



Newsletter 9th October 2020

School Reports



Mini Reports

We hope that you have all received your mini reports on Monday this week. As we approach half term, we want to ensure that you feel fully communicated with and are aware of how your child has settled back into school, following lockdown. We also wanted to make you aware of your child's next steps in the core subjects and what provisions are currently in place to support them, should they need it.

If, after reading your child's report, you wish to talk to your child's teacher about this further, then we will be offering 10 minute 1:1 virtual meetings next week on Tuesday (4pm - 7pm) and Wednesday (3.45pm - 5.45pm). You should have received information this week about how to sign up to these meetings. If you haven't signed up as of yet, then there is still time to do so, should you wish to.

Sad farewell

Today, we say a sad farewell to Mr Starkey, our site manager who has worked at the school for the last 6 years.

I am sure that you will join me in saying a huge thank you to him for all of his hard work and for maintaining the upkeep of the school buildings to such a high standard. He will be moving to a larger school in Stevenage for new challenges and opportunities. He will be missed by the children and the staff at the school.

Mr Michael Craik has been appointed as the new site manager and we look forward to him joining our fantastic staffing team really soon.

Forthcoming Fundraising Event

BREAK THE RULES

On Friday 23rd October (last day of this half term) we will be having a 'Break the Rules' fundraising event. Like many charities and organisations, the school relies on the generosity of parents and carers to help raise much needed funds for the school. COVID -19 has massively impacted this and as a result the Friends of Watton were unable to run any fundraising events in the summer term. Any events organised now need to consider social distancing of the children and staff as well as not mixing children between bubbles.

However, we are very excited to announce that on Friday 23rd October, for 1 day only, the children at Watton at Stone Primary School will be allowed to break the rules!!!! (all in a good cause I must add!!). They won't be the school rules or school values.

We will soon be sending home further details about which rules the children can choose to break that day. In exchange for breaking the rules, the children must pay a £1 fine for each rule they break.

Great to Be Gold

In our assembly today, we celebrated this week's Great to Be Gold awards. Well done to the following children who have excelled this week. We are incredibly proud of you all.

Pre School: Milly D, we have seen Milly's confidence grow this week, she has been chatting non-stop, it's been so lovely to hear her voice.

Darci T, Darci has been a kind friend. She has helped her friends to feel happy at preschool by doing some lovely sharing. Well done both of you we are very proud of you both.

Nursery: Charlie C for lovely manners.

Shiva M for being a fantastic role model and always smiling.

Reception: Mayci T - for her outstanding attitude to learning. She independently wrote numbers and letters.

Rafe B - for letting me 'interview' him as he is an expert on bears and tigers. He was such a good sport and gave brilliant answers to my questions!

Sam T - for outstanding attitude to learning. He was very keen to write a shopping list for me.

Henry - for a super attitude to learning and having a 'have a go' attitude.

Year 1: Sam A - for working to the best of his ability and impressing the adults in maths.

Jack B - for paying attention to the adults and making the right choices.

Emilia - for her wonderful manners and kindness.

Year 2: Felicity for her love for learning from Miss Ramirez. Always pushing herself and going over and above.

Oliver - Working to the best of his ability, especially in phonics and English applying his new learnt knowledge.

Year 3: Darcie C - for always working to the best of her ability.

Libby P - for her impeccable behaviour.

Oliver - for always following the rules in school.

Year 4: Eliza - always working to the best of her ability - superb design strategies in DT when we created our canopic pots this week.

Shannon - always working to the best of her ability - every piece of her work is a pleasure to mark and enjoy!

Year 5 (Wonders): Eva R for her Christmas card design.

Lillie Mae - for being kind towards others that need support in class.

Year 5 (Beckhams) - Zach W for working to the best of his ability in English. He wrote a brilliant story and then performed it on the outdoor stage. He engaged his audience and even managed to make them jump.

Ava H for being an outstanding role model in class. She always follows instructions.

Year 6: Charlie - for making real progress in his writing in particular because of his consistent focused attention.

Henry - he shows a love of learning in all areas; he engages with great enthusiasm and consistently works to the best of his ability.

