



Newsletter 26th June 2026

Dear Parents and families,

You could not have helped to fail to notice that the summer weather has returned this week! Our absolute priority has been keeping the children as cool, hydrated, and comfortable as possible during these hot days. We adapted our routines to maximise time in the shade, encouraged regular water breaks, had indoor lunchbreaks, offered optional early collections yesterday and today and slowed things down during the afternoons when the temperatures were at their highest. Thank you for ensuring your children have come to school equipped with sun hats, water bottles, and applied sun cream.

Despite the soaring temperatures, it has been an incredibly busy, productive, and exciting week across the school. On Monday morning, our Year 4 children departed for their highly anticipated three-day residential trip to Hudnall Park. Residential trips offer unique benefits that simply cannot be replicated in the classroom. They provide children with a vital opportunity to build independence, develop resilience, and discover new strengths through outdoor learning. Away from home, often for the first time, they learn the true value of teamwork, problem-solving, and mutual support. It is always a joy to watch their confidence blossom in such a short space of time. They returned on Wednesday full of stories, and you can read a full, separate report of their fantastic adventures later in this newsletter!

On Wednesday, our focus turned to navigating the digital world safely. During the day, our Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a workshop with Alan Mordey from Hertfordshire Cyber Crime Team, which focused on how they can protect themselves and stay safe online. In our modern world, this education is absolutely vital. Children are accessing the internet at an increasingly early age, and while the digital space offers wonderful opportunities for learning, it also exposes them to significant risks.

To ensure we are working in partnership, we also hosted an online session for parents on Wednesday evening, focusing on these same crucial safety themes. For those who were unable to attend, it is worth reflecting on current national insights

* Recent UK data indicates that nearly 99% of children aged 5 to 15 use the internet, with a vast majority owning or having access to a smartphone or tablet.

* Studies show that a staggering number of young people encounter inappropriate content, online bullying, or contact from strangers before reaching secondary school.

* Excessive and unmonitored screen time, particularly late at night, has been directly linked to increased anxiety, disrupted sleep patterns, and lower emotional well-being in children.

Empowering our children with the digital literacy to spot dangers, and supporting parents with the tools to manage boundaries at home, is one of the most important protective measures we can take.

We rounded off the week today with our whole-school Pupil Parliament meetings. This is a dedicated, formal opportunity for children across all year groups to gather, discuss, and express their thoughts and ideas about what takes place in our school. We place immense value on our children's perspectives; it helps foster a strong sense of community, responsibility, and democratic understanding. The ideas generated today regarding school life were both insightful and creative, and I look forward to working with the Parliament leaders to look at how we can bring some of their brilliant suggestions to life.

I hope you all have a wonderful, restful, and safe weekend in the sunshine.

Next Week

Looking ahead, next week promises to be another incredibly busy and important time as we move closer to the end of the summer term.

Next week is Assessment Week across the school. Children will be completing their end-of-term assessments, which allow us to celebrate their progress and map out next steps. Information from these summer term assessments will be included in their end of year report.

On Monday, our Year 6 children will set off on their five-day residential trip to PGL in Lincolnshire. This is a wonderful celebration of their time with us, packed with outdoor adventures that build independence and lifelong memories. We wish them a fantastic and safe week away.

We will be sending you home a separate letter at the beginning of next week to outline the new class structures for September. This letter will inform you who your child's new class teacher, teaching assistant, and classroom will be, alongside updates regarding the valued staff members we will be saying goodbye to this summer and a warm welcome to the new colleagues joining our team.

Thank you for your continued support as we head into another busy week.

Attendance: Every Moment Matters

Whole School Attendance this week: **92.81%**

This term's whole school attendance is: **96.69%**

A huge well done to Blake Class for being our "Attendance Champions" this week!

	Attendance This Week
Wilson Class (Reception)	91.4%
Riley Class (Year 1)	91%
Blake Class (Year 2)	97.9%
Morris Class (Year 3)	87.4%
Seurat Class (Year 4)	89.6%
Crosby Class (Year 5)	97.2%
Moore Class (Year 6)	94.9%

We Are Here to Help

If you are finding the morning routine difficult, if your child is feeling anxious about coming in, or if there are barriers at home making attendance a struggle, please do not face it alone. We would much rather have a conversation and find a way to support you than see a child miss out on their education. Please talk to your child's class teacher/teaching assistant or speak to myself or one of the admin members of staff about your concerns.

