



## Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

To all our families and friends,

This week, we started our Wellbeing and Anti Bullying week by all wearing odd socks to school. The odd socks symbolises that we are all different and that children should all be allowed to be themselves, accepting of one another and celebrate difference.



During the week, all the classes took part in at least one wellbeing/anti bullying activity each day. All teachers were asked to complete an anti-bullying questionnaire with their classes too. We will share the results of the whole school questionnaire in a few weeks' time when they have been analysed.

To support your conversations at home, it may be useful for you to use a similar definition of bullying that we use in school:

**Bullying** is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm.

**Bullying is not:**

- \*Not liking someone
- \*Accidentally bumping into someone
- \*Making other children play things a certain way
- \*A single act of telling a joke about someone
- \*Arguments with other children.
- \*Expression of unpleasant thoughts or feelings regarding others
- \*Isolated acts of harassment, aggressive behaviour, intimidation or meanness

All the behaviours above are unpleasant and need to be addressed, but they are not to be treated as bullying. Many times, labelling a single act of aggression can turn it into bullying just by perceiving it that way.

We finished the week with an amazing sharing assembly which showcased all the classes learning this week.

### Persistent absentees

As a school we work hard to reduce our persistent absence levels. We monitor all absences thoroughly on a weekly basis and send out letters to parents and carers where a child has been taken out of school for a term time holiday or where we are concerned about a child missing many days of their education. If we see no improvement in attendance, we then invite those parents and carers of our persistently absent children into school for a meeting with the Headteacher and Attendance Officer.

A child becomes a persistent absentee when they miss 10% of the school days for whatever reason. It may shock many parents to know that children reach this benchmark at the end of the autumn term if they have missed 4.5 days of school this term (which is equivalent to 9 absences).

As a school we know the benefits of regular attendance for the children's learning and that those children who are persistently absent are at risk of not reaching their full potential. We want to work with all of our parents and carers and support you in getting your child to attend school as much as possible. We will be sending out letters to parents shortly where we have identified children as being persistent absentees.

## Balanceability

This week, Reception class have taken part in Balanceability lessons. Balanceability is a national initiative designed to teach young children the skills to ride a pedal bicycle. The Hertford and Ware sports Partnership has a number of unique ergonomic balance bikes – bikes with no pedals or little bikes, as we like to call them and can offer children the chance to acquire the initial skills to enable them to progress to riding a pedal bike.

Their Balanceability programme comprises of structured lesson plans that help children develop gross motor skills, spatial awareness, dynamic and static balance, bilateral coordination and confidence in a safe, challenging but fun way.



## This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	98.4%
Macintosh Class(1)	97.9%
Antonelli class (2)	100%
Anning Class (3)	97.1%
Goodall Class (4)	99.1%
Galileo Class (5)	99.1%
Wallace Class (6)	96.8%

Whole school attendance this week is: 98.24%

Whole school attendance this term is 95.81%

Congratulations to Antonelli on 100% attendance

**Our Attendance target each week is 97%**

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.

## 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.



## Year 3 - Making Stone Soup



In Year 3, the children listening to The Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura as part of their history topic about The Stone Age. They investigated hunters and gatherers and made a semi authentic meal. They developed their cutting skills using the bridge technique. All the children sampled the stew. Don't forget to ask them what he thought!

## Governor Update

As you will recall (unless you are new to the school from September), the Governors asked you in July to complete a survey of your views on the school. Unfortunately we only received 36 responses, which is a response rate of approximately 17%. Whilst we have considered the responses received, given the low response rate it is difficult for us to draw any strong conclusions from them. We have therefore decided to run another survey in January 2023. Understanding your opinion on the school is very important to us and therefore we hope that all of you are able to complete the survey in January.



BE HAPPY

Featured in hundreds of classrooms!



**SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH AS THEY GROW**

With the Be Happy Hub!



**ONLY £1.99 A MONTH**

The Be Happy Hub is an online resource centre, with over 300 printable, science-backed resources to support your child's mental health from birth to adulthood.

- ✓ Educate and develop emotional awareness
- ✓ Teach coping techniques that last a lifetime
- ✓ Calming and fun activities uploaded every week
- ✓ Used by NHS psychologists, parents and teachers.