No Pens Day was so much fun!

This Wednesday, the whole school took part in No Pens Day. This day encourages children to focus on learning through speaking and listening as well as having greater access to a broad and balanced curriculum. The Early Years curriculum naturally lends itself to a no pens approach through child initiated learning but what did the rest of the school do?

In Year 1, the children followed instructions to build lego towers and also made autumn trees with sticks and leaves.

In Year 2, the children interviewed each other as characters from a story. In Year 3, the children decorated Mendhi hand patterns.

In Year 4, the children made Canopic jars and did some Egyptian dancing.

In Year 5, the children made torn paper mountain ranges and Viking brooches.

In Year 6, the children took part in a virtual football competition and made Plato's 3D shapes.

Remote Learning

If your child is self isolating and waiting the results of a COVID 19 test or your child has had a positive COVID 19 test result and so therefore also self isolating, we have class work prepared and uploaded to the website so the impact on your children's learning is minimized.

Teachers have prepared a daily maths, English and topic activity which is in line with what learning is happening in class. Don't forget also that the children will have homework to complete, daily reading and access to any Purple Mash activities. KS2 children also have access to Times Table Rock Stars. The learning is accessible on the children's page of the website.

<https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/children/remote-learning-autumn-2020>

Headteachers Awards

Congratulations to Robson in Year 3 who wrote a fantastic descriptive piece in his English lesson and to William in Year 4 who completed a fabulous piece of homework about the Egyptian Gods. Also congratulations to Ffion, Connor, Sam C, Grace, Eleanor, Sam T and Rafe in Reception who wrote about the tigers and bears in the Reception garden!!

Attendance

Attendance has been amazing this week. You should all be very proud of yourselves. Special mention must go to Donaldsons, Jemison, Rosen and The Wonders class for excellent attendance. Whole term percentage is 96.7% and percentage for this week is 97%. Huge congratulations to the whole school.

Virtual Sports Results

In the summer term, the children who were attending school, took part in a virtual run, jump and throw competition.

They had to take part in all of the events and their total scores were calculated.

In Year 2 - Isabelle (3rd place), Ben and Noah (joint 1st places)

In Year 3 - Annabelle (3rd place), Alex and Cornelius (joint 1st places)

In Year 4 - Jessica W (4th place), Jessica H (3rd place), Eli (2nd place) and Oscar (1st place)

In Year 5 - Lexie (4th place), Charlie B (3rd place), Elena (2nd place) and Dexter (1st place)

In Year 6 - Aaliyah (4th place), Megan (3rd place), Harry (2nd place) and Reuben (1st place).

All these children will receive medals in due course for their fantastic sporting achievements. Thank you Mrs Stevens for organizing this event.

Our Harvest Celebrations

On Monday, we celebrated Harvest with our virtual assemblies. Each class either performed or showed something that they had been doing in class about Harvest. Reverend Jenny also sent us a video which she had recorded for everyone to watch.

We were sad not to be able to celebrate in church this year and for the children to not be able to donate their gifts of food for those in need, but we did enjoy the class Harvest contributions instead.

In Nursery we read the story of 'A wet and windy day for Puddles' and talked about Harvest. We looked at different ways of harvesting the food talking about machinery and doing it by hand.

In Reception we learned a Harvest Action rhyme - *Here is the tree with leaves so green, Here are the apples that hang in between, When the wind blows, the apples will fall, And here is a basket to gather them all.*



In Year 1 we created fact files about Harvest and discussed our experiences giving food items for those less fortunate than us. I was amazed at how much the children could remember from the Church visit last autumn.

In Year 2 we made our own harvest poems.



In Year 3 we celebrated with a song but instead of singing with our voices, we used our hands to sing our harvest song!



In Year 4 we linked poetry to seasonal changes to write their beautiful haikus about Autumn and the migration of birds.

In Year 5, we made pumpkins with messages on them, stating what they are thankful and grateful for.



