



July Newsletter – 2019

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of this academic year, I felt it was important to share some key pieces of information with you. This newsletter includes important dates for your diary for *Welcome Meetings/Information for Parents/Carers* section regarding your child's new class (see further down). Please save these dates in your diary. It also advises you of changes with regards to dropping your child/ren off in the mornings.

Summer production (Upper Key Stage 2):



Firstly, I would like to say well done to both Years 5 and 6 for their summer production. The children did a fantastic job with learning their parts and songs, and should be extremely proud of their achievements. Thank you to all the families and friends who came to enjoy the performances and support them.

Open Afternoon:

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Open Afternoon last week. Your attendance enabled you to see the fantastic work your children have been doing in all subjects during the course of the year. Some of your child/children's books have been sent home for you to enjoy further.



End of Year Reports:

If you attended the Open Afternoon, you will have been given your child's *End of Year Report*. If you did not attend, please arrange to collect this from the school office. Due to GDPR, we are unable to send this home with your child if they walk home alone. Thank you for your understanding.

Attendance:

Our current attendance is 95.7% which is just below the Hertfordshire average of 95.8%. Attendance will continue to be a focus for our school next term.

Meet the Teacher:

Children have now met their new teachers and have visited their new classrooms. They have also had the opportunity to meet our new Headteacher, Mrs Etienne.

Welcome Meetings/Information for Parents/Carers **(SAVE THE DATES!)**:

During the first few weeks back in September, we will be holding some important meetings for parents/carers about each year group. Each class teacher will be sharing key information related to the specific year group. This will also be an opportunity for you to meet with Mrs Etienne our new Headteacher. The dates for the meetings are as follows:

Thursday 5th September 2019 at 9:00am – Year 2
 Monday 9th September 2019 at 9:00am – Year 1

Tuesday 10th September 2019 at 9:00am – Year 6
Wednesday 11th September 2019 at 9:00am – Year 4
Thursday 12th September 2019 at 9:00am – Year 5
Monday 16th September 2019 at 9:00am – Year 3

It is important to have as many of you attend as possible as it is a great opportunity to hear about the year ahead. Each assembly will be different and so it is important that you attend the relevant assembly for each of your children. The meetings will run in the school hall.

Please note the following changes from 4th September 2019:

Before/after school:

Following a meeting with Mrs Etienne our new Headteacher, we have made a few changes which parents/carers need to be aware of.



Classroom doors will be open from 8:45am for the whole school. This means that children will no longer be lining up in the playground before school. Instead, they will be able to walk straight into their classroom every morning between 8:45 and 8:50am. The door will be kept open until 8.55am; after this time it will be closed. Once the door is closed you will need to bring your child into school via the school office. Please remember the school day starts at 8.50am.

At the end of the school day, Nursery and Reception parents/carers should enter the gated areas outside of their classroom, and wait until the doors are opened and their child is dismissed. Children will no longer be brought out onto the school playground.

KS1 children will enter the school building each morning through the current entrance door. The door will be open from 8:45am; children do not need to line up on the playground. Children will also be dismissed from this door at the end of the day. Parents/carers will need to wait at this door until their child is dismissed from the school building.

FOW Summer Party:

We had a very successful end of term party despite the weather. We raised nearly £900!! We would like to thank you for all your generosity and special thanks to all the helpers on the day who made this event possible.

Parking:

Please can we encourage all parents to use the children's centre car park if you need to park/drop children off in the mornings. We would urge all parents to avoid using Rectory Lane and be considerate of our local residents.



Ear piercing:

If your child is having their ears pierced, please ensure that you do this at the beginning of the summer break so that there is sufficient time for the healing process. If earrings need to be taped once we are back at school in September, this will need to be done by yourselves at home. Staff are unable to do this at school. Equally, we are unable to remove children's earrings. Children need to be able to remove earrings themselves or you will need to do this at home.

PE kits, plimsolls and trainers:

If you have any spare PE kits/trainers that your child has grown out of, please could you donate these to the school. They will be re-used as needed. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Mrs Etienne – new Headteacher:

I would like to take this opportunity to say that Mrs Etienne is very much looking forward to joining Watton at Stone Primary School. She is already working with staff to move the school forward, doing what is best for the children.

Archaeological Dig:

Following the successful excavation last year, five enthusiastic Year 6 pupils participated in a new archaeological dig on the 22nd and 23rd of July. This time, we held the excavation off-site at Broomhall Farm, just outside of the village. We had been very fortunate to be granted access by the landowners to dig there. During the two days, the children had the opportunity to experience how to excavate a test pit, record and analyse their findings. Despite being sweltering weather, the children worked hard and maintained good spirits throughout. We were able to find some pieces of pottery, glass, fossils and part of an intricately designed piece of chinaware. We also had the pleasure of meeting the land owners who kindly showed us a replica of the 'Aston Mirror' and other artefacts they had found!



Thank you:

Last, but not least, may I take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to so many of you who have supported us in so many different ways throughout this year. Whether you have helped with reading/the library, helped out with the Friends of Watton, provided us with valuable feedback or taken the time to say thank you in recognition for how hard our members of staff work – we are very grateful to you. We all genuinely want the best for your children and will continue to work hard to make Watton a fantastic school.

thank
you!

Have a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 4th September.

With very best wishes,

Sukhi Gill
Acting Headteacher