



Newsletter 23rd April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the Government are lifting COVID restrictions nationally, we too as a school have planned how we can safely lift our restrictions during the summer term following a review of our risk assessments. One of our first steps will be to merge classes together to form 'phase bubbles'. Year 1 and 2 have been merged this week to form a KS1 bubble and both Year 5 classes will be merging on Monday 26th April. Over the next few weeks, I will be writing to you as other classes are merged together to form new phase bubbles. This will mean that the children will be able to eat together at lunchtime in the dining hall or main hall (as opposed to their classrooms) and play together outside in larger zones with children in the same phase.

We have also decided that from Monday 26th April, we will be reopening the school library and in order to keep everyone safe, children will use anti-bacterial gel as they enter the library and again as they leave the library.

Our final change for next week, will be the reopening of the Butterfly room at lunchtime which provides nurturing and wellbeing support to children who may require it. This will be operational outside under cover, again to ensure that we are being COVID safe.

I will continue to update you with the changes that we make throughout this summer term. Please be reassured that whilst we gradually lift our current restrictions, there will still be a focus on ensuring that children are regularly cleaning their hands and using anti-bacterial gel and that the school is kept clean to reduce opportunities for the virus to spread.

St. George's Day - Red and white theme



House Points

This weeks house points

Red House - 496

Blue House - 515

Green House - 534

Yellow House - 542

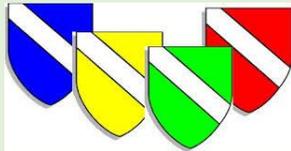
Total house points achieved so far:

Yellow House - 2059

Green House - 2009

Blue House - 1916

Red House - 1877



Attendance

Congratulations this week to the Donaldsons, Darlings and Da Vinci class for 100% attendance. Overall attendance for the whole school for this week is 97.6%.

Parent Forum

Next Wednesday (28th April) we will be having our next Parent Forum meeting. Please inform your parent rep if there are topics and events that you would like us to discuss at future meetings. Next week we will be discussing how we are planning to exit restrictions in school, sports day arrangements and welcoming parent volunteers back into school.

Swimming

Even though regulations now state that swimming pools may open, we have made the decision not to take our pupils swimming at this time. The decision has been made with safety in mind and we believe it is still too early to be taking our children to a public space. We appreciate your understanding.



School Uniform

Thanks to the generosity of our parents and carers, we now have lots of items of nearly new and good condition school uniform which we would love to be able to give back to the community. If your son or daughter has outgrown their school uniform, then please contact the admin team who will be able to let you know what we have in school and prepare the items for you to collect. It's wonderful that we can all support and help each other during these challenging and difficult times.



Mental Health

www.happymaps.co.uk

HappyMaps website is a single hub of reliable, up-to-date and professional advice on mental health problems in children and young people. It covers many common problems including anxiety, self-harm, tics, gender dysphoria, ADHD, eating disorders and much more. It also has a pre-school section for issues such as sleep, behaviour and fussy eating.

The website has already had over 56,000 users so far, with great feedback. Resources are continually updated and recently added new pages such as "Best Apps for Mental Health" and "Mental Health during Covid".

HappyMaps is a charity and has just received funding through The National Lottery Community Fund. This will see the website expand further and be adapted in response to parent feedback - we are particularly keen to reach parents from all communities.

Head Teacher's Awards

This week a Head Teacher's award was given to Ava H in Year 5 who has been applying our school values of resilience and excellence to her learning in class. Well done Ava.

Outdoor Library

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated books for our outdoor library. Children in both year 1 and 2 have had opportunities to select books on a Friday lunchtime so far and we look forward to offering this more widely once the restrictions are lifted further.



Fundraising

As you are aware, our fundraising during the last year has been seriously affected due to COVID and we are hopeful that we will be able to start fundraising again really soon. In the meantime, we are excited to announce that the Friends of Watton have arranged for Textiles AMD clothing collection, where the school is paid for your unwanted items. The date for your diary is 12th May when the bags will be collected. We are happy for you to put your bags in the bike shed on 10th and 11th May. Many thanks.



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

Inspirational People

This half term, the teachers have chosen new inspirational people linked to the curriculum that they are teaching. Below you will be able to see who has been chosen for each year group as well as the class display.

