



## Newsletter 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of my first year as Headteacher at Watton, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout the year. This last term has been especially challenging for us as a school as well as for you as parents with children at home to look after and educate too. I thank you for doing the very best you could have done during this time and for looking after your children, keeping them safe and looking after their mental health too. We are thrilled to have welcomed so many children back to school this half term, but are equally delighted that all the children will be returning to school in September. I wish you all a very happy and healthy summer break with your families.

I would also again like to take this opportunity to thank the whole staffing team who have been incredible this year. I have been so lucky to have joined such a hard working and dedicated team who truly work superbly under pressure and pull together. They rightfully put the children first and always go the extra mile to ensure that the children have the best that they can possibly have.

I look forward to welcoming all the children back on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Please refer back to the letter sent this week with information regarding the staggered starts and collection times so that you arrive at the correct time.

Kind regards  
Mrs Etienne



### Clothing Collection

A huge thank you to everyone who brought in their unwanted clothes last week for the 'Happy School Bag' collection. We were thrilled to raise £320, which will go towards a new outdoor theatre and performance stage which is being built over the summer holiday on the playground.

### Last Day of Term - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Normally on the last day of term, school would close at 2.15pm for all children. However, we have had to make some changes to this arrangement for the end of this term due to the staggered finishes. Children in Reception, Year 1, 2 and 4 will need to be collected between 2pm and 2.20pm and children in Pre school, Nursery, 3, 5, 6 and keyworkers will need to be collected between 2.20pm and 2.40pm. Thank you.

### K.S 1 Phonics

From September, children in Years 1 and 2 will be having daily phonics lessons in 'Phonics Bubbles'. These lessons may be with a different adult or area of the school but it will be a consistent bubble everyday. The additional areas will be cleaned prior to use and following phonics lessons and children will be taught in open spaces as much as possible. Children will be grouped in September and will stay in the same groups until half term when we will then reassess them. Any children moving bubbles will then happen after half term when they have had 1 week isolation. We feel that we will be able to meet the needs of all learners a lot more effectively in this way.

### 10 top tips to encourage children to read

To support the very first Reading Together Day, please take a look at the link below where you will find some published tips for parents and carers of primary-aged children to help them encourage and support their children to read. They contain ideas on how to plan reading opportunities at home and make reading enjoyable and engaging.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read>

### Reception and Year 6 pupils

The National Child Measurement Programme was ended early this year due to Covid-19. The Hertfordshire Public Health team, Public Health Nursing 5-19 and Beezee Bodies have put together a letter informing parents/carers of year 6 pupils about the early ending of the programme and providing information about support that families can access if they need it. Please see attached.

### Inspirational Class Names

This year we have been talking a lot about inspirational people across all different sectors of life and teachers have been choosing different inspirational people to talk to their class about. We want to inspire the children to have high aspirations for themselves and to know that they can achieve anything they put their minds to when they leave school. In September, we have decided to change the current class names to inspirational people instead. Each teacher has chosen a different genre and in September the children will help to vote for their preferred choice of class name.

Pre school - Explorer

Nursery - Inventor

Reception - Author

Year 1 - Historian

Year 2 - Scientist

Year 3 - Artist

Year 4 - Poet

Year 5 (Mrs Roberts) - Sports Person

Year 5 (Mr Ring) - Musician

Year 6 - Conservationist/Geographer

### Full Re-opening of the School Risk Assessment

Before we could fully re open the school in September, I have updated the risk assessment that we had completed previously and saved this on the school website for you to read should you wish to.

<https://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk/home/school-reopening-information>

## Children's Health

This half term, we have been taking everyone's temperatures upon arrival in school as a high temperature is one indicator for COVID-19. In September however, we won't be taking children's temperatures daily. The DfE have said that this is no longer a requirement for schools to do. We will still have our thermometers in school and of course, we will check the temperature of any child who appears to be unwell or is saying that they don't feel well.

If anyone in school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, then we will be contacting parents and sending the children home and advising that they have a test for COVID-19. If their test comes back positive, then they must self isolate for 7 days and any other siblings who attend the school must self isolate for 14 days.

If we become aware of a child or member of staff who has tested positive for COVID-19, then the school needs to inform the local health protection team. They will support and advice as to what further action needs to be taken, including sending home children and staff who have been in close contact with that person when they were infectious.

In September, we will still have our isolation room where children will wait to be collected following a high temperature reading, a continuous cough or the child saying that they have lost their sense of taste or smell.

It would support us if you could take your child's temperature before coming to school and ask them if they were able to smell and taste their breakfast.

Our other prevention measures will be:

- \*Cleaning hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
- \*Ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting 'catch it, bin it, and kill it'.
- \*Continue with our enhanced cleaning of the school daily. All classes will also have their own anti-bacterial wipes to keep surfaces and objects clean throughout the day.
- \*Minimise contact between children and maintain social distancing wherever possible. Continue with 'NO PHYSICAL CONTACT' rule.

## Dates for your Diary

### September

2<sup>nd</sup> - INSET Day 1

3<sup>rd</sup> - Children return to school

4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> - Transition Days (KS 1 and KS 2)

### October

5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> - Walk to school week

8<sup>th</sup> - No Pens Day

13<sup>th</sup> - Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm

14<sup>th</sup> - Parent consultations 3.45 - 5.45

19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Black History Week

26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Half term

### November

2<sup>nd</sup> - children return to school

11<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance Day

16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> - Anti bullying week/well being week

24<sup>th</sup> - No Pens Day

25<sup>th</sup> Book fair arrives for 1 week

27<sup>th</sup> - Enterprise Day

30<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Dec - Assessment week

### December

16<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (depending if mass gatherings are permitted by this date)

17<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of autumn term

### January

4<sup>th</sup> - INSET Day 2

5<sup>th</sup> - Children return to school

18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> - Creative Arts Week

### February

3<sup>rd</sup> - No Pens Day

9<sup>th</sup> - Internet safety day

15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> - Half term

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

### **March**

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

### **April**

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

### **May**

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

### **June**

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

### **July**

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

Please note that there are a lot of dates that we haven't set at this point in time. We will consider events such as Christmas productions, Harvest Festival etc in the autumn term when we have further clarity about social distancing and mass gatherings.