



## Newsletter 21st April 2023

To all our families and friends

I hope that you and your children have enjoyed a wonderful Easter time, ate some (or lots) of chocolate and hot cross buns and also got to make some lovely new memories and enjoy the time together.

During the Easter holiday, it was lovely to hear that the children who attended the Super Star Sports holiday club had a wonderful time and got to engage in a wide range of sporting and non sporting activities. A huge thank you also to the Friends of Watton who organised an Easter Egg hunt and despite the rain, lots of children attended, had loads of fun and went home with their Easter egg prizes.

As much as possible, we always utilise the holidays to complete some of the larger repairs and maintenance to the school site. During the holiday, phase 1 of the fascia boards have been replaced. The new fascias look fantastic and have certainly improved the presentation of the school. We hope to complete phase 2 of this project in the near future. Thank you Mr Goodman for leading on this project during the holiday.

In the newsletter published before we broke up for the Easter holiday, we included information regarding the summer term lunch and after school club provision. The Gateway (to sign your child up for some of the after school clubs) went live during the Easter holiday. It is currently still open and there are still places available on some clubs including wool craft club, athletics for KS1, gymnastics, keep fit and Spanish of the after school. As always, we also have some after school clubs run by external club providers and for most of these clubs (except for gymnastics) you will need to sign your child up via the information that we have sent home prior to the Easter holiday. Some of the clubs require a minimum number of children to attend to ensure that they are financially viable for the external providers to run. If there are not enough children signed up, then these clubs will need to be cancelled unfortunately as the school cannot afford to pay the remaining balance. Just yesterday we were informed by Boo Drama that there weren't enough children signed up and so therefore they have cancelled the club running this term. The children have been informed in the assembly today about the lunch time clubs available which they can attend too.

Before the Easter holiday, all of the children took part in our annual sponsored bounce fundraiser. This is a major fundraiser that we organise annually and the money raised is used to enhance the curriculum even further during the year with special events and visits from external companies which we wouldn't normally be able to afford. This year we are hoping to organise music and science workshops as well as bringing in an amazing pantomime company nearer Christmas. Please can we ask that all promised sponsorship money now be brought into school and handed to the class teacher or paid directly to the school via the Gateway. Like last year, we will be awarding prizes to the child in each phase across the school who individually raises the most money and a certificate for all of the children who bring in their sponsorship money, no matter how much this may be - every £ will make a big difference. We would really appreciate all the sponsorship money being sent in by the end of this month so that we are able to start to plan at least one of the enrichment opportunities before the end of the school year.

On Wednesday evening, we welcomed Year 2 parents into school for a SAT's information meeting. This was an opportunity to find out more about the SAT's which take place in May and to look at the sample materials. A copy of the powerpoint used is now available on the class 2 page of the school website.

Next Thursday (27<sup>th</sup>) there is a planned teacher strike by the National Education Union. A letter was sent home yesterday with further information about which classes will be affected by the strike next week. Please ensure that you have read that letter to see if your child's class will be affected.

### Wild Challenge

Miss Oakley is very proud to announce that our school science club has successfully completed and achieved the Bronze award for the RSPB Wild Challenge. The Wild Challenge award is a wide variety of activities for schools to help engage children with nature and provide practical learning opportunities. Taking part in this award has enabled the children to apply curriculum knowledge and skills, as well as supporting the development of resilience and teamwork. The children who attended science club in the spring term will receive their individual certificates in assembly. A huge well done to them all!



### Congratulations Mrs Hurley

During the Easter holiday, Mrs Hurley ran the London Landmarks half marathon which she successfully completed in 2 hours and 28mins. Her chosen charity was Target Ovarian Cancer and she managed to raise a whopping £851. Well done Mrs Hurley, we are so proud of your achievement.



### This weeks attendance %

Carson (R)	93.8%
Macintosh Class(1)	99.6%
Antonelli class (2)	97.7%
Anning Class (3)	99.1%
Goodall Class (4)	88.6%
Galileo Class (5)	97.7%
Wallace Class (6)	98.6%

Whole school attendance this week is: 96.7%

Whole school attendance this term is: 96.7%

Well done Wallace, Anning and Macintosh classes for having the best attendance in school this week.

**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.

### Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Logan T - 17<sup>th</sup> April

Bertie S - 19<sup>th</sup> April

Mila S - 19<sup>th</sup> April

Harlen H - 20<sup>th</sup> April

Lyra S - 21<sup>st</sup> April

### House Points

This Week:

First place - Green House - 676

Second place - Red House - 636

Third place - Yellow House - 622

Fourth place - Blue House - 576

Overall this half term

First place - Green House - 1020

Second place - Red House - 977

Third place - Yellow House - 944

Fourth place - Blue House - 927

## Fire Safety Talk

On Thursday, the fire brigade came to talk to the children about fire safety. They asked the children what to do and who to call in an emergency. They spoke about fire alarms and talked about all their kit and equipment.

