



Newsletter 8th March 2024

To our families and friends,

We have had an incredibly busy week in school with there being an additional event, visit or activity taking place on nearly everyday for all of the classes.

On Monday, we welcomed the Saltmine Theatre Company who delivered a fantastic performance of the 'Rhyming Bible'. Lots of familiar bible stories were told to the children through songs, music and rhyme (please see some photos at the end of this newsletter). Following the performance, Year 5 and 6 also got to work with the theatre company to take part in a workshop where the children had an opportunity to ask questions about Christianity. The children posed some very thought provoking and challenging questions to the performers.

On Wednesday, we were thrilled to welcome Christian Darkin to school who is a published author. Following a whole school assembly, he visited all of the classes during the day to lead sessions where they created characters and story plots. He also answered the children's many questions about what life as an author is like. Hopefully he inspired some children to write their own stories and potentially become an author themselves one day.

Thursday was World Book Day and lots of children either came to school dressed as a book character or came in their pyjamas ready for a story! Classes were able to visit the Book Bistro in the library, where they created their own 'menu' of favourite books whilst enjoying something to eat! Everyone also took part in 'Drop Everything and Read' during the day. This was the perfect opportunity for all children to read/look at their favourite stories.

Finally, an exciting end to the week where children were able to go shopping in the Mother's and Other's stall ahead of Mothering Sunday this weekend. A huge thank you to the F.O.W for organising this event and buying all of the lovely gifts for the children to buy.

Red Nose Day

As you may already know, Friday 15th March, is Comic Relief day. Our school is excited to be joining with many others schools around the UK to participate in this charity fundraising event. The School has chosen to raise money by turning RED to celebrate Red Nose Day, where we encourage all children to make a small donation, in return for dressing 'red-to-toe'. So, time to dust off their ruby slippers or simply pull on some red socks. If your child has PE on this day, then they will need to wear suitable clothing for their lesson. We are asking for a £1 voluntary donation, although you can donate more if you wish, via the Gateway. Donations can be made at any time until Friday 22nd March. Thank you in advance for your support and donations to Comic Relief.

School Vision Display Boards



We are delighted to share with you the new school vision artwork which will be displayed around the school as a reminder to children, staff, governors, parents and Governors about what our key vision is for the next few years.

Year 5 Planetarium Trip

On Friday Year 5 went to Morgan's School to visit their planetarium.

We enjoyed learning about the Solar System and all the constellations. We would like to give a huge thank-you to all the parent volunteers that drove the children there and back.



PE Tops

The new P.E tops will be available to purchase from Kidz Connections in Hertford during the Easter holiday.

If you have not had a chance to look at these P.E tops for yourself yet, then please do pop into the admin reception area where we have one displayed for you to see.

These tops are optional for the children to wear in the summer term but will become a compulsory element of the P.E kit from September 2024. These are made from a dry fit material instead of cotton and will therefore dry extremely quickly once washed. You may find that one of these P.E tops will be sufficient, even if you do a mid-week wash.

The admin office do have a supply of our current t-shirts which can be purchased for £3 and worn until the end of the year.

Behaviour Policy

Recently, we decided that all staff and pupils would benefit from a reminder about our current behaviour policy as it was over 4 years since this was initially launched. As a school, our behaviour policy is predominantly built on positivity and recognising/acknowledging the positive choices that children make in school. These positive incentives include house points, Great to Be Gold awards, Headteachers awards, daily secret student awards, stickers and other individual behaviour incentives that teacher's may choose to use with their own classes.

However, when positive choices are not made, then these behaviours also need to be addressed as poor behaviour choices affects others. The consequence given will all depend on the child's behaviour and in school, we have a clear system that supports our decisions. This system involves verbal warnings, stop and think cards, yellow cards and red cards. If you are interested in reading the policy in more detail, then it can be accessed from the school website. <https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/home/policies>

In a recent whole school assembly, we talked to the children about the positive incentives and also reminded them about the consequences should they make the wrong choices. Some examples of the behaviours discussed are included in the boxes below to support parents in your understanding and to help guide your discussions at home. If a red card is given, then you will be informed by text but please do follow this up with a discussion with your child's class teacher at the end of the day.

