



Newsletter 30th April 2021



We have had a fabulous start to the Summer Term and the sun shining most days has been a bonus for all of our wellbeing. The children have been working hard and it has been wonderful to see so many outdoor learning activities taking place to enhance and bring alive the children's learning. We are looking forward to planning lots of events for this term and trying to reintroduce school activities and events while still keeping everyone safe and following the government guidance for COVID. We are continuing with all of our health and safety procedures and practices and this will be reviewed weekly or in light of any changes to government guidance. Therefore it is exceedingly important that we are doing all we can to keep safe and we appreciate your support in helping with this.

May's School value is ASPIRATIONS

This week, my whole school virtual assembly was about children having high aspirations for themselves, both in their present lives as well as for their future.

I explained that the key to success for them was to aim high, believe in themselves and to always strive to be the absolute best that they can be.

I told them about some famous people (Nelson Mandela, Simon Cowell and Michael Jordan) who had faced challenges in their life but that they hadn't given up on their dreams and hopes when things had gone wrong for them and that they just tried even harder to succeed.

Michael Jordan said "I have missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I have lost almost 300 games. On 26 occasions I have been entrusted to take the game winning shot, and I missed. I have failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

I finished the assembly by reminding the children that to succeed, they had to believe in themselves and that if they can believe in themselves, then they are half way there!!

A short 2 minute extract from 'The Pursuit of Happiness' illustrated my point even further and here is the link if you'd like to watch this together at home.

[The Pursuit of Happiness 5 8\) Movie CLIP Basketball and Dreams \(2006\) HD YouTube \[720p\] - YouTube](#)



House Points

This weeks house points

Red House - 465

Blue House - 509

Green House - 485

Yellow House - 498

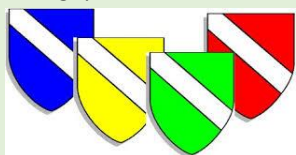
Total house points achieved so far:

Yellow House - 2557

Green House - 2494

Blue House - 2425

Red House - 2342



Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are currently unable to offer extra-curricular clubs as the teachers are currently committed to the after school catch up clubs and we are also avoiding mixing children across phases.

However, Stevenage Borough Football club are running an after school session for each class until the end of term. It has been fabulous to offer these extra-curricular opportunities once again.

Here are the sessions coming up soon. Look out for the letter inviting you to sign your child up for a free session.

4th May - Year 5 W

11th May - Year 4

18th May - Year 3

25th May - Year 2

8th June - Year 1

16th June - Reception

Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week is 97.7%. Congratulations to the Darlings class for 100% attendance.

June Holiday Club

We are hoping to be able to run a holiday club during the half term between 1st and 4th June. Please complete the Gateway questionnaire that was sent home yesterday by Tuesday 4th May. We will be sending out booking forms for your preferred days and sessions once we know how many parents are showing an interest in the club being operational.

School Uniform

We have been overwhelmed by how much school uniform has been donated to the school during the recent weeks. Lots of it is nearly new and in excellent condition. Over the next few weeks, we will be displaying the clothes outdoors for you to view a year group at a time. Not only will this help you to replace school uniform but it's also incredibly environmentally friendly and saves the clothing from ending up in a landfill site! Social distance rules are still expected please. Please come along and see if there is any uniform you may like to have. There is no charge but we welcome voluntary donations to the school if you would like to. Many thanks.

Sports day

We are hopeful that we will be able to run a sports day towards the end of term but this will be somewhat dependent on the Government guidance and National restrictions at the time. To reduce crowding, there will be 4 mini phase sports days held on the same day.

The date we are hoping to hold this event will be 6th July and a reserve date of 9th July, if it's raining on 6th. I will be writing to you again nearer the time to give you further information about how this event will be organised.



Today, the whole school took part in England Does the Daily Mile. The aim was for as many primary schools around England as possible to get moving on the same day, to celebrate the positive benefits that daily activity can have on our mental health. It is anticipated that 1 million children will have taken part in the Daily Mile today and Watton is proud to have been part of this event. In light of the events in the past year, children's mental health, and its relation to physical activity, is more important than ever. Throughout the day, all of the children took to the playground or the field to run, walk or jog a mile and all of the children who participated should be coming home today with their England Does the Daily Mile stickers.