Sign up now: [www.behappyresources.co.uk](http://www.behappyresources.co.uk)

## CALM, EDUCATE AND INSPIRE

- ✓ Over 300 fun and creative resources
- ✓ Resources based on tried and tested techniques and approved therapist tools
- ✓ Crafts, worksheets, games and more
- ✓ Monthly affirmations and mindfulness exercises based on seasonal themes
- ✓ Request your own resources
- ✓ Cancel any time!



BABY 0-36 MONTHS



AGE 3-5



AGE 5-8



AGE 9-11



TEENS



MOTHERHOOD

★★★★★  
"My daughter absolutely loves the colouring and activity sheets you do! They have massively helped her with anxiety and we're working through the school pack now!"

View and download psychologist approved free guides to mental health now - no need to sign up!

Visit: [www.behappyresources.co.uk](http://www.behappyresources.co.uk)



## Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	<p><b>Eoin G</b> - for sharing and helping his friends this week. He has also been doing well when coming into Preschool.</p> <p><b>Ronnie M</b> - for being a kind and happy friend, he always has a beautiful smile on his face.</p>	<p><b>Molly W</b> - for sharing and helping her friends during play. Molly has also showed off some excellent maths skills.</p>
Nur	<p><b>Lola H</b> - for being a really kind friend and helping someone when they fell over. Excellent Lola!</p> <p><b>Jack P</b> - for showing a love of learning at school and taking part in wellbeing activities at home too. Keep it up Jack!</p>	<p><b>Amaya P</b> - for joining in with all of our wellbeing activities at school and completing them at home too. Fantastic Amaya!</p> <p><b>Fraser W</b> - for being really kind to his friends and helping them when they were sad. Great work Fraser!</p>
Rec	<p><b>George P</b> - for being a great role model at tidy up time. He always helps in every area, regardless of whether he has played there.</p>	<p><b>Isaac W-P</b> - for always making the right choice, trying his hardest and listening to adults.</p>
Year 1	<p><b>Peter S</b> - for working to the best of his ability and challenging himself in maths.</p>	<p><b>Francis R</b> - for working to the best of her ability in phonics and coming into school with a smile.</p>
Year 2	<p><b>Logan</b> - for working to the best of his ability whilst writing about Traction Man.</p> <p><b>Millie</b> - for working to the best of her ability and showing a brilliant effort with her reading.</p>	<p><b>Frankie</b> - for showing a love for learning and great determination during maths this week.</p>
Year 3	<p><b>Beau DS</b> - for constantly making the right choices</p>	<p><b>Edward S</b> - for paying attention to all the adults</p>
Year 4	<p><b>Maia</b> - for her love of learning in all subjects. In addition to this, she has been supporting her friends in class with their learning this week.</p>	<p><b>Finley S</b> - for paying attention to all adults and being well mannered.</p>
Year 5	<p><b>Darcie C</b> - for always following the school rules.</p>	<p><b>Alfie C</b> - for working to the best of his ability and showing a love of learning.</p>
Year 6	<p><b>Blake S</b> - always working to the best of his ability and putting in 100% effort in his work.</p> <p><b>Jack T</b> - for making a conscious effort to make the right choices in class in order to achieve his best.</p>	<p><b>Lucas B</b> - for his growing confidence in maths, wanting to share his answers and reasons.</p>

## Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Freddie D - 12<sup>th</sup> November  
Robson C - 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Seren G - 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Oscar W - 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Anya J - 15<sup>th</sup> November  
Dylan JA - 15<sup>th</sup> November  
Daniel R - 15<sup>th</sup> November

## House Points

This Week:

Red House - 385  
Blue House - 396  
Green House - 502  
Yellow House - 417

This Half term so far:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Green House - 1,627  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Blue House - 1,524  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Yellow House - 1,481  
4<sup>th</sup> Place - Red House - 1,431

## What Are We Reading In Class?

### November - What are we reading?

Pre-School Giraffe's Can't Dance - Giles Andreae

Nursery- Rainbow Fish - Marcus Pfister

Reception Bucket filling from A-Z - Carol McCloud

Year 1 The Owl who was afraid of the dark - Jill Tomlinson

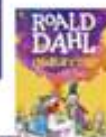
Year 2 - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - Roald Dahl