Stop and Think Examples of behaviour

- *Disturbing the learning of others around them
- *Talking over other people/shouting out
- *Messing around in the cloakroom/toilets
- *Wandering around the classroom/off task
- *Snatching/not sharing with others

Yellow Card Examples of behaviour

- * Inappropriate language used when talking with peers
- * Ignoring instructions given
- * Making rude comments/gestures
- * Being unkind to others (name calling etc)
- * Continual chatting during lesson time (previous warnings given)
- * Running away from adults

Red Card Examples of behaviour

- * Being disrespectful
- * Physical violence towards another child
- * Swearing
- * Racist/homophobic comments
- * Deliberate and continual disruption in class (following yellow card)
- * Deliberate vandalism
- * Bullying another child (1st instance)
- * Threatening language/behaviour

Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p>Paige - Paige has been inviting lots of her peers to play with her, using her creative imagination for her games. Great job Paige!</p> <p>Kasey - Kasey has grown in confidence, using his communication skills with adults, asking for help when he needs it. We are very proud of you Kasey!</p>	<p>Toby - Toby had the most amazing world book day costume! He fully embraced the role of Supertato singing all morning and staying in character! Well done Toby!</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p>Lilli R - has been a superstar this week, she has tried really hard during PE, she listened well and followed the instructions. Well done Lilli.</p> <p>Archie M - has been a kind and considerate friend, he has been looking after his peers and playing beautifully with them. Well done Archie.</p>	<p>Hettie S - was respectful during the visit from the author this week, she is always polite and respectful to the adults and her friends. Well done Hettie.</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p>India - for always trying her hardest and working to the best of her ability.</p>	<p>Leo - for trying really hard to make the right choices and working to the best of his ability, especially in Phonics.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p>Amelia H - for always paying attention to the adults in class.</p>	<p>Milly - for working to the best of her ability in reading.</p> <p>Jordan - for being so helpful and respectful to adults.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p>Ayaz - for constantly making the right choices.</p> <p>Riya - for always following the rules and showing impeccable manners.</p>	<p>Iris - for being an outstanding role model.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p>Lily - for working to the best of her ability.</p>	<p>Danny - for showing a love for learning and having a positive attitude.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p>Chloe - who always follows the school rules.</p> <p>Gracie - for being well mannered and polite.</p>	<p>Sam M - for following the school rules.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p>Carmelita - For being an outstanding role model. For the work you have been doing in Art and English and the inquisitive and mature way you interacted with the author.</p>	<p>Noah - For always working hard and to the best of your ability.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p>Jonah - working to the best of his ability and showing a love of learning.</p> <p>Megan - working to the best of her ability, always pushing herself and never giving up.</p>	<p>Libby - showing a love of learning and having a good attitude towards her work.</p>

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:

Aila - for being very creative with her gingerbread person design for her homework.

George - for showing increased confidence and independence with his writing and being very proud of what he has written.

Year 1:

Ellis - for his creativity in his homework.

Arthur - for having pride in his handwriting.

Darci - for working well with others in maths when creating patterns.

Year 2:

Daisy M, Peter S and Freddie W- for being creative during World Book week (Wednesday and Thursday).

Verity C- for taking pride in her handwriting.

Year 3:

Millie & Bea for their brilliant teamwork in PE.

Danny - for having pride in his presentation and handwriting. Danny impressed Mrs Gill so much that he is now beginning to write with a pen. He also demonstrated kindness in empathy in the FOW event this morning.

Year 4:

Jack R - for working hard to improve his handwriting, especially the size of his letters.

Eddie - for working well with others in our P.E lesson.

Year 5:

Erin - for continuing to make good progress with her joined up handwriting.

Maia - for being resilient during maths this week. She has continued to try hard and not give up on challenging tasks.

Year 6:

Tawana - completing a great piece of writing in English and moving up a level in her reading.

Darcie - always trying her best with her handwriting and presentation.

This Weeks attendance %

Dixon (R)	94.3 %
Bay Class(1)	96.4%
Pendleton Class (2)	97.2%
Ezra Class (3)	100%
Shepherd Class (4)	93%
Grint Class (5)	97.3%
Straker Class (6)	95.2%

Whole School Attendance this week 96.05%
Whole School Attendance this term 96.12%
Well done to Ezra for 100% attendance.



Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Darcie J - 8th March
Carmelita P - 8th March
Martha E - 9th March
Leo M - 10th March
Kennedy T - 10th March

House Points

This week

Joint First place - Red House - 394
Joint First place - Green House - 394
Second place - Yellow House - 393
Third place - Blue House - 368

This Half Term

First place - Yellow House - 1,177
Second place - Green House - 1,176
Third place - Red House - 1,145
Fourth place - Blue House - 1,127

Year 4's D.T Project

Year 4's DT project this term was to create their own biscuits. As part of this project, they looked at packaging, who it is aimed at and how it is used to encourage different people to buy that particular product. They tasted a variety of biscuits, studied their texture, smell, appearance and taste. Following on from this they then baked their own biscuits and adapted the recipe deciding what flavours they would like to use. They then designed their own packaging and chose a name for their biscuits.



