



## Newsletter 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

To all our families and friends,

I can't quite believe that we are at the end of the first half of the autumn term already! The weeks have flown by and as always, there has had so much happening in school. I know however, that many of the children are ready for a short break and hope that they return rested and ready for lots of new learning experiences on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

This week, we have held our parent consultation evenings which gave all parents and teachers an opportunity to either meet in person or virtually to talk about how the children have managed the transition to their new year group and how they are settling in. We hope that you found the mini reports to be a useful aid for these meetings as well as providing you with a record of what was discussed and the children's new learning targets.

Last week, the children had a fantastic creative arts week. Being creative, is one of the skills we encourage and foster within our children and it is one of our learning values too. The children immersed themselves in learning dances, making hats and masks as well as other creative activities. This morning, each class performed their dance to the rest of the school and not only were the children able to appreciate everyone's performances but it really showcased amazing creativity and a passion for the arts. We watched a wide range of dances, listening to songs and poems too. We wanted the children to also showcase their artistic creations to the wider school community and at the end of the day, we welcomed many parents onto the playground to watch the children parade to carnival music whilst wearing the creations that they made. I am sure that you were agree that many of them were outstanding. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend this event today.

### Staff Changes

Today, we say a sad farewell to Mrs. Lee, our Year 1 teaching assistant, who is leaving to pursue a change of career with a school catering company. Mrs. Lee has worked at the school for 6 years and during this time been a fantastic support to many children and staff. We wish her all the very best in her new role and hope that she enjoys this new challenge and next chapter of her life. Thank you Mrs. Lee.

We also say thank you and goodbye today to Mr. Roper. Mr. Roper only started at the school as site manager during the summer holiday of 2021 but within a few months, he sadly became ill and had some time away from his strenuous job to focus on his recovery. Sadly, Mr. Roper has now decided that he will be unable to return to this role. We wish Mr. Roper a speedy recovery and wish him all the very best for the future.

After half term, we look forward to welcoming Mrs Sargeaunt as the Year 1 teaching assistant and to Mr. Goodman who is now our permanent site manager. Mr. Goodman has been working as our site manager since January this year but has now agreed to take this role on as a permanent role. I am sure that they will both be fantastic assets to our wonderful staffing team.

### Archbishop of York Youth Trust

On Monday this week, during assembly, Year 6 children were presented with certificates of participation for the Archbishop of York Young Leadership Award which they participated in last year. The children developed some leadership skills before taking part in a local leadership project in the community. Our current Year 5 class have just started this award, so we look forward to giving you further updates during the year.



### Languages After School Club

After the Christmas holiday, we would love to be able to offer a foreign language after school club. We currently teach French every week to children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 as well as in Year 2 in the summer term.

We would really like to offer an alternative language club such as Spanish or German. We would provide a member of staff to support the organisation and running of the club but would really like someone with a better knowledge of languages to lead the sessions. If you are skilled in languages or know someone who is, then we would be really keen to discuss this opportunity further with you. Thanks.

### This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	96.4%
Macintosh Class(1)	87.59%
Antonelli class (2)	92.73%
Anning Class (3)	95.17%
Goodall Class (4)	94.09%
Galileo Class (5)	98.17%
Wallace Class (6)	95.68%

Whole school attendance this week is: 94.11%  
Whole school attendance this term is: 96.17%

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%**

### Help Required

Do you live in a property in Watton at Stone or in the surrounding villages that is on a high street where many people would walk or drive past? We would like to put up a promotional banner (approximately 80cm x 2m) until February '23 which promotes our Reception and Nursery classes for parents who are currently choosing school places for their child to start in September 2023.

If you are able to help, then please get in touch with our admin team at school.

### Homework Club

This week, we started a new homework club for children of all ages which takes place on a Wednesday lunchtime between 12.30 and 1pm. It is led by Mrs Butler and some children in Year 3 who were really keen to set this club up so that children had further opportunities to read their school reading book, practice their spellings or complete other homework tasks set. This week, 6 children attended but we would like you to remind your children of this opportunity as it could support you at home as well as supporting your child.

## Watton At Stone Reception Admissions 2023-2024



Was your child born between  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019?

