



Newsletter 8th May 2026

Dear Parents

It has been a busy short week at school following the bank holiday. I hope you all had a lovely time with your families over the long weekend.

Thank you to all the Year 1 parents who attended the Phonics Screening meetings on Monday and earlier this afternoon. We truly appreciate your support in understanding the phonics assessment which will take place in June. For those who were unable to join us, the PowerPoint presentation will be saved on the Year 1 class page and the Phonics section of the school website for you to view at your convenience.

On Wednesday, our Reception children enjoyed a fantastic trip to Mill Green in Hatfield, while Year 5 went to Watkins Farm. Both trips were a great success, and the children represented the school beautifully while learning outside of the classroom. As always, a huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who came along on these trips and helped. We couldn't run these trips without your support, so we are truly grateful. Many thanks also to Sam and Alison Pearman for leading another amazing workshop for the children at their farm. Our links with the local farm are invaluable to the children and our vision for regular outdoor learning opportunities for *all* children.

I would like to thank all the parents who completed our online survey regarding behaviour. Your perspectives are invaluable to us as we continue to ensure the best possible environment for every child. We are currently reviewing the responses and will share an update with you soon.

We are absolutely delighted to announce that the final total raised for our Sponsored Bounce is **£4,483**. This is a phenomenal amount of money. We are already in the process of purchasing new laptops and iPads to enhance the children's learning. Certificates for everyone who raised money will be awarded to the children next week.

Finally, we would like to wish our Year 6 children the very best of luck for their SATs next week. They have put in so much effort and should feel confident in everything they have achieved so far. We are all rooting for you!

Walk To School Week

We're delighted to announce that our school will be taking part in Walk to School Week from 18th - 22nd May! This is a fantastic opportunity to encourage healthy habits, reduce congestion around the school, and help lower carbon emissions - all while making the journey to school more fun.

Walking or wheeling to school has so many benefits: it boosts physical and mental wellbeing, helps children arrive alert and ready to learn, and supports a cleaner, greener environment.

How you can help:

- Encourage your child to walk or scoot to school as often as possible during the week.
- If walking the whole way isn't practical, try a 'Park and Stride' - park a short distance from school and walk or wheel the last part of the journey.

To make things even more exciting, each class will be running a friendly competition. The winning class will enjoy extra break time as a reward!



Online Safety Talks for Children and Parents

On Wednesday 24th June, we are pleased to host a vital session for our Year 5 and Year 6 children, led by a Hertfordshire Constabulary Cyber Protect and Prevention Officer.

The children will participate in a workshop during the afternoon, designed to engage them in thinking about their digital footprints. To ensure parents are equally informed, there will be a dedicated online session at 6 pm on the same day. We strongly encourage as many Year 5 and Year 6 parents as possible to log in and listen.

The focus of these sessions is to highlight the types of illegal online activity children can inadvertently become involved in, ensuring both parents and children understand the serious real-world impact and legal repercussions of such actions. Furthermore, the sessions will emphasise constructive and positive ways for our children to apply their technical interests and talents for the future.

A Note on Smartphones

In line with our commitment to the children's well-being, we would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents about the Smartphone Free Childhood movement.

As a school, we support the recommendation that parents wait until their child is at least 14 years old before providing them with a smartphone. Delaying access to these devices can significantly help protect children from the pressures of social media, reduce the risks of online harm, and support their emotional and social development during these formative years.

Links for the 6pm online meeting will be sent via our usual communication channels closer to the date. We look forward to your participation in this important initiative.

