



## Newsletter 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

To all our families and friends,

This week, Year 4 went on their 3 day residential trip to Hudnell Park near Hemel Hempstead. Despite the cold weather and snow, the children and the staff had an amazing time engaging in a range of activities which included orienteering, den building, bug hunting and art in the environment.

A huge thank you to Mrs Gill, Mrs Bunce and Ms Ramirez for taking the children on this wonderful experience and for looking after them so well. I'm sure that the children will have so much to tell you about it this weekend.

It was lovely to welcome parents into school on Wednesday so that they could take a look at their child's work. As a parent myself, I know that looking at your child's books is a great opportunity to see for yourselves how your child is progressing across the curriculum over time. Parents who attended the face to face parents evening before half term had already had the opportunity to do this at their meeting so therefore it was only parents who had a virtual parents evening appointment who were invited into school on this occasion.

On Thursday, we celebrated 'No Pens Day' in school. This was an opportunity to focus on communication and language skills, and find creative ways for the children to share their learning. We have created a 'No Pen's Day Gallery' in this newsletter so that you can see for yourselves some of the activities the children took part in.

Last week, I undertook 2 days of training to become the senior Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead for the school. The Department for Education has recommended that all schools and colleges in England appoint a senior mental health lead by 2025. The Senior Mental Health Lead is responsible for creating a whole-school approach to supporting mental health and wellbeing as well as an open culture in which staff and students alike can discuss their mental health and wellbeing openly. Other aspects of the role include:

- 1) Promoting good mental health and emotional wellbeing for staff and children
- 2) Developing a whole-school approach to support mental wellbeing
- 3) Educating children on mental health and wellbeing
- 4) Training staff to identify signs and symptoms of emerging mental health needs in students
- 5) Have a clear process in which staff can report concerns
- 6) Have a clear process of managing all mental health concerns
- 7) Have systems in place for students to seek help if they need it
- 8) Have policies in place to support students through referrals to specialists
- 8) Know what local and national help and support is available out of school

Following this training, I have signed the school up to the DfE's Education Staff Wellbeing Charter. This charter supports much of the work that we are already implementing, and we are thrilled that both the DfE and Ofsted have made commitments as part of the charter to prioritise mental health for all. We have also established a Wellbeing and Mental Health team who will meet half termly to look at the action plan and ensure that all children who are struggling with their mental health and wellbeing are being well supported.

## Next Week

**OFSTED** - As you will have seen from the information sent home today, we will be having a school inspection on Monday and Tuesday. The children have been informed in a short assembly this afternoon. If you have a few minutes, we would really appreciate parents completing the parent survey online with

### Teacher Strikes

Next week, is a very short school week. On Wednesday and Thursday, the teachers in the NEU (National Education Union) are out on strike and so therefore there will only be a partial opening of the school on these 2 days. We sent a letter home on Thursday morning with more information about this and the classes that will be affected.

### Science Fortnight

National Science week is 10<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> March. However, due to the forthcoming short week and the OFSTED inspection, we have decided to have a science fortnight instead. A whole school science assembly will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> March and a whole school sharing assembly will conclude science fortnight on 24<sup>th</sup> March with all classes sharing what they have been learning about.

### FOW mothers day stall

We are looking forward to helping the children choose and purchase a gift for their mothers next Friday. A chance for the children to thank their mother's for everything they do for them.

## This Weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	95.2%
Macintosh Class(1)	94.8%
Antonelli class (2)	100%
Anning Class (3)	97.9%
Goodall Class (4)	99.5%
Galileo Class (5)	100%
Wallace Class (6)	96.8%

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: 97.6%

Whole school attendance this term is: 96.49%

Well done Antonelli and Galileo classes for having the best attendance in school this week.

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

## Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Sam A - 4<sup>th</sup> March  
Lilian HN - 4<sup>th</sup> March  
Lucy G - 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Carmelita P - 8<sup>th</sup> March  
Martha E - 9<sup>th</sup> March  
Leo M - 10<sup>th</sup> March  
Kennedy T - 10<sup>th</sup> March

## House Points

This Week:

First place - Green House - 422

Second place - Red House - 397

Third place - Blue House - 391

Fourth place - Yellow House - 372

Overall this half term

First place - Blue House - 2,192

Second place - Yellow House - 2,188

Third place - Green House - 2,186

Fourth place - Red House - 2,027

### Friends of Watton update

Our Mother's Day gift stall presents are nearly all bought but if you have any spare unopened gifts that others might like, that we could sell on the stall, please drop them in to the office. The Mother's Day Stall will be on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March in the school hall, during school time. Your children will be helped to choose and pay for a lovely gift for their Mum, Grandma or other special lady in their life so if you'd like them to be able to buy a gift please send them in with some money on Friday in a labelled envelope.