Pre school – Chris Packham



Nursery – Jamie George



Reception – Frances Tophill



Year 1 – Queen Elizabeth II



Year 2 – Mo Farah

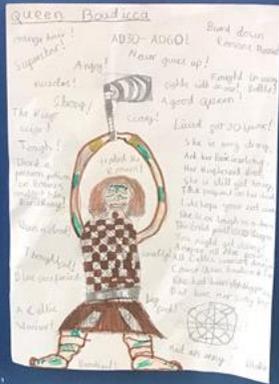


Year 3 – Alfred Wegener



Year 4 - Boudicca

We have chosen **Boudicca** to be our inspirational person this term because:



Year 5 - Greta Thunberg



Year 6 - Thomas Clarkson



Birthday celebrations

Wishing all the children who have celebrated their birthday this week a very happy birthday.

Harlen H
20th April

Mila S
19th April

James P
21st April

Harry O'B
19th April

Corrine W
19th April

Bertie S
19th April

Max S
19th April

Great to Be Gold

Following the recent period of lockdown, the staff have been really impressed with the behaviour and learning attitudes of all of the children who have remembered our Great to Be Gold values and expectations. Well done to the following children who have excelled this week. We are incredibly proud of you all.

Great to Be Gold		
Pre Sch	Kennedy T - he has been a star this week. He comforted and helped his friend when they were feeling sad.	Evie M - she did amazingly well with some writing this week. First she was unsure but she persevered and did a brilliant job.
Nur	Taylor - for his great use of initiative this week by offering to help set up the outside Reading Room.	Jacob - for his fantastic explanation of a stream. "It is a small river and it doesn't have very much water in it."
Rec	Charlie - for showing a great attitude to learning during CIL - he had a go at some emergent writing whilst he was running the flower shop outside!	Ethan S - Ethan showed a great attitude to learning during our phonics session. He was super quick to work out which object I was 'Robot talking' Danny - for his independent writing in busy fingers - he used his phonic knowledge to write 'mooving' without any help. He showed great resilience!
Year 1	Lexie - for constantly making the right choices and having a mature attitude.	Emilia - for impeccable behaviour outside of lessons and inviting children to join in with her games. Eddie - for working to the best of his ability and amazing us with his phonics!
Year 2	Carmelita for working to the best of her ability. She has worked hard in every single subject this week with a positive attitude too	
Year 3	Esmae - her attitude to learning is amazing. She is always engaged in class, offering her ideas and opinions. She is constantly striving to achieve her full potential and listens and responds positively to feedback. We are so proud of you Esmae.	Alex - he can always be relied on to be an outstanding role model in class. He is respectful to both adults and his peers and always follows the school rules. A well-deserved Great to be Gold Alex, well done.
Year 4	Ethan - enthusiasm for learning - great ideas in our literacy work on persuading pirates not to steal treasure.	Jessica H - working to the best of her ability. Volunteering answers in class and pushing herself to take on challenging work.
Year 5W	Austin- for showing a love of learning in all lessons, making valuable contributions and for coaching other members of the class in Maths and English.	Aimee G - works to the best of her ability in all lessons. She writes beautifully, and it is always a pleasure to read her work and she has grown in confidence with challenging herself.
Year 5B	Ava H- for always working to the best of her ability.	Megan C- for being a fantastic role model in our class.
Year 6	Luca consistently seeks to achieve his best whatever the lesson and his attitude to learning is commendable. I have been particularly impressed recently with the way he has contributed to discussions of texts, facing challenging targets. This is evidence of a new, special level of quiet confidence.	Amy engages with enthusiasm, interest and higher order thinking in all lessons, but I have been particularly impressed in history with her ability to critically analyse evidence, ask key questions and challenge and rework her ideas in the course of discussion. Her contributions have been impressive.

Dates for your Diary

April

28th - Parent forum 3

30th - England Does The Daily Mile

May

3rd - School closed Bank Holiday

4th - 7th - Geography fieldwork week

5th - Class photos

12th - Textiles AMD bag clothing collection

17th - Creative arts week

18th - Individual guitar lessons to commence again on site face to face

21st - No Pens Day

31st - 4th June - Half term

June

7th June - INSET DAY 4

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