Tesco Fundraiser

We have recently applied for Tesco's Stronger Start Grant Award in order to further develop the outdoor areas in the early years. We were thrilled to find out this week that we have been successful in our application and during April, May and June, Tesco customers will be able to vote in store. We are hoping that our parents, families and community will be able to help us gain lots of votes during this time. The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive £1,500, the second placed project will receive £1,000 and the third placed project will be awarded £500. The following stores will all be taking part in the voting for this project: Stevenage Extra, Old Stevenage High Street, Stevenage Chells, Broadwater Stevenage, Woolmer Green and Hitchin. Please help us by spreading the word to your friends, families and work colleagues. Thank you.

World Book Day Photo Gallery



World Book Day Photo Gallery



Saltmine Theatre Company

On Monday, The Saltmine Theatre Company visited the school. The children enjoyed an afternoon performance where stories from the bible were interwoven into an engaging play including songs and audience participation.



Hello from the **FOW Committee**

Thank you to all the children who attended our **DISCO** event on Thursday 29th February. The children had a wonderful time dancing in the hall as well as chatting and socialising in the dining room while taking a break to enjoy some juice and snacks. We would also like to extend a **huge thank you** to all the parent volunteers, staff and Mrs Etienne, who worked hard and contributed to making this event happen. We cannot thank you enough, as without your support, these events would not be possible. A special thanks to **Karen Richardson** who project managed the event and organised everything beautifully. The whole event ran smoothly, and we are grateful for her efforts.

Mothers and Others Day Stall opens again tomorrow **9th March at The Bull 12-2** for the Alumni Children or anyone who would like to buy a gift for that someone special in your life. Gifts from 50p to £7.

Please don't forget about our **Leap Year Vault**. You can enter a piece of writing, drawing, or newspaper clipping that you think would be interesting to re-read in 2028 when the vault is unlocked. The cost of entry is **£1/entry** pay on Classlist **HERE**. Once you have paid, you can drop your item into the vault which is in The School Hall.

We are excited to announce that our annual Easter Egg event has been upgraded to an **Easter Fair** and will now encompass the entire village and the wider community. The fair will take place on **Good Friday, March 29th, 12-4** at The **Nigel Poulton Community Hall**. Our event will feature outsourced stallholders, crafts, face-painting, food, and much more. Additionally, we are organising an Easter Egg Hunt with a chocolate egg as a reward. This activity is priced at £5, and we strongly recommend booking in advance to avoid disappointment. A **HUGE THANK YOU** to **Woodhall Estate** for donating **£100** towards this event. You can book your spot by clicking on the following link: **HERE**. Finally, please note that **The Leap Year Vault** will be locked at the end of the fair, which will be your last opportunity to enter.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend

FOW (Click here to email us)

Dates for your diary

Diary dates in red – new dates added this week

March

13th - Rock and Pop assembly led by iRock

14th - FGB (Full Governing Board Meeting)

14th - FOW meeting 8pm The Bull Pub - everyone welcome

15th - Red Nose Day - children to wear an item of red clothing

18th - 22nd - Assessment week

21st - Year 4 class assembly 9am - parents and families invited to attend

22nd - Pupil Parliament meeting

26th - Sponsored Bounce

27th - Parent Forum Meeting 6pm

28th - End of Term 2.15pm

April

15th - INSET Day

16th - Children return

16th - 19th - Pupil Progress Meetings

May

7th - Reception class screening checks

13th - 16th - Key Stage 2 SATS

20th - 24th - Mental Health Week

27th - 31st - Half Term

June

3rd - Inset Day

4th - Children return

3rd - 14th - Year 4 Multiplication Table Check

10th - 14th - Fitness Week

11th - Sports Day 1

12th - 14th - Year 4 Hudnall Park

17th - 21st June - Year 6 PGL residential (Caythorpe)

25th - Reserved Sports 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

10th - 14th - Phonic Screening
28th - Watton's Got Talent Show

July

1st - 5th July - Assessment week
16th July - Year 5/6 Production 6pm
17th July - Reports out to Parents
18th July - Year 5/6 Production 2pm
23rd - Year 6 leavers assembly
23rd July - End of Term 2.15pm