



Newsletter 6th June 2025

Dear Parents and families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful extended half-term break. The children have returned refreshed and ready for what promises to be a very busy and exciting second half of the summer term.

Our staff certainly made the most of their two INSET days. Many of them refreshed their first aid training, ensuring we're always prepared, and all teachers have already made a great start on writing the children's end-of-year reports.

It's been a positive start to the new half-term with the children settling back into school routine quickly.

Yesterday, Year 1 enjoyed their trip to Mountfitchet Castle (see photos and information on p5). Unfortunately, the Year 5 sports event at Wodson Park had to be postponed due to the bad weather on Thursday. This event has been rescheduled for September and the current Year 5 children will still be taking part. We were also due to have the Fire Brigade in to lead a special assembly for the whole school but due to an emergency call out, they too had to postpone their visit but hope to rearrange another date with us shortly.

Upcoming Events

On Tuesday, we are very much looking forward to our annual Sports Day. Please make sure you read the flier on page 2, as it contains all the important timings for watching your child's events. We've designed Sports Day to be a blend of competitive and non-competitive events to ensure enjoyment for all children. We'd also love for you to join us for a picnic lunch on the field between 12pm and 1pm.

A quick reminder about facilities. Unfortunately, there will be no access to the school building for toilets during Sports Day. This is in line with our safeguarding policy, as not all children will be outside at the same time.

However, the main school pedestrian gate will be accessible all day, so you are welcome to come and go as you please throughout the event. We will have a member of staff manning the gate to ensure we are able to safeguard the children outside.

Next Thursday at 9 am, we are looking forward to welcoming family and friends to Year 4's class assembly. They'll be sharing all about their fantastic 3-day residential trip to Hudnall Park before half-term. The assembly should last approximately 20 minutes.

We're all looking forward to a productive and enjoyable remainder of the term.

Sponsored Bounce

We are absolutely thrilled to let you know that the total amount of money collected at our recent sponsored bounce fundraiser was £3,394. All of this money will now be spent this term on increasing the number of laptops available for each class and for buying Year 1 children a set of ipads to help them with their computing lessons. Children's certificates and prizes will be awarded shortly. Thank you so much to all of you who support these fundraising events. Over the last 5 years, these sponsored bounce events have enabled us to expand our range of devices from 16 laptops to approximately 64 laptops, 18 ipads and 15 tablets. The money raised will enable us to purchase even more. We couldn't have done this without your help.

School Games Platinum Award



We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the highly coveted School Games Platinum Mark, the highest accolade in the School Games Mark Awards. This prestigious award recognises the school's outstanding commitment to the development of competition, sport, and physical activity across the school and into the local community.

Participating in this scheme has allowed our school to continuously evaluate and improve its provision of school sport. The Platinum Mark is only achievable by schools that have sustained a Gold level for four consecutive academic years, demonstrating a long-term and embedded dedication to physical education. A huge thank you to Mrs Stevens for being such a passionate P.E lead in our school.

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School



Sports Day (Nursery – Year 6)

When: 10th June 2025 (reserve date is 24th June)

Where: On the school field

Please ensure that children have their water bottles, a sunhat and are wearing sun cream if it is a hot day. We will have gazebos for the children to sit under but unfortunately, there is no shelter available for spectators.

Followed by:

Family Picnic – 12pm – 1pm (so long as it isn't raining)

Year 1 and 2

The sports events will start at approx. 9.15am and finish at approx 10.30am.
Parents are welcome to walk around with the children whilst they take part in each event. Children are to come to school dressed in their P.E kits and with t shirts in their house colour. Please enter the school grounds and exit via the main gate near the school office.

Nursery and Reception classes

The sports events will start at 10.45am and finish at approx. 11.45am.
Parents are welcome to come and support the children whilst they take part in each event. Children are to come to school dressed in their P.E kits and with t shirts in their house colour (the teachers will send you this information via Marvellous Me). Please enter the school grounds and exit via the main gate near the school office.

Years 3, 4 5 and 6

The sports events will start at approx. 1.20 and finish at approx. 3pm.
Parents are welcome to walk around with the children whilst they take part in each event. Children are to come to school dressed in their P.E kits and with t shirts in their house colour. Please enter the school grounds and exit via the main gate near the school office.

Farewell and Thank You, Reverend Jenny!

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Reverend Jenny from her role as Rector of Watton, as of June 1st.

Reverend Jenny has been an invaluable part of our community for the past 13 years, and her presence will be greatly missed. She has helped us celebrate countless Harvest Festivals and Year 6 Leavers Services, creating memorable moments for our children and their families. Before the pandemic, she also regularly visited the school to lead whole-school assemblies.