New Laptops

I am absolutely delighted to share some fantastic news regarding our school IT resources. We have finally been able to purchase 12 brand-new laptops, which will replace a number of our older devices and add to the current technology available in classes.

This investment was made possible by spending the fundraising money raised from our Sponsored Bounce event which took place at the end of the spring term. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone for supporting this initiative and for helping your children to secure sponsorship from friends and family.

We are very much looking forward to getting these new laptops installed in the classroom charging trolleys so that the children can start using them before the end of term.



Summer Library Reading Challenge

In partnership with The Reading Agency, Hertfordshire Libraries are proud to present this year's Summer Reading Challenge: Read to the Beat.

The challenge aims to keep children reading throughout the summer holidays and rewards them for reading for pleasure. Your children can sign up for FREE at any Hertfordshire Library from 4 July 2026. The Challenge finishes on Saturday 5 September 2026.

Children are encouraged to read any 6 library books over the summer holidays. This could include listening to an e-audiobook, reading independently, or reading with parents or carers - any reading is good reading in our book!

There are also some reading and library related challenges as part of Read to the Beat. These challenges are listed in the packs that children receive when they sign up for the challenge and children can complete them to earn reward stickers if they choose to.



House Points

This week

First place - Red House - 273

Second place - Blue House - 271

Third place - Yellow House - 228

Fourth place - Green House - 201

This Half Term

First place - Red House - 1,567

Second place - Yellow House - 1,444

Third Place - Blue House - 1,421

Fourth place - Green House - 1,416

Pre Loved Uniform Giveaway

As we approach the end of the school year, many families will be starting to think about sorting out uniform for September. Before you head out to buy brand new items, please come and see what we have available in school.

We currently have pre-loved uniform that we would love to see go to new homes. Choosing pre-loved is not only a fantastic way to save money, but it also supports our school's commitment to sustainability by reducing waste. Please come along to the school hall at the following times:

- Monday 13th July at 3:20pm
- Tuesday 14th July at 8:45am

Year 6 Crucial Crew

Last week, our Year 6 children spent a highly valuable afternoon at Crucial Crew, an event designed to prepare them for the wider world as they begin their transition to secondary school. Led by emergency services and safety experts, the afternoon covered vital life-saving skills, including hands-on training in CPR and essential awareness regarding road and rail track safety to prepare them for more independent travel. The children also engaged in mature, honest discussions about personal wellbeing, covering mental health and the risks of vaping, alongside practical strategies for staying safe online and offline through sessions on cyber safety, water safety, and knife crime. Our Year 6 cohort tackled these heavy topics with fantastic maturity and responsibility, and we highly encourage you to talk to your child about what they learned to keep these important conversations going at home.



Year 4 Hudnall Park Residential

When we got on the coach to Hudnall Park, I felt happy because it was my first residential trip to Hudnall Park. It was very exciting. When we got there, we did team building. In team building, we had to find the path of the squares on the floor. This was fun because it was hard and I like a challenge. Next, was the Crocodile Grass. We had to build a path to the other side of the patch of grass. After that, was the Dragon Eggs where we had to use water pipes/gutters to roll tennis balls into a bucket. Mrs Shortland said I was good at this.

Then, we did the army assault course. We had to build a bridge to get over the wall, then swing on a rope to the ground. Next, we went through a very long tunnel. We also had a big rope net to climb over. We also had spotters to help us if we were stuck.

On Tuesday, we did go-karting. First, we had to build our own go-karts. We had to put the washer on, then the wheel, then another washer. Next, we had to push the go-karts up the hill. The go-karts weren't electric but it was still fun. The steering was with our feet. You needed to control the speed, but I didn't control it! Daisy's go-kart tumbled down the hill, but she shouted, "It was worth it!"

After that, we did den building. Our team got second place. It had to be hurricane proof, water proof and wind proof. My team was Peter, Hadley, Aiden, Riley, Nathan and me.

After that, was the tyre rolling. We had to roll tyres down a big crater. Mine came first.

Next, was the forest sculptures. We gathered sticks and stones to make a sculpture. I nearly got trampled on by a deer. After that, we had a water fight. It was great. PS I loved getting Mrs Etienne wet.

Hudnall Park changed me because I made better decisions.