Attendance: Every Moment Matters

Whole School Attendance this week: **96.75%**

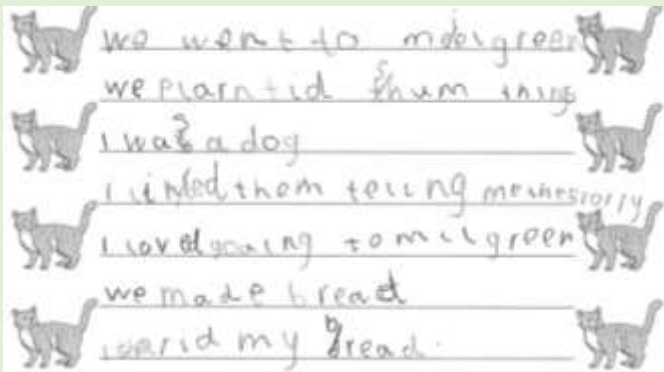
This term's whole school attendance is: **96.3%**

	Attendance This Week	Achievement
Wilson Class (Reception)	95.5%	👉 Good Progress
Riley Class (Year 1)	98.7%	💎 Setting the Standard
Blake Class (Year 2)	94.8%	↓ Declining Attendance
Morris Class (Year 3)	97.2%	👉 On Track
Seurat Class (Year 4)	98.9%	💎 Setting the Standard
Crosby Class (Year 5)	95%	↓ Declining Attendance
Moore Class (Year 6)	97.3%	👉 On Track

We Are Here to Help

We understand that every family's circumstances are different. 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 feel free to talk to your child's class teacher/teaching assistant or speak to myself or one of the admin members of staff about your concerns.

Reception Class Trip To Mill Green Museum



Reception had a fantastic day on their trip to Mill Green on Wednesday! We listened to the story of The Little Red Hen, sequenced photos and retold the story by becoming the characters and even thinking about it from a kinder perspective. The children also coloured in their own story books. During the visit, we enjoyed our tour of the Mill, made bread, investigated grain and cogs and even planted our own cress to grow at home. It was a brilliant day full of lots of learning and fun! A huge thank you to all the grown-ups who helped and supported us on the trip!



Year 5 Class Trip to Watkins Farm

On Wednesday, Year 5 enjoyed a visit to Watkins Farm as part of our DT topic, *Farm to Fork*. During the trip, the children learned more about the journey food takes from farms to our supermarkets and homes. We met Farmer Sam and had the opportunity to see and learn about his cows up close and how to look after them. Despite the chilly weather, everyone had a fantastic day and gained lots of valuable knowledge from the experience.



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

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School



Sports Day (Nursery – Year 6)

When: 9th June 2026 (reserve date is 16th 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.

Lunchtime arrangements:

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

<u>Year 1 and 2</u>	<u>Nursery and Reception</u>	<u>Years 3, 4 5 and 6</u>
Their sports events will start at approx. 9.15am and finish at approx. 10.30am.	Their sports events will start at approx. 10.45am and finish at approx. 11.45am.	Their sports events will start at approx. 1.30 and finish at approx. 3pm.

- Parents are welcome to walk around with the children whilst they take part in the team events.
- Parents are kindly asked to remain in the seated areas when the children are running in the sprint events.
- 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.
- Toilets – available for the elderly, infirm or for young children. Please go to the admin office.
- Toilets are also available at the community centre which is only a short walk from the school.
 - Main gate will be unlocked all day but manned by a member of school staff.

Pre school sports day will be held in the pre school/children Centre gardens on Thursday 11th June and with a reserve date of Thursday 18th June. More information to follow nearer the time.

Next Week Is.....Mental Health Awareness Week

I am delighted to inform you that next week we will be observing Mental Health Week. This is a dedicated time for us to celebrate the emotional wellbeing of our entire school community—children, staff, and families alike. At Watton at Stone, we believe that a child's emotional state is the primary driver of their overall wellbeing and their ability to engage fully with their learning.

As a highlight of the week, we are very excited that the whole school will be taking part in Joe Wicks' 'Big School Workout' on Thursday afternoon. We know that physical health and mental wellbeing are inextricably linked; this high-energy event is a fantastic way for the children to experience how movement can boost their mood, release endorphins, and foster a sense of belonging across the school.