Don't forget to buy your disco tickets on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets are available via Classlist - £5 for your first and second child and £2.50 for any subsequent siblings. Tickets will include unlimited drinks and a packet of crisps.

Tickets are available from our online ticketing system Classlist -

[https://app.classlist.com/parent/#/events/view/962300709?s=6405253079498752&utm\\_source=SCHOOL&utm\\_medium=SHARED\\_LINK](https://app.classlist.com/parent/#/events/view/962300709?s=6405253079498752&utm_source=SCHOOL&utm_medium=SHARED_LINK)

Our Easter Egg hunt is also back on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April - so save the date to pop along for some fun!

We are often asked why we don't do a Summer Fete and although we'd love to run an early summer event for the children this year we can't as we don't have enough volunteers to organise or run a larger event. In the past FOW had over 20 volunteers who helped to out with all elements of events but we now only have the 5 of us to organise and run all the different events and we are spread very thinly. If we can get 10 adult volunteers for a summer event we'd love to do something special - if you can help please email us on [Friends-of-watton@googlegroups.com](mailto:Friends-of-watton@googlegroups.com) by the 12th March or talk to one of us.

If every parent just contributed 2 hours of their time each school year we'd be able to run amazing events and raise even more money for the school and the children.

### Reading Buddies

We are very lucky to have some amazing Year 5 and Year 6 children who give up a short amount of their own time to listen to children in Year 1 and Year 2 read during their lunch times. Yesterday, the Year 6 reading buddies met up with Mrs Etienne and Mrs Higgins to discuss the impact that they had had on some of the Year 2 readers. They really are making a positive impact on helping these children with their reading which was recognized today in our celebration assembly. Congratulations to Jessica W, Callum E, Blake S, Poppy S, Shannon P, Sophie B, Jasmine L and Eliza h. The year 5 reading buddy initiative has only recently started with Year 1 but we look forward to catching up with them in the near future to see how they are having a positive impact on our Year 1 readers.

## Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	<b>Archie M</b> -has had a fantastic start to Preschool, He has already shown what a kind and caring friend he is.	<b>Charlotte F</b> - has been a kind and considerate friend.
Nur	<b>Kaylee M</b> - for challenging herself with her counting this week. Kaylee showed determination in her own learning. Fantastic Kaylee!	<b>Jack P</b> - for always being a super star when he is at school. Jack has really impressed us with his tidying skills this week - he tidied up toys that he didn't get out, without being asked! Excellent Jack! <b>Amaya P</b> - for being a lovely friend and looking out for others. Great work Amaya!
Rec	<b>Isaac W-P</b> - who could be GTBG every week. He makes good choices, is a good role model and uses wonderful manners	<b>Isaac H</b> - for making good choices (at home and school). He is excited to learn and always tries his hardest
Year 1	<b>Riley E</b> - for working to the best of his ability and listening to all the adults in class.	<b>Jess P</b> - for her impeccable behaviour
Year 2	<b>Bettie G</b> - for working to the best of her ability whilst writing a story.	<b>Henry O</b> - for constantly making the right choices.
Year 3	<b>Verity and Sam B</b> - inviting lonely children to play - when we had children visiting our class this week from Year 4 they made sure they were included in the PE activities.	
Year 4	<b>Christian M</b>	<b>Dexter H</b>
Year 5	<b>Jonah D</b> - for always working to the best of his ability.	<b>Oliver G</b> - for showing a love of learning.
Year 6	<b>Jessica</b> - for working more independently in class and contributing in lessons.	<b>Jake</b> - for being more focused and showing a love of learning in all lessons.



