



Newsletter 25th November 2022

To all our families and friends,

This week began with Year 2 class taking a trip to St Alban's Cathedral as part of their R.E curriculum where they are required to learn about a Christian place of worship as well as learn about religious signs and symbols. The children had a brilliant morning learning in an engaging and interactive way and the staff at St. Albans Cathedral commented on the fantastic behaviour and learning attitudes of our Year 2 children. Well done Year 2. A huge thank you also to the parent volunteers who accompanied the class on this trip.



On Tuesday morning, Mrs Butler alongside 3 parent volunteers made a very positive start on the organisation and layout of the new Design Technology room. We are very fortunate to have a spare classroom which we wanted to give a real purpose to as well as ensuring that when children entered the room, they were very clear about what the purpose of the room is. An area for food technology was created, resources re organised for both food technology and creative projects and labels and new shelving erected to display the children's finished products. The children have been using this room for their design technology units this term already but with this new layout and organisation, I am sure that it will help tremendously. A huge thank you to everyone who helped on Tuesday.

This week has also seen 2 new, amazing displays go up around the school. These projects have been in the design process for some time now, but we wanted to ensure that they were personalised to our school and exactly matched the needs of the curriculum that we have designed for geography and history. We aim for these to become teaching and learning resources to support the children with remembering key historical periods of time and a deeper knowledge of Hertfordshire and where we are positioned within the UK.



We had No Pens Wednesday this week too, which the children always thoroughly enjoy. There were lots of lessons which promoted conversations and creativity as well as an opportunity to start practicing those Christmas songs ready for our end of term performances! More details about what each class did are further down in the newsletter.

Finally, on Thursday, we welcomed M&M theatre company into school to perform 'Snow White' to all the children in Reception to Year 6. What amazing performances these were and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Please see below for some photos of this event. A huge thank you to parents who made a financial contribution.

Snow White Photo Gallery



On Thursday, all the children in Reception to Year 6 had the opportunity to watch an amazing pantomime in school. The lighting, music and acting was of a very high quality and the children all enjoyed watching it.



This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	84.8%
Macintosh Class(1)	94.1%
Antonelli class (2)	93.6%
Anning Class (3)	95.7%
Goodall Class (4)	97.3%
Galileo Class (5)	92.3%
Wallace Class (6)	91.4%

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.

Whole school attendance this week is: 92.37%

Whole school attendance this term is: 95.53%

Well done Goodall class for having the best attendance in school this week.

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.

No Pens Wednesday

Nursery We have been reading the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We did some butterfly painting and have used the playdough to make the caterpillar during different parts of the story.



Reception The children were encouraged to act out being Superheroes, with superpowers designed to help others.



Year 1 Geography - we located the capital cities within the UK and stuck them onto maps.



Year 2 had a series of persuasion debates about topics such as the best pizza topping, their favourite season and cats vs dogs.



Year 3 researched the Life of Van Gogh. We identified the different techniques that he used in his paintings and then created our own sketches of this incredible artist.



Year 4 In R.E. we learnt about Rama and Sita and made Diwali pots out of clay. In art, after studying the birch tree in the playground we created the effect of the bark.



Year 5 In our tag rugby lesson, Year 5 devolved their attacking principles, understanding when to run and when to pass.



Year 6 After learning about the Buddhist festival of Vesak, we worked in teams to make lanterns. Mental Maths Scavenger Hunt - to develop our quick-thinking mental arithmetic skills.



Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	<p>Tallulah B - for being a wonderful friend, she has been helping them when she sees they are struggling to do things.</p> <p>Hudson S - has been engaged in his learning this week; he has done some amazing maths.</p>	<p>Grace B - has been an all round superstar this week, being kind, respectful and caring.</p>
Nur	<p>Zachary C - for being a fantastic role model to everyone when at school and always being kind to others around him. Excellent Zachary!</p> <p>Kaylee M - for showing a love of learning this week and trying hard during in group time. Well done Kaylee!</p>	<p>Bem T - for being a kind friend and helping them when they were hurt. Great work Bem, keep it up!</p>
Rec	<p>Amelia H - for always being ready, keen and willing to learn. She quietly gets on with her learning and always tries her hardest.</p>	<p>Freddie G - for always remembering his manners - especially at lunchtime. He never needs to be reminded to say please and thank you...</p>
Year 1	<p>Frankie - love of learning and producing amazing homework</p>	<p>Shiva - being a good role model and always listening well</p>
Year 2	<p>Louis C - for showing a love for learning and impeccable behaviour on our class trip to St Albans Cathedral.</p>	<p>Bella - for being an outstanding role model by always listening to the adults and having such a positive attitude.</p>
Year 3	<p>Imogen C - outstanding role model by being super supportive to another child in class this week.</p>	<p>Isabella L - always working to the best of her ability - fabulous line and brush work on NO PENS day Van Gogh Portraits</p> <p>Bobby B - love of learning - thoughtful and careful work in sketching in our Van Gogh work.</p>
Year 4	<p>Mila S - for always listening to adults and working to the best of her ability.</p>	<p>Billy C - for working to the best of his ability.</p>
Year 5	<p>Megan M- for working to the best of her ability in PE. Megan showed great resilience to overcome challenges.</p>	<p>Jonah D- shows a love of learning in all lessons. He loves joining in with class discussions and group work.</p>
Year 6	<p>Callum E - listening to and acting upon his next steps in writing to achieve his potential.</p>	<p>Poppy and Oscar - for showing a love of learning and high aspirations in their writing this week.</p>

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Edie M - 19th November
Dex H - 20th November
Henry A - 21st November

Governor update

I visited the school on Thursday morning to observe the Early Years. During my visit I spent time in Pre-school, Nursery and Reception. It was a privilege to spend time talking to the staff and children. I enjoyed playing with and talking to the children while they participated in child initiated learning activities and also observed some adult led sessions. It was delightful to see the children exploring and enjoying their learning environment and using the many quality resources available to them in school.