By Eric Thomas

Transition Anxiety

Moving to a new class or school brings a mix of excitement and anxiety. It is completely normal for children to feel a little worried about the upcoming changes. Here are a few practical ways you can support them at home:

- **Validate their feelings:** If they express worry, listen and reassure them that feeling nervous about change is completely natural.
- **Focus on the familiar:** Remind them of what *isn't* changing—such as their friends, school routines, and the familiar faces they see every day.
- **Reframe nerves:** Remind them that the physical feeling of nerves (a fluttering tummy) is exactly the same as feeling excited for a new adventure.
- **Take it one step at a time:** Encourage them not to worry about the whole year ahead, but just to focus on the first few days of settling in.
- **Model positivity:** Children mirror our reactions. Speaking about the move with optimism and confidence will help them feel much more secure.

We will be doing plenty of transition work in school over the coming weeks to ensure every child feels ready and excited. If you have any specific concerns, please do pop a note to your child's current class teacher.



July 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	6 July 10am
Anxiety Explained	6 July 7pm
Introduction to OCD	7 July 10am
What is ACT?	7 July 7pm
Decreasing Depression	13 July 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	13 July 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	14 July 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	14 July 7pm
FREE - Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 July 7-8pm
Autism-Improving Communication	20 July 10am
Improving Family Communication	20 July 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	21 July 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	21 July 7pm
Understanding Anger	27 July 10am
School Anxiety	27 July 7pm
Facing Defiance	28 July 10am
Supporting Health Screen Use	28 July 7pm

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Bem T - 20th June

Faye S - 23rd June

Jordan T - 23rd June

Imogen A - 24th June

Sam Mc - 26th June



Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p>Rory - Has come into Preschool well this week, happily saying goodbye to Mum and finding an activity to settle with and begin his learning. We are very proud of you!</p> <p>Herbie - Has wowed us with his learning and memory recall this week. Looking at our rock pools he told us all about his trip to Cornwall and exploring the rock pools and what he found! Great job Herbie!</p>	<p>Isla - Has come into Preschool happy this week. She has said goodbye in the mornings and independently found an activity to explore, sharing her thoughts and ideas with adults and her peers. Great job Isla!</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p>Everley - for working to the best of her ability with a cutting activity. Everley kept on trying and didn't give up! Great work Everley!</p>	<p>Camille and Paislyn - for always showing a love of learning and working to the best of their ability at school. The girls both showed great concentration and control when making their split pin frogs this week! Excellent girls!</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p>Louis - for showing a love of learning, especially in maths and practising his number formation during child-initiated learning.</p>	<p>Ida - for being an outstanding role model and always being polite and using her manners.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p>Theo - for being outstanding role model to others by always showing respect.</p> <p>George- for always working to the best of his ability especially with his reading.</p>	<p>Lyra - for always working to the best of her ability.</p> <p>Benjamin - for being a good friend and inviting children to play.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p>Leo and Lottie - for working to the best of their abilities to collaboratively create a digital concept map in our computing lesson.</p>	<p>Jack - for showing a love of learning in all lessons.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p>Darci - for being an outstanding role model.</p> <p>Arthur - for showing all great to be gold values.</p>	<p>Arabella - for working to the best of her ability.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p>Aiden - for being an outstanding role model to all - our Hudhall hero</p>	<p>Eric - for making the right choices - excellent attitude and behaviour on our trip.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p>Lily H - for her love of learning across the curriculum.</p>	<p>AB - for listening and paying attention to all adults.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p>Josh - for making the right choices, thinking about expectations and trying hard to demonstrate them in class and rehearsals.</p>	<p>Penny - for meeting all our great to be gold criteria daily. Penny quietly gets on with her day to day work in class and is always willing to lend a hand round the school to help others.</p>

Headteacher's Awards



Each week, staff are constantly looking for children in the school who are showing awareness of one or more than one of our school learning values. These values will help children to become better learners as well as developing their relationships with others around them. Children are recognised for their achievements with being awarded Headteacher's Awards.

Reception:

Lily - for being our 'star writer' this week by being independent with her writing and showing resilience.
Toby - for being creative with our class roller coaster!

Year 1:

Benji - for showing resilience with his learning.
Dylan - for having pride with his learning, especially in English with his sentence writing.
Cameron - for working well with others in the classroom.
Hettie - is this week's 'star writer' for her focus, effort and neat presentation in English lessons.

Year 2:

Hattie - is our 'Star writer' this week for creating suspense when writing her very own superhero story.
Lola - for showing resilience and having high aspirations with her reading.

Year 3:

Amelia H, Sophia, Eoin- for showing kindness and empathy to others .
Isaac WP - is our 'Star writer' for working really hard on his presentation.