Head Teacher's Awards

This week Jack R in Year 1 was nominated as he had worked so hard to complete his writing homework and showed much resilience whilst aiming to achieve his potential. Well done Jack.

In Year 4, Freya H was also nominated for an award as she is always working so hard to achieve her potential, has great resilience and learns from her mistakes. Well done Freya.

In Year 5, Charlie C was nominated by Mrs Roberts as he has worked so hard on improving his handwriting this week. He's been working so hard and focusing on our schools values of excellence and achieving his potential.

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.



Royal Mail Competition

The Royal Mail has launched a new competition and they want schoolchildren to design a stamp! To take part, your child will need to design their own stamp to show who their "Covid Hero" is, this could be anyone they think has worked extra hard during the pandemic, such as doctors and nurses, delivery drivers, supermarket workers, vaccine scientists, food bank volunteers or even the staff at school. The competition is open for children aged from 4 - 14 years of age.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said: "The last year has been one of the most difficult any of us can remember, but throughout it all our Covid heroes have been there for us, inspired us and done so much for others."

Today, we are sending all children in Reception - Year 6 home with an official entry form for the children to create their designs should they wish to take part. Please send all completed entries back to school by Monday May 17th so that we can send in all of the entries together.

There are lots of prizes to be won too with the winning stamps being awarded £1,000 of vouchers, regional winners being awarded £500 of vouchers and regional runners up awarded £100 of vouchers.

Children are asked to use lots of colour in their designs (not just black and white) and that they fill up as much of the blank space as possible on the entry form.

GOOD LUCK EVERYONE

Birthday celebrations

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



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	Eliza L - she has been a star this week. She has been so kind and sharing with her peers. She has also achieved a personal goal at home! Well done Eliza we are so proud of you!	Ernie M - he has been amazing at listening this week and he has also shown how fantastic he is at tidying up! Well Done Ernie, we are very proud of you.
Nur	Elizabeth - for her consistent concentrating and caring for the environment.	Lola - for her perseverance at trying new things and has shown a lot of confidence around the classroom.
Rec	Rafe B and Sarah S - for their outstanding attitude to their learning this week - especially their independent writing in Busy Fingers first thing in the morning. Rafe attempted 'camouflage' all by himself and Sarah attempted 'humongous'. Both used their phonic knowledge with great success, and they showed resilience when 'having a go'.	Eleanor S - Eleanor was so positive this week after having an accident in class. She was very brave and resolute and was happy to keep going. Eleanor is always a joy to have in class - she invites others to play and is always polite and well-mannered (even with a bruised nose!)
Year 1	Leo - for showing a love for learning and being enthusiastic about our history topic, Kings and Queens.	Martha - for constantly making the right choices and being a fantastic role model, both during lessons and at playtimes.
Year 2	Noah and Eve who have really persevered and worked on developing their reading comprehension to move up a level (Working to the best of their ability)	Isabella for her love of learning - She produced some beautiful art home work.
Year 3	Bertie - he tries so hard and always works to the best of his ability. He is always respectful to everyone and comes into school bright and cheerful every day. Well done Bertie!	Darcie - she is a pleasure to have in class. Darcie models all of our Great to be Gold values and is always so polite and ready to learn. A well deserved Great to be Gold Darcie!
Year 4	Bella - aspiring to achieve her full potential, focusing in class and challenging herself	Maddie - using and applying what she is learning in catch up club to sprint ahead in class.
Year 5W	Charlie C - Charlie is really challenging himself in all aspects of learning. We can see the progress he has made in both maths and English.	Matilda - always working to the best of her ability and always making the right choices, she particularly worked well in art, using the lino cutters for the first time.
Year 5B	Nya S- Working to the best of her ability and showing great craftsmanship during art.	Harry O'B- Working to the best of his ability and showing resilience to edit and improve his writing.

