



Newsletter 2nd December 2022

To all our families and friends,

This week has started to feel a lot like Christmas in school. The tree arrived on Monday and once it was in position in the hall, the Year 6 children traditionally helped to decorate it. As always, a huge thank you to Abel Smith for their generous donation to the school.

The heating is now on to warm classes up, but we still ask that children wear plenty of layers so that they can regulate their clothing depending on whether they are inside or outside and also because the heating may not be turned on all day.

Dates to Remember

Christmas jumper day and Christmas school dinner is on Wednesday 14th December. Look out for the Christmas dinner menu coming out shortly.



Christmas Enterprise Day

This event is on Tuesday 20th December from 2pm. All friends and families welcome. We will be sending out information of what each class will be selling very soon.

With 2 weeks until our Christmas performances, there has been many a Christmas song being sang in class in preparation for next week when the stage will go up and the children can start to practice within their phases in the hall. Please look out for communication from class teachers regarding what your child may need to bring into school to wear for these performances. Hopefully, you have all been able to request your tickets for these performances on the Gateway,

On Thursday, Year 2 had a fantastic morning taking part in a workshop led by the Snowsmith theatre company. They learnt about the story behind the puppet show they are going to see in a couple of weeks and took part in lots of activities. They wrote poems, role played scenes and worked as teams to create weather catchers. They can't wait to watch the puppet show on the 20th December!

The choir sang at the Herts and Ware Music Association carol service at All Saints church in Hertford on Thursday evening. They were fantastic and well and truly, kick started the Christmas spirit. They rehearsed in the morning and performed in the evening. This morning, in assembly, they also performed two of these songs to the school. A huge thank you to Mrs Roberts and Mrs Hanlon for inspiring our choir and leading them last night.

Year 5 visit to the Planetarium

On Thursday, Year 5 visited a planetarium as a super start to their Earth and Space topic, which they will start next term. They got to explore our solar system and discovered lots of amazing facts.



SMSC (Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education)

Our assembly on Monday was introducing the children to SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural education). We wanted to make these explicit to the children as they are part of our day to day practice in school and elements that we interweave into as many lessons as we possibly can. After introducing the 4 types of education broadly, we then focused on moral education so that the children understood the concept of their 'moral compass' and being able to distinguish between right and wrong. To illustrate this for the children, we discussed various scenarios for the children to think about and consider whether they were morally right or wrong. Our children have a natural 'moral compass' and they were able to make this distinction and explain their reasoning.



This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	91.2%
Macintosh Class(1)	88.6%
Antonelli class (2)	98.6%
Anning Class (3)	97.5%
Goodall Class (4)	91.8%
Galileo Class (5)	96.4%
Wallace Class (6)	93.9%

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: 93.9%

Whole school attendance this term is: 95.4%

Well done Antonelli 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.

Year 3 - Stone Age topic



As part of the Year 3 History topic, the children were set the task of creating their own version of Stonehenge with key features of the original. They worked collaboratively in groups.

Big Questions

During the last fortnight, teachers have been posing thought provoking questions and spending quality time discussing and debating these questions across the curriculum.

Year 1 - Why are all the continents different?

Year 2 - How did Florence Nightingale change hospitals in the past?

Year 3 - Is everything you need on the internet true?

Year 4 - Can deaf people listen to music?

Year 5 - How would our world be different without art of any kind?

Year 6 - What do you believe should be the laws that govern social media?

Choir Performance



The choir singing in the carol service at All Saint's Church in Hertford last night. Well done everyone!

Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	Owen T - he has been such a great role model. He always makes the right choices and is a kind friend.	Lyra S - she is a kind and caring friend. She looks after the toys in Preschool well.
Nur	George B - for showing a love of learning when reading the smartest giant in town and doing something really kind at home. Fantastic George! Teddy S - for working to the best of his ability and trying really hard at our rhyming activity this week. Great work Teddy!	Lottie W - for joining in with all of our learning this week and trying her hardest when doing so. Keep it up Lottie!
Rec	Harlen H - for always making good choices and wanting to try his hardest in class. He is very polite and will always apologise (without being asked) if he knows that he has made a mistake	Amelia A - for being a learning superstar in class. She joins in with everything and is so keen to learn.
Year 1	Aiden S - for his positive attitude this week and trying his best.	Jacob and Riya - for always following the rules and listening to all the adults.
Year 2	Grace - for being an outstanding role model and always having impeccable manners.	Connor - for working to the best of his ability and showing great focus.
Year 3	Chloe, Sam A and Bobby - for working to the best of their ability regarding excellent effort and progress in handwriting.	Jack R - love of learning in all areas. Especially fantastic work in Maths and English this week.
Year 4	Monty K - for his love of learning. Monty is often the first to put his hand up to share his ideas with the class. Well done, Monty!	Lexie B - for always working to the best of her ability and her love of learning. Lexie always pays attention in class and has a thirst for knowledge. Keep up the great work Lexie.
Year 5	Ollie G - for constantly making the right choices in everything he does. Maisy W - for working to the best of her ability in English; her writing is always absolutely fantastic.	Robson C - for showing a love of learning and asking excellent questions whilst on our planetarium trip.
Year 6	Lucy G - for working to the best of her ability Charlie R - for his love of learning and his enquiring nature	Lacey B - for trying hard to develop her understanding of fractions and showing resilience

