



Newsletter 11th November 2022

REMEMBRANCE DAY - WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



To all our families and friends,

This week has been an exceptionally busy week for everyone in school.

On Monday, we held a very special Remembrance assembly which was led by Reverend Jenny. She talked past and present wars and some of the lives that were lost. The children heard the Last Post played and listened to the National Anthem. Two of the children in Year 6 also read some thoughtful and poignant poems to mark this occasion and all of the children sang a song called 'We Will Remember the Soldiers Once More' that they have been learning in their weekly singing assembly recently.

We have welcomed prospective parents to tour the school before they make their primary school applications. We are always incredibly proud to talk to parents and tour them around the school as we know that we offer amazing facilities, curriculum and extra-curricular activities. We also hosted a parent meeting on Tuesday morning for parents who have children in Pre-School and Nursery classes all about promoting a love of reading. A huge thank you to the many parents who attended. We hope that you found the session to be useful. The PowerPoint shared during the session has now been saved on the Pre-School and Nursery class pages on the school website.

Finally, we welcomed Year 5 parents and families this morning, as they came to watch the Year 5 class assembly. The children showcased many of the lessons they have had across the curriculum during this term which included a whole class song, creative arts dance and portrait drawings. The children spoke with confidence and performed with enthusiasm. Well done Year 5.

On Wednesday, we held our first Pupil Parliament meeting of the school year. The Pupil Parliament involves all children from Reception to Year 6 and the meetings are led by the Year 6 children and supported by a member of staff. In this meeting we informed the children what changes had taken place since the last Pupil Parliament meeting back in the summer term. These changes included creating a gardening area which will now be designed by the children. The garden will be near the decking area so that it is accessible during all seasons. It will be designed by the children and maintained by them too!! The children also wanted another House competition. Working with the House and Vice House captains, 3 possible competitions were chosen and in the pupil parliament meeting, the children took a democratic vote to choose the competition that we will be organising. More information to follow shortly.

Parent Forum Meeting

On Tuesday evening, I met with the class parent reps for our termly Parent Forum Meeting. We welcomed back some parents who were class reps last year as well as welcoming new reps who are joining the Parent Forum group this year. For the first time in 2 years, it was wonderful to be able to hold this meeting in person, instead of virtually. A cup of tea and biscuit in person whilst having a chat always makes these events more pleasurable! Having not met the parent forum group since May 2022, there was lots to talk about and it's great that parents are providing the reps with points of discussion that you would like us to discuss. If you are unsure who your class reps is, then we have lots of information on our parent forum page of the website, alongside email addresses for you so that you can contact your class rep. I am also aware that most year groups have a WhatsApp group too where points of discussion are raised. If, however, your concern is urgent, then please don't hesitate to speak to myself or a member of staff at school instead of waiting for parent forum meetings to take place. The agenda was published last week in the newsletter and the minutes of the meeting (including A.O.B's raised by parents) have been published on the Parent Forum page of the school website. The minutes of this meeting can be accessed at: [Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School - Parent Forum \(wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk\)](https://wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk)

Remembrance Day

Today, we remembered the brave men and women who fought to protect their country during the World wars and acknowledged Remembrance Day with a 1 minute silence at 11am (the older children managed to 2 minute silence). Thank you to all the children and staff who purchased poppies and other poppy memorabilia and have worn them with pride this week.



Odd Socks Day

On Monday 14th November, we invite all the children and staff to wear odd socks for the day!

Designed to be a fun and light-hearted way to encourage people to express themselves, Odd Socks Day is one of the ways that the organisers behind Anti-Bullying Week, the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA), hope to raise awareness of bullying.

During the week beginning 14th November, we will be focusing many of our activities in class in promoting wellbeing and raising awareness of what bullying is.

