



Newsletter 4th September 2020



Dear Parents / Carers,

As another year begins, may I take this opportunity to welcome you all back to school as well as welcoming the many new children and families that have joined us this year. I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and that you have enjoyed a positive start to the school term. At this point it is always important to welcome the new staff. We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Higgins, she is the new Year 4 teacher who will also be a team leader and responsible for reading and Mrs Hurley, who is now a member of the pre school staffing team.

I have been so proud of how well the children have returned to school this week and they all settled so quickly into their new classes and learning the routines. Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child has come back to school in the correct uniform and with the required equipment. I have added a reminder about pencil cases below.

We are always trying to improve our communication with you and have been busy thinking of ways in which we can do this. We will continue with our Facebook and Instagram social media sites but we have also become a Marvellous Me school (more details to follow) which will provide you with more personalised comments about how your child is getting on in school.

Pencil Cases

In the most recent guidance provided by the DfE, they have clearly stated that children should have their own equipment and that stationary should not be shared. Pencil cases should be clearly named and no longer than 30cm long (to accommodate a 30cm ruler) and should include the following:

- *Colouring pencils (no felt tips)
- *Rubber (not rubbers to go on the end of pencils as these often smudge writing)
- *Sharpener
- *Pritt stick
- *Scissors (small child's size)
- *Ruler (no longer than 30cm)

The school will be providing writing pencils and pens and children will be given these on the first day of term to go into their pencil cases. More specialised stationary (e.g. protractors) will also be provided by the school.

Many thanks for your support.

Mid morning snacks

Currently, due to COVID-19, the school fruit and vegetable scheme are not providing us with the daily fruit and vegetables for KS1 children. They have assured us that this will be operational again in October.

In the meantime, we welcome all children in the school to bring in a piece of fruit or vegetables for a mid-morning snack (please no biscuits, chocolate, crisps etc). Your child will need to keep their fruit or vegetable in their reading bag until their morning playtime. This will ensure that only they touch it.

We have noticed how hungry the children are by mid-morning so snacks for all are recommended. Thank you for your understanding.

Summer holiday playground projects



A huge thank you to Mr Capon, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Kirk, Mrs Bunce and Mr Starkey who all helped me with the outdoor projects during the summer holiday. The bus and boat have been painted, the hut has been repaired and painted and we now have an outdoor theatre for the children too. The theatre isn't quite finished yet and we still plan some further painting work to take place. As a school, we are planning on lots of outdoor learning opportunities and so the theatre will provide great opportunities for the children to perform to others.

10 minute Reading Pledge

We utilise reading in our everyday lives. It is a skill that we use through our everyday lives. It will aid us in our lifelong learning. Thus we work very hard when learning to read and make progress in that area as it impacts on every subject. The skills are transferable in and out of school. We would like to thank parents and carers for all the support you give the children and the school in listening to your children read at home. Even 10 minutes per night makes a huge difference to the children. Please remember to continue signing the yellow reading records as you listen to the children read. The teachers will still look at reading records weekly but the system we use won't involve the teachers touching these records for your safety. Once again, a huge thank you to all our parents and carers for your support and encouragement with the children's reading.

School Facebook and Instagram pages

For those parents and carers who are new to our school, I would like to inform you that the school has its own Facebook and Instagram pages. These pages are regularly updated with events, reminders, photos, videos, special announcements, community events and national information. Please sign up to our Facebook page at Watton at Stone Primary School and our Instagram page at Watton_School.



School values

It is our aim to raise standards by promoting a school ethos that is underpinned by core values. These values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere.

We give regular thought to how values can be used to support the child as a reflective learner and promote quality teaching and learning. In September, the value we will be focusing on will be happiness as we firmly believe that children won't make good progress in school and achieve their potential unless they are truly happy and settled.

These values are at the 'heart' of everything we believe in.



Homework

We have had to think carefully about how we send homework home in light of the virus and want to ensure that we do our very best to keep everyone safe.