"It was really good fun and I liked having the opportunity to ask lots of questions. I found it really interesting. Mrs Roberts got dressed up as a firefighter and that was fun too." Ethan

"Today, the firefighters came. It was really fun because we had lots of questions to ask. They brought their fire truck in the playground and showed us all the things that connected to the truck." Jasmine



### School Website - SMSC

Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery  
School - Social, Moral, Spiritual &  
Cultural Development  
<http://wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>

SMSC (social, spiritual, moral and cultural development) are not separate subjects taught in school but are intertwined through everything we teach and do in school. The SMSC page of the website looks at each of these in more detail and how we develop these skills in lessons, activities and events.

### Pupil Progress Meetings

This week, I have met with the class teachers and teaching assistants to discuss the progress and attainment made by the children in the spring term. These meetings are always very professional and I'm always so impressed by the knowledge that the teachers and teaching assistants have about each and every child.

During these meetings we specifically looked at the progress and attainment of the children in reading, writing and maths and planned interventions for those children who would benefit from some additional support. Teachers will be sending home the intervention sheets by the end of next week.

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## Great to Be Gold

Pre Sch	<p><b>Eoin G</b> - for being a wonderful friend and doing some fantastic learning.</p> <p><b>Peachy C</b> - has settled in incredibly well this week and started to make some lovely friendships.</p>	<p><b>Elsie C</b> - had a great first day and settled in brilliantly, well done we are so proud of you.</p>
Nur	<p><b>Hattie H</b> - for always working to the best of her ability and really impressing us with her writing this week. Excellent Hattie!</p> <p><b>Emma Mc</b> - for joining Nursery with a big smile on her face this week and following the routines really well. Great work Emma, keep it up!</p>	<p><b>Oscar S</b> - for showing a love of learning when we went to forest school this week and finding signs of spring. Fantastic Oscar!</p>
Rec	<p><b>Ellis K</b> - for his great attitude to his maths and phonics this week. He has shown a real love of learning through conversation on the carpet too.</p>	<p><b>Freddie G</b> - for his manners at school and his improved attitude to his learning.</p>
Year 1	<p><b>Elliott, Verity and Jess</b> - for their love of learning and having a positive start back this term.</p>	
Year 2	<p><b>Connor</b> - for working to the best of his ability and trying hard with his handwriting.</p> <p><b>Ethan</b> - for showing a love for learning and having a positive attitude.</p>	<p><b>Eleanor</b> - for constantly being an outstanding role model.</p> <p><b>Alessia</b> - for developing her independence and working to the best of her ability.</p>
Year 3	<p><b>Isabella, Poppy, Penny and Sam A</b> - for working to the best of their ability and love of learning. They are now all free readers - well done.</p>	
Year 4	<p><b>Oliver</b> - Oliver has come back to school with a really good 'can do' attitude. He has been really engaged in lessons and has worked to the best of his ability. Well done Oliver!</p>	<p><b>Lexie</b> - Lexie is always well mannered and tries hard in everything that she does. She shows a real love of learning. Well done Lexie!</p>
Year 5	<p><b>Oliver G</b> - for constantly making the right choices and paying attention to all the adults.</p>	<p><b>Catlin S</b> - for being an outstanding role model to others.</p>
Year 6	<p><b>Anya</b> - for meeting all the GTBG criteria all the time.</p>	<p><b>Ethan</b> - for his love of learning in his grammar sessions.</p>



## King Charles III Coronation Day

With King Charles III Coronation fast approaching, we have been thinking about how we would like the children in school to mark this occasion. Most of our celebrations will take place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May but the class art projects may possibly take place throughout the whole week. Please take a look below at the planned activities for this day. We are hoping that lots of children will enter the Coronation cupcake competition for an opportunity to showcase their baking and decorating skills.

### Our planned activities for the day

#### Coronation Cupcake competition

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May, come to school with a cupcake or cupcakes decorated with a Coronation themed design. During the day we will judge the cupcakes and choose a winner for the early years, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2. Once the cakes have been judged, they will be distributed amongst the classes so that all the children get to sample the delicious cakes. Please bring your cupcake entries to the hall in the morning. Prizes will be awarded for the winning cupcakes in all the phases. Please remember we are a nut free school.

#### A Coronation Day assembly

A chance for the children to find out more about the Coronation and sing the Coronation Day song which they have been learning.

#### Coronation Parade

Come to school on 5<sup>th</sup> May dressed in your best crown or come dressed ready for a Royal occasion. If children would prefer, then they could also come to school dressed in red, white and blue clothes (please no football kits or superhero costumes to be worn). There will be a parade during the day so that children get to see everyone's outfits.

#### Coronation patchwork wall hangings

Children in KS2 will create as a class, a large scale patchwork hanging depicting images of King Charles III which will be displayed around the school

#### King Charles III Portraits

Children in the Early Years and KS1 will create as a class, large scale pieces of art containing images iconic British and royal images which will be displayed in large frames around the school.

#### Coronation lunch

There will be a special Coronation Day lunch available on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. Details of this lunch will be sent home in a separate message nearer the time of the event.

## 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:

Sophia P - for being independent with her writing activities during cool time.

### Year 1:

Jasper for having pride in his reading - He read 15 times over the holiday!

Frankie for being resilient and always having a go even when she finds something challenging.

### Year 2:

Mayci T - for showing kindness and empathy towards another child in the class.