Jan Smith
Governor

House Points

This Week:

Red House - 373
Blue House - 389
Green House - 402
Yellow House - 402

This Half term so far:

1st Place - Green House - 2,029
2nd Place - Blue House - 1,913
3rd Place - Yellow House - 1,854
4th Place - Red House - 1,794

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

Please help us to keep this provision running.



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

Kennedy T - for great sharing with his friends; showing how he can work with others successfully
Henry A - for being independent with his sentence writing in phonics

Year 1:

Elliott - for working well with others

Year 2:

Eleanor - for having high aspirations during PE.
Sam - for showing curiosity and creativity during guided reading.

Year 3:

Lexie - for her creativity. She is starting to write her own Christmas chapter book as a homework project.
Dylan and Seren - for trying out the stone age soup recipe at home and tempting their parents to try it.

Year 4:

Rose - for being creative in art and investigating different ways of applying paint to get different effects.
Noah - for his painting and exploring different techniques in art.

Year 5:

Ewen C- for working with others and showing empathy and kindness in PE. Ewen was able to coach and support another member of the class.

Year 6:

Henry - Henry for always reading above and beyond at home.
Lucas - for working hard to reach his final Reading Plus Target

Reverse Advent Calendar

Following the success of last year's reverse advent calendar, we are doing it again! All we ask is that on one day of your choice between now 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 savoury nibbles

Big Uniform Giveaway

On 19th and 20th December, we are going to be setting up some tables on the playground at the end of the school days with donated items of school uniform as well as unnamed items of uniform found in school, which we are unable to return to the owners. If you currently have school uniform which your child has outgrown and you are unsure what to do with it, then please consider bringing it to school so that it can be rehomed.

We have been amazed at the number of school items we have in school that are unnamed, so please also check your children's clothes weekly to ensure that the name labels are still intact or the written names haven't washed out. We really don't want to give away your property but there is impossible to store all of these items. However, if you know that your child has lost items of clothing, then please come along to this uniform event where you can pick up a replacement. We would be very appreciative of any parents who could help to set up these stalls please on these dates. If you are able to help out, then please contact the admin team.

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

Enterprise Day - Put the date on your calendars!

On 20th December between 2pm and 3.15pm, we will be opening the school to all of our families and community and inviting you in to our Enterprise Day event.

Each class are going to get very busy soon making items to sell. The aim of the event is to make the most profit as possible, so the focus in class will be to choose and make items which have a minimal production cost but make the most profit. Our older classes will be exploring in more detail costs and profit following their sales. All teachers will be keeping the profit that they make to buy some new resources for their classes so that the children gain a sense of achievement too. These events are always very popular and involve the whole class to make them a success.

Online Safety

At the beginning of each half term, we dedicate a computing lesson in each class to teach about online safety. If, there are online safety issues at another point in time, then the teacher may decide to teach a further lesson about online safety. Each teacher also teaches a whole half term unit on online safety which for most classes is in the autumn term. As you can see, we do lots to enforce online safety messages throughout the year. If you would like to watch some short online safety videos with the children, then the following are suitable:

Suitable for KS1

[Online safety: Staying safe online \[FREE RESOURCE\] - YouTube](#)

Suitable for KS2

[CBBC Lifebabbles - Staying Safe Online - YouTube](#)

Friends of Watton update

We're almost ready for the Christmas bazaar next Friday and we've got some amazing prizes for the raffle -

1st prize of £100 cash, 2nd prize of a luxury hamper, 3rd prize of £50 cash, plus: a £30 voucher for The Bull, two voucher for two dinners for The George, a £25 voucher for The Snow Centre, a £20 voucher for Artshed, a family trip for 4 to Knebworth House and a family ticket to Church Farm, Ardeley and lots, lots more!

You should have received some raffle tickets in your child's bag this week. They are £1 each or the whole book for £5. Please make sure you fill in all the stubs, not just the front one, as we will separate them.

Please return, stubs, money and any unsold tickets to the office by the end of the day on Monday 28th, (we will be selling unsold tickets at the bazaar on Friday).

We're looking for volunteers to help set up for the bazaar on Friday afternoon (from 1.30pm) 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.

Our next event, The Santa Dash, is a chance to encourage the children to do some fun exercise before Christmas! 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, in your best Santa hat/ antlers or in running gear! 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 a prize for the most sponsorship raised and refreshments available 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 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>

Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

November

28th – 6pm Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents Sept '23

30th – Flu vaccinations continued

December

1st – Choir performance All Saints Church 7pm

2nd – Friends of Watton Christmas Bazaar

5th – 9th Assessment week

6th – 6pm Nursery tour and offer meeting for new to Nursery parents Sept '23

8th – Choir performance to local residents at the Methodist Church.

14th – Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day

12th – 16th – Pre school Christmas singing everyday this week from 11.15am

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

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13th - KS2 Christmas performance to parents 2pm (Years 3, 4 5 and 6)
13th - KS1 Christmas performance to parents 6pm (Years 1 and 2)
14th - KS2 Christmas performance to parents 6pm (Years 3.4.5 and 6) an additional date added due to the number of children involved in this production.
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 2pm - 3.15pm
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

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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