Please come to one of our **RECEPTION OPEN SESSIONS** on;

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 2:00pm or  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 6:00pm or  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 6:00pm or  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 6:00pm

This will be an opportunity for you and your child to spend time in the Reception class and tour the rest of the school. You will have the chance to meet the Headteacher, Early Years Leader and Reception class teacher.

Please feel free to bring your families along, refreshments will be provided.

Please contact the school office on 01920 830233 to book your place.

## 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  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020?

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

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 6:00pm  
Or  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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>

## Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	<p><b>Frankie R</b> - he has been a kind friend this week and has been doing some fantastic sharing and playing nicely.</p> <p><b>Freddie D</b> - he has been communicating well this week. He has been using his words to get what he wants.</p>	<b>Lyra S</b> - She has been a kind friend, helping them when they needed help.
Nur	<p><b>Frankie C</b> - for being a superstar when he is at Nursery and always helping the adults without being asked! Great work Frankie, we are very proud of you!</p> <p><b>Amaya P</b> - for trying really hard to tell an adult when she needs help. Well done Amaya, keep it up!</p>	<b>Willow W</b> - for being a really kind friend and helping someone when they were stuck. Fantastic Willow!
Rec	<b>Milly D</b> - for working to the best of her ability, especially in phonics this week	<b>Eoin P</b> - for being excited about his Maths learning and wanting to show me what he knows
Year 1	<b>Nathan</b> - for his love of learning in all areas	<b>Riya</b> - for working to the best of her ability in phonics.
Year 2	<b>Sam</b> - showing a love for learning in DT whilst designing and constructing a chair for baby bear.	<b>Millie</b> - always working to the best of her ability and showing a love for learning.
Year 3	<p><b>Erin</b>- showing her love for learning especially in English our topic this week was limericks and she was outstanding.</p> <p><b>Emilia</b>- an outstanding role model she is always helping out her others in class and out and she's a brilliant friend.</p>	<b>Liam</b> - for making the right choices and following his instructions from adults.
Year 4	<b>Oliver</b> - for working to the best of his ability and really trying hard this week to improve the presentation of his work.	<b>Eve W</b> - for her love of learning and always listening to adults.
Year 5	<b>Cornelius D</b> - for showing a love of learning across the curriculum but especially in maths and music.	<b>Caitlin S</b> - for being well-mannered, polite and an outstanding role model.
Year 6	<p><b>Freya</b> - showing a love of learning in all areas</p> <p><b>Jasmine</b> - an outstanding role model to others and growth in confidence in class.</p>	<b>Henry</b> - constantly making the right choices

## Birthdays this week and in the half term holiday

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Riley M - 15<sup>th</sup> October  
Leon E - 19<sup>th</sup> October  
Beatriz DS - 19<sup>th</sup> October

Lexie B - 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Chloe BM - 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Erin B - 24<sup>th</sup> October  
Annabelle T - 24<sup>th</sup> October  
Esmee T - 24<sup>th</sup> October  
Phoenix P - 25<sup>th</sup> October  
Eve W - 28<sup>th</sup> October  
Verity S - 30<sup>th</sup> October

## House Points

This Week:

Red House - 403

Blue House - 389

Green House - 450

Yellow House - 385

Congratulations to Green House who achieved the most number of house points this term. Unfortunately, due to the bad weather yesterday afternoon, we had to postpone our reward afternoon for Green House as it was due to be an outdoor sports afternoon led by Super Star Sports. However, this has been rescheduled for the first Thursday after the half term holiday. We keep our fingers crossed for better weather.



## Year 6 Science Lessons

Year 6 have been learning about micro-organisms in science. We conducted our own experiments, to see how quickly mould would grow on slices of bread. This particular group wanted to test the effectiveness of hand sanitizer, soap and non-washed hands. We were impressed with the effectiveness of the hand sanitizer.



## 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

Lillian F, Matilda M and Kennedy T- all responded to a writing challenge. They all had a go and tried to write a sentence.

### Year 1:

Beatrice for beginning to work independently and trying her best to use her phonics.

### Year 2:

Beatriz - for having pride about her heritage and teaching the class about Brazil.

### Year 3:

Sam A- Being creative and working with others with our carnival performance.

### Year 4:

Monty - for having high aspirations in our P.E lesson, watching the moves to our dance and trying really hard to follow them.

Lexie - for being respectful to everyone and for her creativity at home with her strawberry pancakes and drawing.

