



January Newsletter – 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the Spring term. It's hard to believe that we have already been back at school for four weeks. The children quickly settled into their routines and have shown 'positivity' which has been our focus this month. I have seen lots of wonderful learning going on throughout the school and look forward to seeing many more experiences.

The focus for the citizen target in February will be: RESPECT.

Year 5 Mathematics Challenge:

Four Year 5 children were chosen to represent Watton at Stone Primary School in the Year 5 Mathematics Challenge 2019 against their peers from other primary schools. The event comprised of a mixture of challenge, problem-solving and fun activities. We are pleased to announce that our team won their heat and will now be in the final to be held in Stevenage on Friday 29th March. A very big well done to Chaya, Charlie, Joseph and Max.

Charity donation:

We are pleased to announce that following our visit last term from Braiswick Photography, £66 was donated to the Cancer Research UK charity. The amount is calculated on sales so you as parents/carers made this donation – thank you.

Nut-free school:

I would like to remind everyone that we are a nut-free school. Please ensure that you check labels of any food items before they are brought into school. We do have some children with severe nut allergies and we do not want to put them at risk. Thank you for your understanding in this very important matter.

E-Safety Meeting for Parents/Carers:

When: On Wednesday 13th February from (6:00 – 7:00pm)

Where: School Hall

We are really pleased to announce that we have invited Richard Maskrey, a previous Herts e-safety adviser, to deliver a talk to parents/carers on the very latest developments in e-safety. The session will cover various areas such as:

- Get to know the latest online threats and how to manage them
- Understand how to keep your children as safe as possible
- How to help your child make the right decisions
- Find out about the best ways to monitor and control the internet in your home

We strongly encourage all parents/carers to attend this meeting, irrespective of the age of your children.

Friends of Watton:

The Friends of Watton have planned an event. A winter disco will take place on Thursday 14th February from 3.15pm-5.00pm. Please note that it is also non-uniform day on this day.

We would like you to donate a bottle of anything ranging from shampoo to ketchup to alcohol! These will all be useful for future events to be held throughout the year. I would like to thank Friends of Watton for their continued hard work – it is greatly appreciated by all, especially the children.

Our children as leaders:

We continue to develop our children as leaders and we are very proud of how they have been taking on various roles. Recent opportunities include:

- Our new school council members have been elected for the Spring term (we now have three elections per year) and they are currently learning about their roles as leaders.
- A group of year 6 children have been leading the Celebration Assembly on a Friday. It has been lovely to see them grow in confidence over time. Well done to all the children that have taken part so far.

Attendance/punctuality:

I would like to stress the importance of good attendance and punctuality. Good attendance helps to achieve good (or better) progress. Unless your child is very ill he/she needs to be at school. We do have an Attendance Policy in place which does include fining. We request that any absences are reported to the school office as soon as possible with a clear reason.

Attendance figure Autumn term 2018 was: 96.3%

It is really important that your child comes into school via the office entrance in the morning if their class has already gone in. Please do not try to enter the school using any other entrances. Thank you for your understanding in our commitment to safeguard your children.

Are you interested in training to become a primary school teacher?

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School is a lead school for initial teacher training and one of a growing number of schools that is leading the way for more school-led teacher training. This is really important to us because it means we can choose the very best talent to develop into teachers. Being able to choose who we train helps us in delivering the best outcomes for pupils.

We have vacancies to start training on our PGCE training School Direct programme this September and we would be very interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher, or know someone who is. We're looking for people who have (or will have) a degree, have a passion for teaching and want to inspire young people to fulfil their potential.

To find out about our programme and the exciting work we do in our school please contact Emer Green at the school office or on 01920 830233.

We can provide you with support and guidance on how to apply on the UCAS website and offer you school experience if you just want a taster of what teaching could be like.

For more information on what becoming a teacher might involve more generally, please visit <http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching>.

INSET Day:

I would like to remind you that we have an INSET day on Friday 15th February 2019 therefore the last day for children before the half-term break is Thursday 14th February.

Thank you:

Finally, I have been in touch with Mrs Hussain and she would like me to say a very big thank you to all parents/carers for their kind gifts and best wishes.

Sukhi Gill – Acting Headteacher

Watton at Stone Primary & Nursery School

Diary Dates 2019

6 th February	Wednesday	3-45pm - 5.30pm	Foundation stage parents consultation evening
7 th February	Thursday	4-00pm - 7.00pm	Foundation stage parents consultation evening
14 th February	Thursday	3.20pm – 4.45pm	Non-uniform day and Winter Disco - FOW
15 th February	Friday		INSET DAY
18 th – 22 nd February			HALF TERM BREAK
20 th March	Wednesday	4.00pm – 8.00pm	Parents Consultation Evening
21 st March	Thursday	3.30pm – 5.30pm	Parents Consultation Evening
23 rd March	Saturday	7.30pm – 11pm	Quiz Night - FOW
29 th March	Friday	AM only	Mother's Day Stall - FOW
3 rd April	Wednesday	2.00pm and 6.00pm	Years 3 and 4 school production
5 th April	Friday	2.15pm	END OF SPRING TERM
8 th – 23 rd April			Easter Holiday
19 th April	Friday	10am – 12pm	Easter Egg Hunt - FOW
24 th April	Wednesday	8.50am	START OF SUMMER TERM
6 th May	Monday		SCHOOL CLOSED – BANK HOLIDAY
8 th May	Tuesday		Class and Team Photographs
W/C 13 th May			Assessment Week
17 th May	Friday	3.20pm – 5pm	Non-uniform and play out - FOW
19 th May	Sunday	2pm – 5pm	Afternoon Tea - FOW
24 th May - TBC	Friday		KNEX challenge – Yr 5 and Yr 6
27 th May – 31 st May			HALF TERM BREAK
14 th June	Friday	AM only	Father's Day Stall - FOW
14 th June	Friday		Non-uniform day and Play out - FOW
18 th June	Monday	9.15am	Foundation Stage Sports Morning
19 th June	Wednesday	Whole day	KS1 and KS2 Sports Day
1 st – 5 th July			Caythorpe Court Residential Trip – Yr 6
10 th July -12 th July - TBC			Yr 4 Hudnall Park Residential Trip
11 th July	Thursday	Whole Day	Secondary Schools transfer day – Yr 6
15 th July	Monday	2.00pm	Open Afternoon for parents
16 th July	Tuesday	6.00pm	Yr 5 and Yr 6 End of Year Production

17 th July	Wednesday	2pm and 6.00pm	Yr 5 and Yr 6 End of Year Production
19 th July	Friday	TBC	Non-uniform day and End of Year Summer Disco - FOW
24 th July	Wednesday	9.15am	End of Term Church Service
		2.15pm	SUMMER TERM ENDS