This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	80.4%
Macintosh Class(1)	94.1%
Antonelli class (2)	98.2%
Anning Class (3)	99.6%
Goodall Class (4)	98.6%
Galileo Class (5)	92.3%
Wallace Class (6)	93.2%

Whole school attendance this week is: 93.75%
Whole school attendance this term is: 95.54%

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%

Primary School Applications

Please be aware that the online application form for Reception Year group places for September 2023 is now open. If your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 and they are due to attend Reception class in September 2023 you must complete this form to secure a place as these places are allocated by the admissions team at County and not the school. If your child is currently in our Nursery, you must still complete an online application form to secure a place in Reception for September 2023. The online application form and further useful information can be found at:

[Primary, junior and middle school places | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2023 and the National Offer Day is 17th April 2023.

Reverse Advent Calendar

Advent will soon be upon us and in homes across the country, cardboard doors will be opened in the traditional countdown to Christmas.

This idea of preparation and waiting has been lost in many of the Advent Calendars available today. Children (and adults) no longer use the calendars as a countdown to Christmas but are instead rewarded with a gift each day.

But just as some look to luxury, others are choosing to reverse things this Advent - with a calendar which gives back. You may have heard this described as a reverse Advent Calendar. The idea is simple; instead of opening the door to a chocolate or picture, you do the giving. For every day of Advent a donation gets put into a box so that by the time Christmas is here you can have a wonderful collection of food items which can be donated to someone else. Reverse Advent calendars are a great idea, and an easy way for you to help someone else this Christmas.

At Watton at Stone Primary School, we would also like to host our own reverse advent calendars again this year (last year was incredibly successful). From 14th November, all classes will have their own food collection box and all we ask is that on one day of your choice between 14th November and 9th December, that you donate 1 item of food that a family might like to eat over Christmas. We will then make food boxes that will be distributed locally before the end of the term and we hope that these food box donations can really support families in our community to have a wonderful Christmas.



Suggested food items you may wish to donate

Fruit cake
Crackers (for the cheese)
Mince pies
Custard
Christmas pudding
Tinned vegetables
Selection pack
Box of chocolates
Biscuits
Tinned fruit
Long life milk
Carton of fruit juice
Bottles of squash
Stuffing mix
Jar of cranberry jelly
Box of Christmas crackers
Packs of crisps or other savory nibbles

Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	Phoenix P - for being incredibly creative and using her imagination.	Dylan C - for looking after Preschool toys and doing some fantastic tidying.
Nur	William H - for gaining independence with something he previously found challenging and showing pride in his achievements. Well done William! Leo M - for looking out for his friends and looking after them when they are upset. Great work Leo!	Bem T - for trying hard to tell an adult when he needs help. Well done Bem, keep it up!
Rec	Issac H - for really impressing Ms Ramirez (and the Reception staff) this week. He is constantly making the right choices during his learning and is a great role model. Rafaela C - for showing a love of learning. She wants to answer questions and show what she knows.	Matilda M - for her enthusiastic approach to learning and constant smile. She has impressed me with her reading this week.
Year 1	Ayaz P - for working to the best of his ability on phonics.	Nathan - for always following instructions and showing respect.
Year 2	Lillie C - for being an outstanding role model by always working to the best of her ability, following the instructions and making the right behaviour choices.	Beatriz DS - for showing an excitement and love for learning both at school and at home.
Year 3	Eliza H - for impeccable behaviour in lessons - fabulous focus and aspirations in Maths and English this week. Joshua G - for his love of learning. Extra home research and information about our mountains topic in Geography	Sam M - for his love of learning. Sam has thrown himself into his learning this week and been a star!
Year 4	Dexter H - for working to the best of his ability in our maths lessons this week. I have been really impressed with how Dexter has shown his working out before recording his answers. Well done Dexter.	Henry A - for always being well mannered and showing courtesy to everyone. Well done Henry.
Year 5	Harley DS - for always following the school rules and paying attention to adults.	Alex B - for always working to the best of his ability and producing excellent work.
Year 6	Maddie G - for working to the best of her ability in all lessons Jessica W - for working to the best of her ability in all lesson	Ronnie H - Trying to the best of his ability to improve his handwriting and presentation.