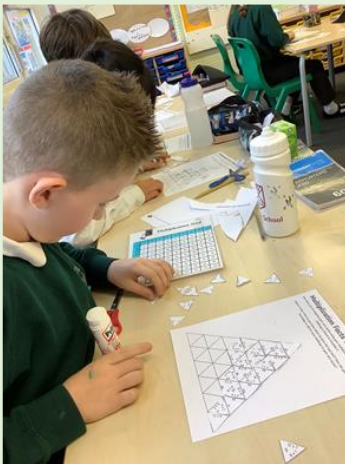
## No Pens Day Photo Gallery



Year 5 - Completing the mechanisms in our pop-up books in DT. Looking at the features of, and acting out, playscripts in English.



Year 3 - In history we researched the ancient culture of the Beaker People and then designed our own Bronze Age pots.



Year 6 - Maths -Tarsia multiplication puzzle



For the Year 4 children who didn't attend Hudnell Park, they made erupting volcanos as part of their geography unit.



In English we used role play to act out the story of The Last Noo Noo.

## 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 - for her resilience when writing - when she noticed her mistake, she happily started again.

### Year 1:

Elizabeth for her resilience. Even with a broken arm she has persevered at every task and not let it stop her from working to the best of her ability.

### Year 2:

Ffion - for being independent during task times.

Danny - for having high aspirations.

### Year 3:

Leo - HT award but away for creativity with his Beaker pot in clay on no pens day.

### Year 4:

Well done to all the children who went to Hudnell Park this week. You all demonstrated many of our school learning values, including: resilience, working with others, being respectful, being creative and taking risks.

### Year 5:

Megan M- for showing resilience.

### Year 6:

Oscar and Jasmine - for showing kindness and empathy to their classmates

## Five Dinners

**Limited time offer - get FREE lifetime membership to FiveDinners.com!**

We know how hard times are at the moment so the folks at FiveDinners.com - online meal planning service - have decided to give away FREE lifetime memberships to try and help you save money on food shopping and reduce the mental load of deciding what to eat every night. There's no catch or restrictions, simply full access to our meal plans to make your dinnertimes a little easier and cheaper.

FiveDinners.com is an online meal planning service co-founded by author and TV chef Theo Michaels. To help with the cost of living crisis so many families and individuals are facing Theo has decided to offer their meal planning service for FREE (usually £49.99 per year); every week they publish a new meal plan with an automatically generated shopping list; set to your serving size so you know exactly what you need for the week ahead. It saves you time, money on food shopping and ultimately takes away the headache of deciding what to cook every night. You can even create and save your own meal plans choosing from hundreds of recipes.

Simply head to <https://FiveDinners.com> and click green Join button now.

## Rapid Fire Competition - Wodson Park

Eight children from year 4 took part in a quick-fire cricket competition at Wodson Park on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023.

The children competed against five other schools, playing each school once and each game consisting of batting twice and fielding twice. The children from Watton were a fantastic team, working together and doing their very best. We had an amazing catcher in Monty, some fabulous fielders in Isabelle, Maia, Mila and Ronny and some tactical batters in Noah, Erin and Henry. We are proud of each and every one of them.



Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG  
Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne

<http://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

## Safeguarding at Watton at Stone

If you have a safeguarding concern about a pupil at the school, then we would like you to get in touch with one of designated safeguarding leads at the school to share your concerns. The safeguarding leads are Nikki Etienne, Sukhi Gill and Elise Chatman. Please either speak to one of these members of staff directly about your concerns or ask the admin team to help you arrange a meeting with one of them. We take the safeguarding of all our children extremely seriously.

## Diary Dates

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

### March

13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> - OFSTED inspection

13<sup>th</sup> - Science fortnight commences

13<sup>th</sup> - John Ellis (from the Methodist Church) to lead the assembly

15<sup>th</sup> - Teacher Strike day 3

16<sup>th</sup> - Teacher Strike day 4

17<sup>th</sup> - Red Nose Day

17<sup>th</sup> - FOW Mother's Day Stall

23<sup>rd</sup> March - Year 4 class assembly 9am

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

24<sup>th</sup> - Science sharing assembly

27<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 P.G.L meeting 6pm

28<sup>th</sup> March - Year 1 class assembly 9am

30<sup>th</sup> - Sponsored Bounce

31<sup>st</sup> March - End of term 2.15pm

31<sup>st</sup> - Feel Good Friday

31<sup>st</sup> - Cake sale on the playground at the end of the day

### 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

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



## May

1<sup>st</sup> - May bank holiday  
8<sup>th</sup> - Extra bank holiday  
9<sup>th</sup> - 12<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

Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 6 Bikeability

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