In Year 6, we engaged in a meaningful discussion about food and sustainability. They reflected really thoughtfully, drawing on their world knowledge and their passion for protecting the environment for generations to come. Some children shared their ideas during our harvest assembly.



Our school values are at the HEART of everything we believe in.

Happiness

Equality

Achieve
Potential

Resilience

Teamwork

Healthy

Excellence

Aspirations

Respectful &
Responsible

Truthfulness

This week we celebrated World Teacher Day (5th October)

In 2020, World Teachers' Day will celebrate teachers with the theme "**Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future**". The day provides the occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, take stock of achievements, and draw attention to the voices of teachers, who are at the heart of efforts to attain the global education target of leaving no one behind.

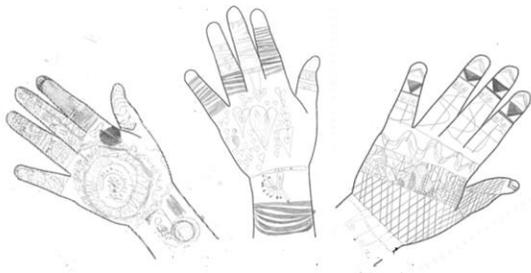
The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly added to the challenges faced by already over-extended education systems throughout the world. It is no exaggeration to say that the world is at a crossroads and, now more than ever, we must work with teachers to protect the right to education and guide it into the unfolding landscape brought about by the pandemic. The issue of teacher leadership in relation to crisis responses is not just timely, but critical in terms of the contributions teachers have made to provide remote learning, support vulnerable populations, re-open schools, and ensure that learning gaps have been mitigated. The discussions surrounding World Teacher Day will also address the role of teachers in building resilience and shaping the future of education and the teaching profession.

Walk to School Week

Congratulations to the children, parents and carers who braved the wet and colder weather this week and walked to school.



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



Year 3 spent part of 'no pens day'
learning about the history of Mehndi
Henna,

how it is applied and which parts of the body
are usually decorated. The children then created
their own Mehndi patterns.

Friends of Watton Christmas Card Fundraiser

Your child will be coming home with their Christmas card design today. You can purchase cards, gift tags, mugs, tea towels and eco bags, all with your child's design on.

All orders should be placed through Classlist. The deadline for orders is the end of Sunday 18th October.



House Points this week

Red - 386

Blue - 257

Yellow - 269

Green - 257

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Dates for your Diary

October

- 13th - Virtual Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm
- 14th - Virtual Parent consultations 3.45 - 5.45pm
- 19th - 23rd - Black History Week
- Week beg 19th - Pupil Parliament Week
- 21st - Science Day - Science Boffins workshops
- 22nd - Individual school photographs
- 23rd - Break the Rules Day (fundraiser)
- 26th - 30th Half term

November

- 2nd - children return to school
- 5th - flu vaccinations
- 11th - Remembrance Day
- 16th - 20th - Anti bullying week/well being week
- 24th - No Pens Day
- 25th Book fair arrives for 1 week
- 27th - Enterprise Day
- 30th - 4th Dec - Assessment week

December

- 16th - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (depending if mass gatherings are permitted by this date)
- 17th - Last Day of autumn term

January

- 4th - INSET Day 2
- 5th - Children return to school
- 18th - 22nd - Creative Arts Week

February

- 3rd - No Pens Day
- 9th - Internet safety day
- 15th - 19th - Half term

March

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4th - World Book Day
5th - 9th - Science week
12th - Comic relief/sports relief
15th - 19th - Assessment Week
16th - Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm
17th - Parent Consultations 3.45 - 5.45pm
22nd - No Pens Day
26th - Last day of spring term

April

12th - INSET Day 3
13th - Children return to school
23rd - St. George's day

May

3rd - 7th - Geography fieldwork week
21st - No Pens Day
31st - 4th June - Half term

June

7th - INSET Day 4
10th - Sports Day
17th - Reserve sports Day
30th - Book fair arrives for 1 week

July

2nd - Enterprise Day
5th - 9th - Assessment Week
12th - No Pens Day
14th - End of Year reports to parents/carers
21st - Last day of summer term
22nd - INSET Day