Year 4:

Frankie, Verity, Daisy and Francis for taking risks at Hudnall Park. They all pushed beyond their boundaries on our trip in different ways.

Year 5:

Thomas - for having high aspirations in P.E.
Henry - for having high aspirations in P.E.
Louis - is our 'star writer' for his creative writing this week.

Year 6:

Chloe - for taking risks and stepping into her role in our school play - putting herself out of her comfort zone.
Seren - for having high aspirations and always wanting to do her best in all we do in class.

FREE Courses for Parents

These are all funded by Herts County Council so are free for parents to attend.
Please share this valuable resource with parents and colleagues.

If you have any problems viewing this email, all of the information and flyers can be found on our website. <https://www.supportinglinks.co.uk/whatson.html>

"I would hope everybody gets to come across this course; it is so informative and delivered in an easy-to-understand but powerful way. It has had an impact for a lifetime."

"Great techniques to use, it's a breath of fresh air, it works. It's made a big difference, and behaviour a lot better."

6 Week Courses

*Delivered by trainers with personal and professional experience of the difficulties parents face.
These courses are practical and usable, not just idealistic theory.*

Talking Additional Needs

For parents of children with any additional need, no diagnosis needed.



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

Tuesdays 8.00-9.30pm

15th September to 20th October
ONLINE (ages 10-19) - Course ID **864**

Tuesdays 9.45-11.15am

3rd November to 8th December
ONLINE (ages 2-19)- Course ID **859**

Wednesdays 7.00-9.00pm

4th November to 9th December
Face-to-Face (ages 2-19) - Course ID **858**
Longdean School, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8JB

Talking Families

For parents of children under 12



Wednesdays 8.00-9.30pm

17th September to 22nd October
ONLINE - Course ID **861**

Wednesdays 9.45-11.15am

4th November to 9th December
ONLINE - Course ID **860**

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

Talking Teens

For parents of children 12-19



Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm

16th September to 21st October

ONLINE - Course ID **865**

Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm

4th November to 9th December

ONLINE - Course ID **866**

Talking Dads

For dads and male carers of children of all ages



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

Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm

16th September to 21st

October

ONLINE - Course ID **867**

Tuesdays 7.45-9.15pm

3rd November to 8th

December

ONLINE - Course ID **868**

Talking Anxiety



For parents of children struggling
with worries or anxiety aged 3-19

Wednesdays 7.45-9.30pm

4th November to 9th December

ONLINE - Course ID **862**

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

Talking Anger in Teens



For parents of children struggling to manage their anger aged 11-19
Tuesdays 7.45-9.30pm
15th September to 20th October
ONLINE - Course ID **863**

Parents can book by phoning 07512 709 556

Or email bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

Please include your phone number as we cannot book a place without speaking to you.

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

Diary dates in red - new dates added this week

Summer Term

- Monday 29th June - 3rd July - Year 6 residential trip to PGL
- Monday 29th June - 3rd July - Assessment Week
- Thursday 2nd July - New to Reception parent meeting 6pm
- Monday 6th July - New to Nursery parent meeting 6pm
- Wednesday 8th July - Choir performance to parents (during the after school club session)
- Wednesday 8th July - Summer Term Parent Forum Meeting 6pm
- Thursday 9th July - Whole school 'Move Up To New Classes' (morning only) and Year 6 transition day to their secondary schools
- Monday 13th July - Year 6 End of Year Performance Dress Rehearsal
- Monday 13th July - Termly uniform giveaway (school hall) 3.20pm
- Tuesday 14th July - Termly uniform giveaway (school hall) 8.45am
- Tuesday 14th July - Year 6 performances to parents 2.30pm
- Wednesday 15th July - 'Move Up To New Classes' part 2
- Wednesday 15th July - IRock performances to parents 2.30pm
- Wednesday 15th July - Year 6 performance to parents 6pm
- Thursday 16th July - Year 6 class assembly 9am
- Thursday 16th July - F.O.W Summer Payout
- Friday 17th July - End of year reports sent home
- Monday 20th July - Watton's Got Talent (change of previously published date)
- **Tuesday 21st July - Year 2 trip to Lea Valley Park**
- **Wednesday 22nd July - House Point Reward Treat**
- Thursday 23rd July - Year 6 leavers assembly. Venue to be confirmed
- Thursday 23rd July - End of Term. School closes 2.15pm