From next Friday, we will start to set homework for children in years 1 - 6. The children's homework will be communicated to you using our new Marvellous Me App (we will be sending information to you at the beginning of next week regarding how to set up your Marvellous Me accounts). We will upload the multiple choice homework tasks to the class pages of the school website as well as upload other homework tasks and resources that your child will need to access. To avoid bringing homework tasks into school, we would kindly ask that you take a photo of the homework completed and email it to our admin team who will then forward your emails to the class teacher. We will continue to review Government guidance and inform you when we are able to revert back to the old system of communicating the homework.

Summer holiday Reading Challenges

Congratulations to these children who either took part in the Library Summer Reading Challenge or wrote book reviews about the books that they read during the summer holiday. We are really proud of you all.

Year 6 - Amy R, Freddie F and Isla C who all wrote book reviews over the summer. Anna and Amber took part in the library reading challenge.

Year 5 - Florence, Sophie and Ava took part in the library reading challenge.

Year 4 - Zosia, Poppy and Oscar who all wrote book reviews.

Year 3 - Oliver, Ewen, Maisy and Neave all took part in the library challenge and wrote book reviews too.

Year 2 - Erin, Finley S and Noah all took part in the library reading challenge and Monty, Isabella and Felicity all wrote book reviews.

Year 1 - Samuel M who completed the summer bingo reading challenge.

Nursery - Eric T took part in the library reading challenge.

WHEN TO SUSPECT COVID-19 IN YOUR CHILD:

if they develop symptoms of a new continuous cough and/or high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Do not send your child to school or childcare setting. Inform the setting through absence reporting

If your child develops symptoms at the childcare setting, they will be separated from others, and will **be sent home**

If your child (or anyone in your household) has symptoms they must arrange a test **as soon as possible** and isolate at home for **10 days** from date of onset of symptoms (or until they receive a negative result). Everyone else in the household who does not have symptoms must isolate at home for 14 days (or until the symptomatic household member receives a negative result)

Arrange for a coronavirus test for anyone in your household with symptoms either online via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call NHS testing line on 119. The test must be done within **five days** of when symptoms start. Ensure you know who to contact with the results in the school/childcare setting if the results are received outside usual working hours

You will be offered a test at your closest drive-through centre. This is the quickest option. A parent or carer will need to perform the test on children under 12 years old. If you don't drive, you can request a home test kit. **Do not** get a taxi or public transport to the test centre

Result of test (you will receive this by email or text message)

NEGATIVE

Child/staff member can return to setting once well, unless they are a contact of a case, when they will need to complete 14 days self-isolation

If your child is identified as having been in contact with a confirmed case, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days, even if they have had a negative test result. If they develop symptoms, they should isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms, arrange testing and follow the flowchart above

For medical advice call NHS 111, or in an emergency call 999

POSITIVE

Inform the school or childcare setting as soon as possible even if outside opening hours. The child's close contacts within the school will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days

Ensure the child who has tested positive completes the **10 day** isolation period (from date of onset of symptom)*. Household members without symptoms should complete 14 days isolation

NHS Test & Trace will send you a text or email alert or call you with instructions of how to share details of people with whom you have had close, recent contact and places you have visited

*If the child is a confirmed case they can return to the childcare setting/school after 10 days. If they still have a temperature, diarrhoea or are being sick they should wait until 48 hours after these symptoms stop. If the child does not develop symptoms, but lives in a household with someone who has tested positive, they can return to setting after completing 14 days self-isolation at home

For general information about COVID-19 please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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

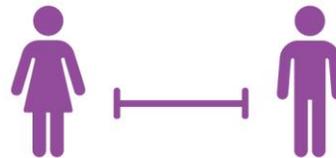
PLAY YOUR PART

We need you to keep playing your part to keep your school open and your children safe

Stay Safe Hertfordshire



Keep washing your hands



Keep your distance



Please drop-off or collect your child(ren) then leave. Don't stand here for a chat



Isolate and get tested if you have symptoms

For more information go to
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/
coronavirus](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)



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Dates for your Diary

September

October

5th - 9th - Walk to school week

8th - No Pens Day

13th - Parent consultations 4pm - 7pm

14th - Parent consultations 3.45 - 5.45

19th - 23rd - Black History Week

21st - Science Day - Science Boffins workshops

26th - 30th Half term

November

2nd - children return to school

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

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Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

March

- 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 5