### Year 5:

Harley DS- for being respectful throughout the whole half term.

Elliot C- for working with others and always supporting his peers.

Jonah D- for having pride in his horse jumping achievements and presenting to the class.

### Year 6:

Zosia - empathy and kind words

Sophie - for inviting lonely people to play

Ethan - for conscientious effort towards his homework

## Year 3 Food Technology Lesson

Year 3 have been busy creating Asian fruit kebabs yesterday. They are learning that food is produced globally. They had a great time making their fruity kebabs. Thank you to Mrs Endersbee who came into school especially to help us.



## Friends of Watton Update

Plans are coming along for the Christmas Bazaar on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December and one of our stalls is a jars and bottles tombola so we're asking for donations of decorated jars filled with sweets and bottles (they can be alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks, ketchup, shampoo or any unopened, in date bottle) on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Decorating jars is a great half term activity for the kids so grab an old jam jar and some stickers, ribbons or glitter and get the kids to fill them with some sweets afterwards. There will be a collection bucket under the covered area outside the dining room on the 4<sup>th</sup> November for bottles and jars.

You should have received your child's Christmas card design in their bookbag last week. This year you will need to order your items online on the company website, where you can change name spellings, select the class name and change the message in the card. You can purchase Christmas cards, tea towels, mugs, bags, gift tags and wrapping paper with your child's design on it - great Christmas presents for Grandparents! You need to place your order by **26<sup>th</sup> October**.

If your little ones are planning to carve a pumpkin this half term make sure you bring it into school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November and enter it into our pumpkin carving competition - there are 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes and a small prize for entry. Please bring cash as it is £1 per entry and remember to collect your pumpkin afterwards to dispose of it.

A date for your diary The Friends of Watton school AGM is on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 8pm in The Bull and your first glass of prosecco is on us!

## Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

### **October**

31<sup>st</sup> – children return to school

### **November**

1<sup>st</sup> November – Reception parent phonic meeting 9am

2<sup>nd</sup> November – Reception parent phonic meeting 2.30pm

8<sup>th</sup> November – Pre school and Nursery 'Love of Reading' parent meeting 9am

9<sup>th</sup> November – Whole school Pupil Parliament meeting

10<sup>th</sup> November – Year 5 class assembly

14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November – Anti bullying/wellbeing week

17<sup>th</sup> – FGB 4pm (Full Governing Board meeting)

23<sup>rd</sup> November – No Pens day Wednesday

24<sup>th</sup> – Theatre company in school (Christmas pantomime)

28<sup>th</sup> – Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents Sept '23

29<sup>th</sup> – Inspirational speaker (Paul Sturgess) leading assemblies and workshops across the school

30<sup>th</sup> – Flu vaccinations continued

### **December**

5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December – Assessment week

6<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents Sept '23

12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas performances (dates to be confirmed)

20<sup>th</sup> – Reception and KS1 theatre trip

21<sup>st</sup> December – End of term 2.15pm

### **January**

5<sup>th</sup> January – Occasional Day

6<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

9<sup>th</sup> January – Children return

9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January – Pupil Progress meetings

23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> January – International 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



## **February**

12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term

## **March**

2<sup>nd</sup> March - World Book Day

16<sup>th</sup> March - Year 1 class assembly

13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> March - Science week

23<sup>rd</sup> March - Year 4 class assembly

20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> - Assessment week

31<sup>st</sup> March - End of term

## **April**

17<sup>th</sup> April - INSET Day

18<sup>th</sup> April - Children return

18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> April - Pupil Progress meetings

## **May**

8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> May - KS2 SAT's

15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> May - Mental Health Awareness week

25<sup>th</sup> May - Year 2 class assembly

29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Half Term

## **June**

5<sup>th</sup> June - INSET Day (report writing)

12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> June - Fitness Week

13<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day

Week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> June - Year 1 Phonics Screening week

19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Year 6 PGL

29<sup>th</sup> June - Reception class assembly

30<sup>th</sup> June - Watton has talent

## **July**

6<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 class assembly

3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> July - Assessment week

12<sup>th</sup> July - reports sent out to parents

18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 end of school production

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

21<sup>st</sup> July - Year 6 Leavers assembly

21<sup>st</sup> July - End of Term