



April Newsletter – 2019

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a busy term at Watton with a wide range of activities taking place both in and outside of school.

You should have all received your children's reports about three weeks ago. The reports provide you with information such as: whether your child is on track to be age-related at the end of the year, information about the progress and effort your child has been making and also what they need to do next – targets that parents/carers can support with at home. It was good to see so many of you at the Parent Consultation Evenings and we thank you for your feedback in the hall too.



Performances: On Tuesday 26th March, our choir performed at the Hertford and Ware Drill Hall Festival and some of our pupils were selected to narrate.

We had our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils participate in their performance of music, dance and singing, based on the 80s theme. Thank you for supporting your children with their colourful costumes. The children performed fantastically and should be extremely proud of themselves.

Some children from Year 5 attended the Y5 Maths Challenge Final (schools across Hertfordshire) with Mrs Dowie. They worked really hard at tackling the problems they were presented with.

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Our teaching throughout the school is good or better across the curriculum. We know this as our recent book looks, lesson observations and data analysis provide evidence to support this. We continue to be very focused on increasing the amount of outstanding teaching we have at Watton and we are seeing good progress towards this target.

The Early Years Provision

Miss Chatman continues to ensure there are high expectations and a consistent approach in our Preschool, Nursery and Reception class. Provision is strong across EYFS and we have been working towards the Early Years Quality Standard (EYQS) gold kitemark accreditation. We continue to be used as an example for best practice by Herts for Learning and they are frequently asking if we will have visitors to see our strong provision.

Saying goodbye

Mrs Green, who worked in our school office, left us at the end of last week. She was successful in securing employment elsewhere; we wish her the best of luck in this. We thank her for all she has done in the office.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a focus for us and we currently sit at 96.2%. This is just below the 97% target. Some parents will have received information about their child's attendance at the Parent Consultation Evening and know that we closely track any attendance that drops below 95%. Thank you to all parents who work in partnership with us and recognise the importance of children not missing any days at school unless they are genuinely ill. We discourage all parents from taking holidays in term times. As you are aware, we have added fining to our school policy and procedures and more information about this can be found on our website.

Trim Trail and play equipment

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that children should not be on the Trim Trail or other playground equipment before or after school. We want to ensure the health and safety of our children and therefore ask that parents/carers closely supervise their children at these times. Thank you for your understanding.



Toilets

A growing number of parents are taking their children to use the toilets in school before or at the end of the school day. In the interests of safeguarding, we ask that you inform a staff member before taking your child through the school.

Friends of Watton:

A Quiz Night was organised by the Friends of Watton on 23rd April and was attended well by the community and some staff members (including student teachers). The event raised over £1800! (with a big thank you to parent Mr Cross who works for Barclays Bank – they have match funded this event for us.)

The most recent disco organised by FOW raised £800 and the Mother's Day stall over £600. Thank you for all your generous donations for these events which will be used to benefit the children in the future.



An Easter egg hunt has been organised for 19th April – please see flyer in your child's book bag.

Book Fair

At the recent Book Fair we raised £286.80 in commission which we will be using to purchase quality books for our school. Thank you for your contribution towards this.



Safe Driving & Parking:

As we are all concerned for the safety of our children, please can we ask everyone to drive and park with consideration in our Children Centre car park and surrounding school areas. Thank you for your understanding.



INSET Day:

I would like to remind you that we have an INSET day on Tuesday 23rd April. Children will return to school on Wednesday 24th April 2019 for the summer term.

I hope you all have a lovely end of term break.

Sukhi Gill – Acting Headteacher

Watton at Stone Primary & Nursery School

Diary Dates 2019

5 th April	Friday	2.15pm	END OF SPRING TERM
8 th – 23 rd April			Easter Holiday
19 th April	Friday	10am – 11.30am	Easter Egg Hunt - FOW
23 rd April	Tuesday		INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
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
27 th May – 31 st May			HALF TERM BREAK
13 th June	Thursday		KNEX challenge – Yr 5 and Yr 6
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	Tuesday	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			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	3.15pm-4.45pm	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