Beyond her pastoral duties, Reverend Jenny also dedicated many years of service as a school governor, providing invaluable guidance and support to our school's development.

As of now, a new rector has not yet been appointed to replace Reverend Jenny. We will keep you informed of any updates regarding this.

On behalf of the entire school community - children, staff, and parents - we extend our heartfelt thanks to Reverend Jenny for her unwavering dedication to both the Watton community and our school. We wish her all the very best for a long, happy, and fulfilling retirement!

Term Time Holiday Absences

We believe that consistent attendance is vital for every child's learning and development. We want to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of your child being in school every day and to update you on the government's rules regarding term-time holidays.

New Government Rules on Term-Time Holidays

The government's position on term-time holidays is very clear: schools are not permitted to authorise any absence for holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Parents do not have an automatic right to take their child out of school for a holiday during term time.

- **Exceptional Circumstances:** Written request for absence must be for truly 'exceptional circumstances' - unforeseen, unavoidable, or significant events that cannot be scheduled outside of term time. Holidays, regardless of cost or timing, are *not* considered exceptional. Furthermore, any decision regarding 'exceptional circumstances' rests solely at the Headteacher's discretion and a written letter does not guarantee automatic authorisation of your child's absence.
- **Penalty Notices (Fines):** Unauthorised absences for holidays will lead to a Penalty Notice (fine) from the local authority. These fines are typically £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. It's important to note that each day of unauthorised absence equates to two unauthorised sessions (one for the morning registration and one for the afternoon registration). Once a child accumulates 10 or more unauthorised absences (5 full days) within a 10-week period, the local authority will be alerted, and a penalty notice may be issued. Non-payment may lead to prosecution.

We understand that family holidays are important, and we strongly encourage you to plan these during the designated school holiday periods. It's worth noting that school staff are also expected to be in school every day during term time and are not able to take advantage of cheaper holiday rates outside of official school breaks.

Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p>Julien - Julien has come back after the half term break and has been a superstar. He has had impeccable manners and has been helping both his peers and adults. Well done, we are very proud of you!</p> <p>Leonardo - Leonardo has been using his fantastic creative imagination this week, choosing unique ways to create things. His palm tree using a broom and connecting circular blocks was a particularly brilliant creation! Amazing work Leonardo, well done!</p>	<p>Jacey - Jacey is an all round brilliant role model. She always follows the routines at Preschool, is always willing to help others, and is always so kind to others. Great job Jacey, keep it up!</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p>Brayden - for being a great role model at school and setting an excellent example to everyone around him. Fantastic Brayden!</p> <p>Miles - for showing a love of learning this week when talking about volcanoes in his independent play! Excellent Miles!</p>	<p>Amalia - for always showing our great to be gold behaviours at school, Amalia sets a fantastic example to others and always does it with a smile on her face! Great work Amalia.</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p>Lynette and Hudson - for showing a love of learning in all areas and always working to the best of their ability.</p>	
<u>Year 1</u>	<p>Lottie - for being an outstanding role model around school and on our trip.</p> <p>George -for showing his love for learning on the school trip showing his knowledge on castles.</p>	<p>Kaylee - for showing her love for learning and being a good role model.</p> <p>Olivia - for following all adult instructions and making good choices.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p>Lillian - for constantly making the right choices during lessons & being an outstanding role model to others.</p> <p>Arthur -for constantly making the right choices during lessons & being an outstanding role model to others.</p>	<p>Jordan - for constantly making the right choices during lessons & being an outstanding role model to others.</p> <p>Penelope -for constantly making the right choices during lessons & being an outstanding role model to others.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p>Beatrice - for constantly making the right choices, paying attention to all adults and always being well mannered.</p>	<p>Frankie - for having a love of learning, especially during guided reading this week and for paying attention to all adults.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p>Rose - for her love of learning. This was particularly evident during our history lesson this week. Well done Rose.</p>	<p>Lillie C - for constantly making the right choices and working to the best of her ability in every lesson. Well done Lillie.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p>Bobby - for showing impeccable behaviour outside of the classroom.</p>	<p>Sam A - for love of learning in all areas. He has shown excellent application of his own knowledge to what we are learning.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p>Finley M and Ollie - for showing a love of learning in science, really thinking about the adaptation of their fictional species in a real habitat.</p>	<p>Billy - for meeting all the criteria for 'Great to be Gold' constantly making the right choices and challenging theories with confidence.</p>

This Weeks attendance %

Wilson Class (Reception)	92.3%
Riley Class (Year 1)	93.5%
Blake Class (Year 2)	93.5%
Morris Class (Year 3)	97.2%
Seurat Class (Year 4)	98.6%
Crosby Class (Year 5)	92.6%
Moore Class (Year 6)	94.7%

Whole School Attendance this week 94.06% / this term 96.98%



House Points

This week

First place - Yellow House - 423

Second place - Green House - 402

Joint third place - Red House - 375

Joint third place - Blue House - 375

This Term

First place - Yellow House - 423

Second place - Green House - 402

Joint third place - Red House - 375

Joint third place - Blue House - 375

As this has been a very short week in school, we have decided to combine this weeks house points with next weeks totals. These figures are the same ones as we shared before half term.