Year
6

Harry C - he focuses consistently in lessons with an attitude that reflects a developing growth mindset. He engages fully in discussions around his work and enjoys the progress that comes from responding to targets and refining his ideas. I am very proud of him.

Tegan - she comes to school every day with high aspirations and the determination needed to achieve her very best. She has a thirst to learn and I applaud her enthusiasm. She is naturally encouraging and will support others in group activities in just the right way; she is a real asset to the class.

Libby F - she shows commendable commitment to every aspect of her learning; her interest, focus and enthusiasm are unwavering. I am impressed with the way she responds so openly and positively to feedback. Her aspiration is to achieve her very best and she does that every day.

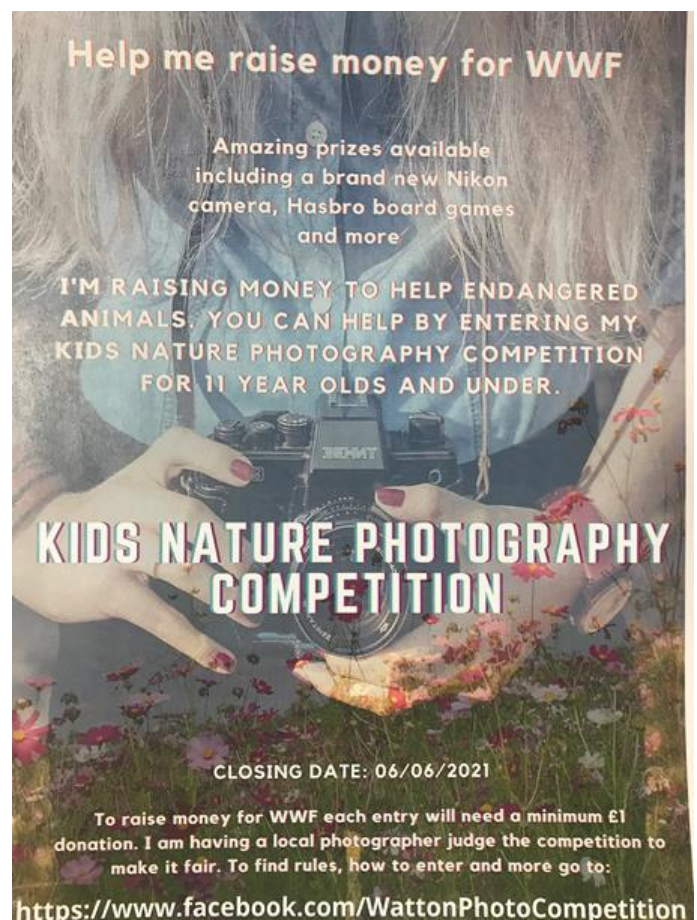


Royal Mail

HEROES
STAMP DESIGN
COMPETITION

Enter your school today to honour the heroes of the coronavirus pandemic.
Will one of your pupils see their hero on a stamp?
www.royalmail.com/stampcompetition
#HeroStamp

The poster features a rainbow arch at the top, a Royal Mail logo, and several small photographs of people, including a man in a suit and a woman in a mask, representing heroes.



Help me raise money for WWF

Amazing prizes available including a brand new Nikon camera, Hasbro board games and more

I'M RAISING MONEY TO HELP ENDANGERED ANIMALS. YOU CAN HELP BY ENTERING MY KIDS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION FOR 11 YEAR OLDS AND UNDER.

**KIDS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPETITION**

CLOSING DATE: 06/06/2021

To raise money for WWF each entry will need a minimum £1 donation. I am having a local photographer judge the competition to make it fair. To find rules, how to enter and more go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/WattonPhotoCompetition>

The poster features a child's hands holding a camera over a field of flowers, with a blue net in the background.

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

Dates for your Diary

May

3rd - School closed Bank Holiday

4th - 7th - Geography fieldwork week

5th - School Class Photos

12th - Textiles AMD bag clothing collection

17th - Creative arts week

17th - Walk to School 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

6th - Sports Day

9th - Sports Day reserve

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