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Henry A - 7th Nov

Romilly B - 7th Nov

Erin C - 10th Nov

Isaac H - 11th Nov

House Points

This Week:

Red House - 307

Blue House - 351

Green House - 295

Yellow House - 308

This Half term so far:

1st Place - Blue House - 1,128

2nd Place - Green House - 1,125

3rd Place - Yellow House - 1,064

4th Place - Red House - 1,046

Homework Club

A reminder that homework club is on every Wednesday lunchtime from 12.30 - 1pm. This is an opportunity for children to read their book (and hopefully get their house points once they have read 5 times during the week) or practice their spellings before the spelling test on Friday.

Everyone welcome.

Watton at Stone Primary and
Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG
Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne

Raising a concern with the school

We work hard to maintain good relationships with our children and parents but sometimes parents need to raise a concern or even complain formally about issues relating to a matter at the school.

In the first instance, please raise your concern to the class teacher as they are often best placed to solve your concerns immediately.

If, however, you are unhappy with the class teacher's response, then you can raise your concern in writing with one of the phase leaders (Miss Chatman, Mrs Gill, Mrs Roberts and Mrs Higgins). They will investigate your concerns and provide you with a response.

If you are still unhappy with the response you are given, then you can escalate your concern again in writing to the Deputy Head (Mrs Gill).

Finally, should you be dissatisfied with the response from the Deputy Head, then you can raise your concern in writing with Mrs Etienne.

Breakfast Club

As we published at the end of September, our breakfast club numbers are currently exceptionally low and as school we have had to reduce staffing hours to enable this club to continue. Whereas we would prefer parents to make regular bookings with us, we are also happy to take ad hoc bookings when you know that there will be a specific day that you will require your child to come to breakfast club to support your childcare arrangements.

All ad hoc bookings will need to be made at least the day prior to you requiring this provision so that Miss Knott knows who to expect arrive in the morning and these bookings can be made directly through the admin team or contact clubs@wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk

Please help us to keep this provision running.



Nursery School, Rectory Lane, Watton at
<http://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

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

Darci T - for her continual positive attitude to learning. She took a risk when we asked her to write a sentence independently, rose to the challenge and showed pride in the result!

Year 1:

Shiva - for being reflective in everything she does and for always trying to improve.

Year 2:

Eleanor - for always being respectful.

Henry - for showing resilience with his reading

Year 3:

Imogen - for being a resilient learner and never giving up.

Leo - for showing empathy and kindness towards others.

Year 4:

Erin - for having high aspirations. Erin produced a fantastic diary entry earlier this week which included the success criteria that we had discussed. Well done Erin.

Maia - for working fantastically with others in our PE lesson this week. She listened to the instructions, practised the skills within the group game and showed good communication overall. Well done Maia.

Year 5:

Libby - for always showing respect to both adults and other children.

Year 6:

Zosia M

Shannon P

Jake V

Jasmine L

for working hard on their reading and coming off Reading Plus.

Watton At Stone Reception Admissions 2023-2024



Was your child born between

1st September 2018 & 31st August 2019?

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

Monday 7th November at 2:00pm or
Tuesday 8th November at 6:00pm or
Monday 14th November at 6:00pm or
Tuesday 15th 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

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

Friends of Watton Update

Thank you to everyone for all the donations of beautiful decorated sweet jars and bottles for the tombola at the Christmas Bazaar. If anyone would like to create a sweetie jar with the kids there's still time to bring them in - if you could bring any jars or bottle tombola donations to the office by 1st December we'd really appreciate it.

The Friends of Watton School AGM is next Thursday (17th) at 8pm in The Bull and your first glass of prosecco is on us! Please come along and give us feedback on events and listen to our spending plans for next year. As a charity we have to hold an annual AGM and we need to get feedback from our trustees - you. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

Next Friday (18th) is non-uniform day we're asking for a donation of a chocolate bar for the chocolate bar tombola please. There will be a collection point under the covered area outside the dining room but you can also take them into the office if you forget. Thank you very much.

We have an exciting new event this year - The Santa Dash! This will be a 2km run/jog/ walk around the field at the Nigel Poulton Hall on the 11th December at 11.30am - come dressed up or in your best Santa hat/ antlers! Tickets for runners will be £5 each and we'll send out sponsor forms or Just Giving details soon. There will be refreshments for supporters too.



the national sleep helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?