Year 3- Oi Caveboy - Alan McDonald

Year 4 - Charlotte's Web- E B White

Year 5- The Nowhere Emporium - Ross MacKenzie

Year 6 - Boy at the back of the class - Onjal Q Rauf



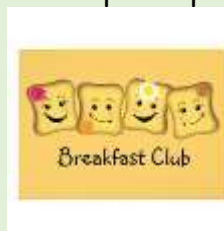
Each month, we are going to let you know what books the children are having read to them in class by the class teachers to promote their love of reading. If your child is particularly excited and keen on a book, then you may like to get them a copy from the library to read themselves at home.

## 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 adhoc 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](mailto:clubs@wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk)

Please help us to keep this provision running.



Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School, Rectory Lane, Watton at Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG  
Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne  
<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

Penelope W - for showing empathy and kindness to her friends. She was overheard asking if someone was OK - she asked because she genuinely cared.

### Year 1:

Jess P - for being kind to others

### Year 2:

Izzy - for showing resilience whilst learning how to do joined up handwriting.

Alessia, Henry & Bella - for showing empathy and kindness and working together to cheer up a friend.

### Year 3:

Jack R - for showing empathy and kindness by helping a child in Year 2.

### Year 4:

Carmelita for working well with others in our PE lesson.

Mila for being creative in our art lesson this week.

### Year 5:

Bertie S- resilience

Alex B- Empathy and kindness

### Year 6:

Oscar W - for showing empathy and kindness in a P.E lesson.

Lucas B - for also showing empathy and kindness in a PE lesson.



## 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 14<sup>th</sup> November, all classes will have their own food collection box and all we ask is that on one day of your choice between 14<sup>th</sup> November and 9<sup>th</sup> 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 savoury nibbles

## Poetry Writing Competition

**Poetry competition** - The organisation Greenpeace is running a national poetry competition. The theme for the competition is the environment ('Poems for the Planet').

How to enter:

Submit your poem by **midnight on 1 December 2022** using the online entry form <https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/resources/poems-planet-competition/#submit>

You can enter **one** poem on the theme of the environment and hope. You can use any form of poetry and your poem can be up to 400 words. The winning poems from each category will be published on Greenpeace's website.

The deadline is midnight on 1st December 2022.

## Children In Need



## Friends of Watton update

Thank you so much for all the chocolate bars donated for the chocolate bar tombola at the Christmas Bazaar. We are very excited about our first bazaar for 3 years - lots of plans are being made for all the stalls and there will be face painting, cakes and a licensed bar for the grownups too!

The Christmas Bazaar is on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 5-7.30pm. We're looking for volunteers to help set up on Friday afternoon and if you're able to help out on a stall for an hour slot at the bazaar please let us know on [Friends-of-watton@googlegroups.com](mailto:Friends-of-watton@googlegroups.com).

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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 too so your little ones can get sponsorship for this as it will be a big achievement for many. There will be refreshments for supporters too.

Tickets are available now via Classlist - older siblings, grandparents, aunts and uncles etc are all welcome to join in too!