Friends of Watton update

HAPPY FRIDAY! The Dads and Lads Day Shopping Stall will occur on **Friday, 13th June**, in the school hall. Each class will visit the hall in the morning to select **gifts for the special people in their lives**. The committee has worked hard to choose a variety of **suitable, fun, and delicious gifts** for the children to purchase. **Prices range from £1 to £8**, and children are allowed to buy **multiple gifts**.

We will need **volunteers to help ensure that the stall runs smoothly**. This fundraiser offers an excellent opportunity for children to select gifts for their **loved ones** independently, **and it's always heartwarming to see**. If you would like to volunteer, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Eric T - 3rd June
Poppy C - 4th June
Vittori M - 4th June
Aila G - 5th June
Grace M - 6th June

Year 1 Trip To Mountfitchet Castle

Yesterday, Year 1 went on a school trip to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle and toy museum. This was the perfect fantastic finish to their history topic all about castles. Although it was a wet day, they all had a fun experience. Thank you to the parent helpers who gave up their time to go along as a helper.



Family Lives Summer Term Programme 2025

Getting on with Your Pre Teen/Teenager (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 4 June to 9 July 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Is your teen feeling anxious or isolated? Are you concerned about their mental health and struggling to get help? Maybe you have an FFA/CIN/CP in place and need more support. Join our free 6-week online group to learn how parents can best emotionally support their teen and feel confident and prepared for whatever challenges might arise.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Friday 6 June to 11 July, 9.30 am - 11.30 am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Sorting Out Family Arguments (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 10 June to 15 July 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Do you feel everything ends in an argument and you are constantly trying to keep the peace? Join our free online 6-week group to help improve family communication, reduce the reactions which lead to arguments and create a culture of teamwork in your family.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop

Tuesday 24 June 9.30am - 11.30am

A workshop that helps parents understand ADHD and provides strategies to help support you and your child.

Reducing Conflict Online Workshop

Monday 14 July 7.00pm - 9.00pm

A workshop that explores different types of conflict between couples and families.

For more information, please contact Louise or Lesley on **0204 522 8700/8701**, or email **services@familylives.org.uk**. Please scan our QR code for our referral form.

Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077722. Registered address: The Annex York House, Salisbury Square, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5AD



Scan Me!



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Headteacher: Mrs N.Etienne Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S. Gill

Dates For Your Diary

Diary dates in red - new dates added this week

Summer Term

- Week beginning 9th June - Year 1 phonics screening checks
- Tuesday 10th June - Sports Day 1
- Thursday 12th June - Year 3 class trip to Celtic Harmony
- Thursday 12th June - Year 4 class assembly 9am
- Friday 13th June - Pupil Parliament Meeting
- Monday 16th - 20th June - Year 6 PGL
- Tuesday 17th June - No Pens Day/Forest School visits
- Wednesday 18th June - No Pens Day/Forest School visits
- Monday 23rd June - New to Nursery class (September 2025) parent meeting 6pm
- Tuesday 24th June - Sports Day 2 (in case sports day 1 is cancelled due to the weather)
- Thursday 26th June - Year 3 class assembly 9am
- Thursday 26th June - New to Reception class (September 2025) parent meeting 6pm
- Friday 27th June - Watton's Got Talent
- Monday 30th June - 4th July - Little Wandle Assessments
- Thursday 3rd July at 9am - Year 6 class assembly
- Thursday 3rd July - FOW Payout
- Wednesday 9th July - Reception class trip to Epping Forest
- Thursday 10th July - Moving up to new classes (morning only)
- Monday 7th - 11th July - Assessment Week
- Tuesday 15th July - Moving up to new classes (morning only)
- Tuesday 15th July - Year 6 play 6pm
- Wednesday 16th July - End of year reports sent home
- Wednesday 16th July - Year 6 play 6pm
- Wednesday 23rd July - Year 6 leavers service in church
- Wednesday 23rd July - End of Term 2.15pm