Will your child not sleep in their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541

Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am



the national sleep helpline

50%

Around 50% of children will have a sleep issue at some point*

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE?

In partnership with Furniture Village, The Sleep Charity has launched a brand new National Sleep Helpline to ensure that everyone has access to high quality, evidence-based advice.

HOW CAN THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE HELP YOU?

- Run by a team of specialist trained sleep advisors
- Offer you some practical strategies and recommend services that could help
- Ensuring you understand how sleep plays an important part in your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Listen without judgement and help you decide what next steps are right for you
- Empower you with sleep knowledge so you can understand why your child might not be sleeping well and how that can change

03303 530 541

Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am

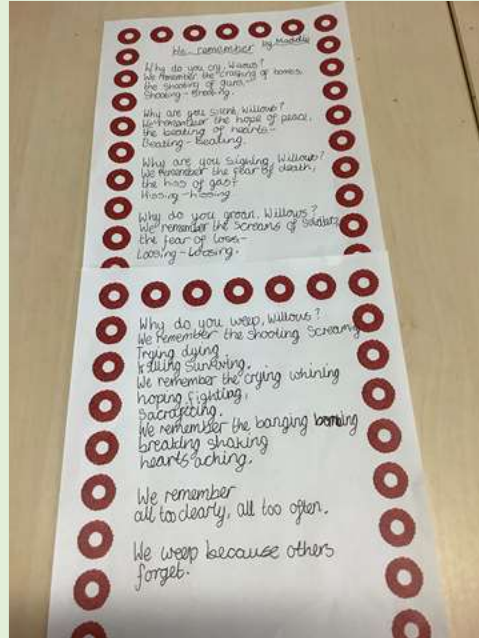
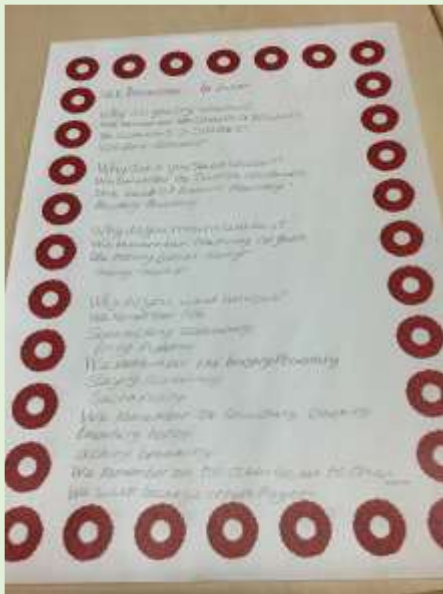
POWERED BY the sleep charity

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH Furniture Village

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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

Remembrance Day Photos - Year 6 poems



Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red - new dates added this week

November

14th - 18th November - Anti bullying/wellbeing week

14th - Reverse advent calendar commences for 4 weeks

14th - Odd Socks Day

14th November - Prospective Reception parents school tour 6pm

15th November - Prospective Reception parents school tour 6pm

18th - Non uniform day (bring a donation in for the Friends of Watton Christmas Bazaar)

17th - FGB 4pm (Full Governing Board meeting)

23rd November - No Pens day Wednesday

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

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

2nd - Friends of Watton Christmas Bazaar

5th - 9th December - Assessment week

6th December - Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents
Sept '23

14th - Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day

12th - 16th - Preschool Christmas singing every day this week from 11.15am

12th - KS2 Christmas performance to parents 6pm (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)

13th - KS2 Christmas performance to parents 2pm (Years 3, 4 5 and 6)

13th - KS1 Christmas performance to parents 6pm (Years 1 and 2)

15th - Early Years Christmas performance 10am (Nursery and Reception)

15th - KS1 Christmas performance 2pm (Years 1 and 2)

16th - Early Years Christmas performance 10am (Nursery and Reception)

19th and 20th - BIG school uniform give away (on the playground at the end of the school day)

20th - Reception and KS1 theatre trip

20th - Whole school enterprise day. All parents and families welcome

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

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

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
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