/home/virtual-tour-of-the-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

Hertfordshire's Family Centre

Hertfordshire's Family Centre Service is made up of the Family Support Service and the Public Health Nursing Service (Health Visitors and School Nurses). Our purpose is to support children and families to have the best start in life, develop well and thrive.

As part of our offer we provide activity sessions for families with children from 0-5 years during term time. These include a variety of free drop-in sessions such as Active Rhyme Time for 6-18 months, Physical Fun for 18 months plus and new Stay & Play sessions for 0-5s. We also offer sessions for children up to 8 years during school holidays.

Stay and Play is a fun session for children aged 0-5 years with a range of activities and resources for children to explore. The team provide a specific area for babies and are on hand to offer support and advice. Families are welcome to come along to have fun and socialise with other parents and carers.

Take a look at our website where you will find further information on the support we offer, sign up to our fortnightly newsletter and view our session What's On Guides:

<https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org>.

Reading Gadgeteers Photo Gallery





REGISTER FOR
YOUR PLACE
NOW!
It's freeeee!!

FEED YOUR FAMILY ON A BUDGET MASTERCLASS!

Food shop costing more each week? Energy bills going up? Worried about rising household costs?

As qualified nutritionists we are here to offer some tips and ideas to help support you in finding ways to make sustainable changes that are cheaper AND healthier.

This workshop covers:

- Challenges to feeding a family on a budget
- Lower cost healthy swaps
- How meal planning can help to keep costs down
- Shopping tips to stick to the list and the budget
- Do cooking methods make a difference?
- Helpful resources
- Q&A opportunity to share your ideas and tips!

TWO DATES TO CHOOSE FROM:
Tuesday 4th October 12:00 – 13:00
Wednesday 26th October 18:00 – 19:00

**SIGN UP FOR FREE
ON EVENTBRITE!**



 **beeZee
bodies**  **@beezeefamilies**  **BeeZee Families**  **BeeZee
Families**

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Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

October

- 6th - Year 1 parent phonics meeting 9am
- 7th - Year 1 parent phonics meeting 2.30pm
- 10th - 14th October - Creative Arts week
- 13th October - Year 3 class assembly
- 14th - Mini reports to be sent to parents
- 18th - Individual school photos (photographer in school)
- 18th - Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm (face to face)
- 19th - Flu vaccinations
- 19th - Parent consultations 3.45pm - 5.30pm (virtual)
- 21st - Creative Carnival parade (more info to follow)
- 24th - 28th - Half term

November

- 1st November - Reception parent phonic meeting 9am
- 2nd November - Reception parent phonic meeting 2.30pm
- 9th November - Whole school Pupil Parliament meeting
- 10th November - Year 5 class assembly
- 14th - 18th November - Anti bullying/wellbeing week
- 17th - FGB 4pm (Full Governing Board meeting)
- 24th - Theatre company in school (Christmas pantomime)
- 28th - Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents Sept '23
- 29th - Inspirational speaker (Paul Sturgess) leading assemblies and workshops across the school
- 30th - Flu vaccinations continued

December

- 5th - 9th December - Assessment week
- 6th December - Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents Sept '23
- 12th - 16th December - Christmas performances (dates to be confirmed)
- 20th - Reception and KS1 theatre trip

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21st December - End of term 2.15pm

January

5th January - Occasional Day

6th January - INSET Day

9th January - Children return

9th - 13th January - Pupil Progress meetings

23rd - 27th January - International Week

February

12th - 17th February - Half Term

March

2nd March - World Book Day

16th March - Year 1 class assembly

13th - 17th March - Science week

23rd March - Year 4 class assembly

20th - 24th - Assessment week

31st March - End of term

April

17th April - INSET Day

18th April - Children return

18th - 21st April - Pupil Progress meetings

May

8th - 11th May - KS2 SAT's

15th - 19th May - Mental Health Awareness week

25th May - Year 2 class assembly

29th May - 2nd June - Half Term

June

5th June - INSET Day (report writing)

12th - 16th June - Fitness Week

13th June - Sports Day

Week beginning 12th June - Year 1 Phonics Screening week

19th - 23rd June - Year 6 PGL

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29th June - Reception class assembly
30th June - Watton has talent

July

6th July - Year 6 class assembly
3rd - 7th July - Assessment week
12th July - reports sent out to parents
18th/19th - Year 6 end of school production
21st July - Year 6 Leavers assembly
21st July - End of Term