<https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/929661630>

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



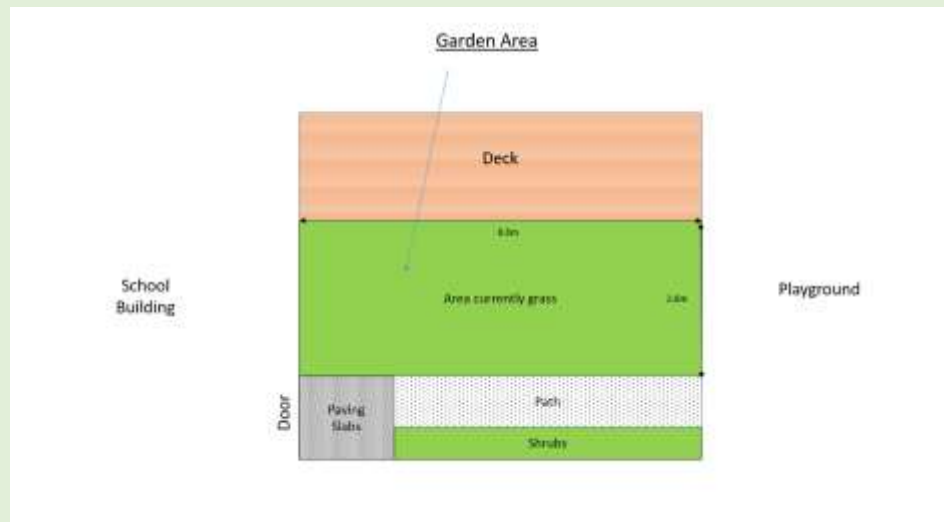
## Garden Design Competition

We are holding a Garden Design Competition at school. Please design a new school garden based on the information and sizes provided. It can be presented how you wish!

All entries need to be returned to the school office by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Pupil Parliament will be involved in choosing the final design.

I am really looking forward to seeing your amazing ideas and designs.

Mrs Goodman



Hello, parents & guardians!  
We are BeeZee Bodies, and we work with Hertfordshire County Council to provide FREE (and FUN!) healthy lifestyles support for children and their families.

**WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR FAMILY TO BE HEALTHIER?**

GOOD NEWS! WE HAVE NEW BEEZEE BODIES GROUPS STARTING NEAR YOU IN JANUARY.

**GET ON THE WAITING LIST!**

Just go to [beezeebodies.com/families](https://beezeebodies.com/families) (or scan the QR code!) to find out more.



SCAN ME WITH  
YOUR SMARTPHONE  
CAMERA!

\*To be eligible for this awesome free service, your family must live/go to school/be registered with a GP in Hertfordshire and include one child aged 5 - 15 who is above their ideal healthy weight.

## LET'S MAKE SWEET POTATO CINNAMON SWIRLS!



### WHAT TO DO:

1. Bake the sweet potatoes in the oven for one hour at 180C, or until soft.
2. Allow the potatoes to cool and then peel the skin off
3. Mash the potatoes and stir through the maple syrup
4. Mix the flour, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda and salt together.
5. Add in the flour mix to the mashed potato a little bit at a time, stirring until it becomes a ball. You might need to use your hands to bring it all together to form a dough.
6. Allow the dough to rest for at least 30 minutes
7. Using a rolling pin or your hands, roll out the dough onto a floured surface to make a rectangle. It should be the thickness of a £1 coin
8. Lightly brush the surface with the oil
9. Mix the sugar and cinnamon together and sprinkle across the surface
10. Using a pizza cutter or a knife, cut 3cm strips and then roll them to make a spiral
11. Put all the rolls next to each other in an oven dish and bake for 30 minutes
12. Meanwhile, mix icing sugar together with a little bit of water to make a thick paste.
13. Drizzle over the buns once they're cooled
14. Enjoy!



### WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- 2 sweet potatoes (cooked, peeled and mashed)
- 2 tbsp maple syrup
- 240g plain flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- Pinch of salt
- 50g soft brown sugar
- 4 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tbsp vegetable or olive oil
- 50g icing sugar
- 1-2 tsp water

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 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>

Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

**November**

21<sup>st</sup> - Year 2 trip to St Albans Cathedral

23<sup>rd</sup> - 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

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

**December**

1<sup>st</sup> - Choir performance All Saints Church 7pm

2<sup>nd</sup> - Friends of Watton Christmas Bazaar

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

8<sup>th</sup> - Choir performance to local residents at the Methodist Church.

14<sup>th</sup> - Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper 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

12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> - Pre school Christmas singing everyday this week from 11.15am  
12<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Christmas performance to parents 6pm (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)  
13<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Christmas performance to parents 2pm (Years 3, 4 5 and 6)  
13<sup>th</sup> - KS1 Christmas performance to parents 6pm (Years 1 and 2)  
15<sup>th</sup> - Early Years Christmas performance 10am (Nursery and Reception)  
15<sup>th</sup> - KS1 Christmas performance 2pm (Years 1 and 2)  
16<sup>th</sup> - Early Years Christmas performance 10am (Nursery and Reception)  
19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> - BIG school uniform give away (on the playground at the end of the school day)  
20<sup>th</sup> - Reception and KS1 theatre trip  
20<sup>th</sup> - Whole school enterprise day. All parents and families welcome  
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

### **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**

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



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