### Year 3:

Leo T and Chloe for being resilient, working independently, having high aspirations and having pride in maths.

### Year 4:

Finley S. - for being resilient, especially in maths this week. He has kept going despite the challenges. Well done Finley.

### Year 5:

Lenny S - for being resilient, despite his injury and joining in with everything this week to the best of his ability.

### Year 6:

Ronnie and Poppy for their inspirational cake sale to raise money for charity.

### 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.

### Breakfast and After School Club

Next week we have a fun filled week at afterschool club. We will be having a coronation themed week and be making things to put on our display or they can take it home. We will be making giant stamps, coins, making crowns and some bunting too.



### Friends of Watton update

Thank you very much to those who came to the Easter Egg Hunt and an especially big thank you to those who helped out - we hope the kids enjoyed it despite the rain!

Unfortunately we are going to need to postpone the disco planned for the 27<sup>th</sup> April due to the teachers' strike, as we need their help to run the disco. We are in the process of organising a new date and once this is arranged all tickets will be for the new date. If your child is unable to make the new date we will refund the cost.

If you need to buy some more school uniform for summer or are just fed up of the biro wearing off on the name labels have a look at <https://www.stikins.co.uk/>. They have a fantastic selection of labels that will stick to clothes, drinks bottles, shoes and all sorts and they don't budge even when put in the dishwasher or washing machine over and over again.

Make sure you enter our school fundraising number 24623 before you check out and Stickins will send us a donation.

With the summer coming up if you're thinking of booking a holiday or hotel stay (or making almost any online purchase at all) please sign up with easyfundraising. It's easy and free for you and they will give us a tiny proportion of the value of each sale - but it all adds up! Have a look at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wattonatstonesch/> for more information.

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### Lunchtime and After School Clubs Summer 2023

#### Lunchtime

Club	Led By	Year groups	Day/Time
Colouring Club	N.Gugerley	KS1	Thursday 12.30-1.00pm
Super Star Sports multisports	Super Star Sports coaches	12.30-1.00- KS1 1.00-1.30 – KS2	Everyday 12.30-1.30
Butterfly club	J.Bell	KS1/KS2	Tuesday and Thursday 12.30-1pm Monday and Friday 1pm – 1.30pm
Lego club	S.Shadbolt	KS1	Wednesday 12.30pm – 1pm
Games Club	Mrs Butler	KS1	Monday 12.30-1.00pm
Digital Leaders	Miss Chatman	KS2	Monday 12.30-1pm

#### After School

Club	Led By	Year groups	Day/Time	Location
Wool craft club	Mrs Goodman and Miss Dell	Years 3 and 4	Wednesday	Classroom
Football club – Pay direct to company	SBFC	Reception – Year 6	Monday	Outdoors/Hall
Science Club	Miss Oakley	Years 2, 3,4 and 5	Monday	Year 2 classroom
Choir	Mrs Roberts	Years 3,4,5 and 6	Wednesday	Possibly Year 6 classroom
Computer Xplorers – Pay direct to company	Neill Melville	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Thursday	Spare Classroom
Quidditch club	Mrs Stevens	KS2	Wednesday	Outdoors/Hall
Athletics club Summer 1	Mr Ring	KS1	Thursday	Outdoors/Hall
Athletics Club Summer 2	Mr Ring	KS2	Thursday	Outdoors/Hall
Wildlife Club (including painting, craft, clay and natural art)	Mrs Bunce and Mrs Clark	Reception, Years 1 and 2	Wednesday	Spare classroom
Gymnastics Club £6.50 per child per week payable to the school	SLY Sport (gymnastics club)	Year 2-Year 6	Tuesday	Hall
Spanish club £3 per child per week payable to the school	Mrs Agarwala	KS1 and KS2 Spanish for beginners	Monday	D.T room
Keep Fit Club	Mrs Higgins	KS1 and KS2	Monday	
June and July only				

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## St George's Day



St George's Day is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Today the children who had a school lunch had a St. George treat as part of their lunch. Thank you to the kitchen staff for all of their hard work.

### Who was St. George?

Very little is actually known about George and there's a lot of stories about him that are full of myth and legend. It is believed he was born in a place called Cappadocia - an area which is now in Turkey - and he lived during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century. His parents were Christians and, after his father died, his mother took George to live in the Middle East, where she was originally from. George became a Roman soldier but protested against how Rome treated Christian people badly. He was put in prison and tortured because of this, but he refused to turn away from his religious beliefs. He was eventually executed. It is said that the Roman Emperor's wife was so impressed by how George did not give up his faith that she became a Christian too. It is believed that she was executed in the same way George had been.



## Diary Dates

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

### April

27<sup>th</sup> - F.O.W children's disco - postponed due to teacher strike

### May

1<sup>st</sup> - May bank holiday

2<sup>nd</sup> - Teacher Strike - partial school closure

3<sup>rd</sup> - Class photographs

5<sup>th</sup> - Coronation Day celebrations

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> - Walk to school week

16<sup>th</sup> - Inter House Netball and Football matches

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)

6<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> - Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check assessments

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

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21<sup>st</sup> July - End of Term