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Henry H - 26th November
Frankie C - 27th November
Zachary C - 27th November
Edward S - 27th November
Eoin G - 1st December
Arthur A - 2nd December
Penny J - 2nd December

House Points

This Week:

Red House - 355
Blue House - 379
Green House - 326
Yellow House - 373

This Half term so far:

1st Place - Green House - 2,355
2nd Place - Blue House - 2,292
3rd Place - Yellow House - 2,227
4th Place - Red House - 2,149

Extra Bank Holiday

Following the Coronation of King Charles III - The Government have recently announced that there will be a national bank holiday on Monday 8th May 2023, after the Coronation Day which is Saturday 6th May. This means that schools will be closed on Monday 8th May and children should not come to school. The bank holiday on Monday 8th May falls on what would have been the first day of Year 6 SATs tests. SATs tests for Year 6 will still take place that week Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th. Please note that the extra holiday on 8th May is in addition to the bank holiday on Monday 1st May when schools will also be closed.

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

Jordan T - for being independent and taking a risk with his learning outside. He has been doing lots of writing this week.

Year 1:

Jethro for working independently in English and using his phonics well.

Year 2:

Erin - for always being respectful towards adults and peers.

Year 3:

Beau - high aspirations and always working so hard.

Year 4:

Finley M. - for showing curiosity in lessons, asking questions to develop his understanding.

Year 5:

Megan M and Neave D for having pride when representing our school at the choir event and then reporting back to the class.

Year 6:

Ethan - for his resilience in hockey

Daisy - for cheering on the team and being encouraging. She works well with others.

Reverse Advent Calendar

Following the success of last years 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

Assessment Week

Next week will be assessment week in school and teacher's will be drawing together all of their knowledge of the children from their work over the past term. In January, each parent/carer will receive a copy of their child's assessment results (Year 1-Year 6) so that they are clear about their current achievements. Once you have received this information, please contact your child's class teacher if you would like to have a further conversation about how you can best support your child at home.

SUPER STAR SPORT

CHRISTMAS SPORTS CAMP SCHEDULE

22nd, 23rd, 28th & 29th DEC

Watton at Stone Primary School
Rectory Lane, Watton-at-stone, Hertford, SG13 3SG

22nd THURSDAY	ELF TRAINING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elf Racing Fastest Wrapper Toy Designer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reindeer Tag game Elf obstacle course Elf Camouflage
23rd FRIDAY	SANTA PARTY DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rocking around the Xmas tree Tinsel Limbo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candy Cane Hunt Letters to Santa Xmas Bubble Show!
28th WEDNESDAY	FESTIVE EXTRAVAGANZA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science snow Wrap the coach Foam snowball battle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Sports Race like a Reindeer! Xmas Bingo
29th THURSDAY	WINTER OLYMPICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhythmic Gymnastics Futsal Winter Hockey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handball Triathlon Indoor Bobsleighbing

Welcome to our Christmas camp schedule, each day you can expect a number of different themed sports, games & activities!

TO BOOK:
Visit www.superstarsport.co.uk, click "Book Now"

Let's all get fit, active & healthy!

SCAN HERE

TO BOOK!

Booking link for spaces

Christmas Holiday Camp

This week, Holly from Super Star Sports came into school to talk to the children in assembly about the Christmas holiday club being run for a few days either side of Christmas.

They have organised a great programme of activities which are all Christmas and winter themed and particularly appealing and fun for this time of year.

You can book 1 or more of these days for your child to attend and it might give you some time too to continue your Christmas preparation at home or a well-earned rest after Christmas!

Super Star Sports have run 3 holiday clubs at Watton so far and are building positive relationships with both parents and the children. We hope that parents continue to use this service during the school holidays and that we can continue to support you with your childcare arrangements. Hopefully, Super Star Sports will be OFSTED registered in the spring term and then parents will be able to use their childcare vouchers too to pay for sessions.

Friends Of Watton Update

We're really looking forward to the Christmas Bazaar tonight - don't forget to bring some snowman accessories like hats and scarves for our "snowman your grownup stall" and please bring cash if possible. We'll have lots of stalls and refreshments plus some treats for the grownup at our licensed bar! Thank you very much for all your donations and help with the bazaar - we really appreciate it and they are crucial to making this event a success.

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 you can buy a ticket at the Christmas Bazaar or on Classlist. We will have sponsorship forms at the Christmas Bazaar or our Just Giving page is <https://www.justgiving.com/friends-of-watton> so your kids can raise 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

December

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)

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)

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

15th - KS1 Christmas performance 2pm (Years 1 and 2)
16th - Early Years Christmas performance 10am (Nursery and Reception)
19th - House Point Reward Treat
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

May

1st - May bank holiday
8th - Extra bank holiday
9th - 12th May - KS2 SAT's

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

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