Mental health is not a one-off event for us; it is a 'golden thread' woven through our daily school life. Our school policy, which is a core part of our safeguarding culture, outlines how we support every child. Three key areas of this policy that I would like to highlight for you are:

- To ensure wellbeing remains at the heart of our strategic vision, I serve as the Senior Mental Health Lead. We are also supported by a multi-disciplinary Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Team, which includes our five Mental Health First Aiders (MHFAs) who provide frontline, non-judgemental support and early intervention.
- We recognise that transitions and high-demand environments can be challenging. To support this, we offer 'Soft Starts' to the school day and calm spaces in all classrooms which help to ensure that every child can self-regulate in a way that suits their needs.
- Our support ranges from universal tools used by all children, such as the Zones of Regulation, to targeted clinical partnerships. This includes having an Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) from the NHS on-site one afternoon per week to provide tailored interventions for children who need additional scaffolding.

You can find further details on these initiatives and our full approach to emotional safety within our Mental Health Policy, which is available on both the Policies and Safeguarding pages of our school website. We encourage you to review this, as we believe that parents are the experts on their child's internal state, and we value your partnership in keeping our children happy, healthy, and ready to flourish.

House Points

This week

First place - Green House - 369

Second place - Red House - 351

Third place - Blue House - 328

Fourth place - Yellow House - 319

This term

First place - Red House - 2,003

Second place - Blue House - 1,911

Third place - Green House - 1,907

Fourth place - Yellow House - 1,794

Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Imogen C - 2nd May

Amalia B - 3rd May

George M - 3rd May

Jess P - 4th May

Gracie H - 6th May

Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p>Rory - has settled beautifully into Preschool. He follows the routines well, and enjoys exploring the environment and choosing where he wants to play. We are very proud of you Rory!</p> <p>Imogen - Has had a great week. She has followed the routines well, happily playing and exploring the environment talking to grown ups and her peers during her play. We are very proud of you - keep it up!</p>	<p>Joe - Has grown in confidence this week. He has done a super job in the mornings at finding an activity to settle with, and has explored the environment happily and independently. We are very proud of you Joe! Well done!</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p>Jackson - for really impressing us with his self help skills this week, Jackson has been practicing at home and was very excited to show us at Nursery! Excellent Jackson, keep it up!</p> <p>Paislyn - for sharing her knowledge of the chicks with us and explaining how we need to look after them. Fantastic Paislyn!</p>	<p>Olive - for working to the best of her ability during our life cycle group time. Olive shared her thoughts and ideas with the group. Great work Olive!</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p>Fajar - for showing impeccable behaviour outside lessons.</p>	<p>Soren and Tristan - for always being well-mannered.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p>Dylan - for showing a love of learning. Annie - for showing a love of learning.</p>	<p>Frankie - for always being well mannered.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p>Olivia - for always being polite and well-mannered. She always says a smiley good morning as she comes through the door.</p>	<p>Tiora and Vittori - the girls are both outstanding role models who could get gold for all of our school values.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p>George- for working to the best of his ability and challenging himself in maths.</p>	<p>Sienna- for showing her love for learning. Trying hard in her reading. Logan- for always showing all GTBG values.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p>Mila - for working to the best of her ability and always remembering her manners.</p>	<p>Shiva - for being an outstanding role model by being organised for learning and sensible in transitions.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p>Eleanor - for being a great role model, demonstrating all the Great to be Gold values. Isabelle G - for working to the best of her ability.</p>	<p>Lillie - for showing all the Great to be Gold values and being a fantastic role model.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p>Isabella - for meeting all the Great to be Gold criteria every day, she has really taken on board the advice given and you can see this in her work.</p>	<p>Josh - for working to the best of his ability in DT already and we have only just started the project. Keep up the amazing work.</p>

Bonjour everyone! 🌟

This week we're talking about clothing collections and Fathers Day gift stalls coming up



Clothing Collection: 5th June

Following up from the school email, we'll be collecting good quality clothes you no longer need on **5th June**. Our recycling partner gives your clothes a second life and pays Friends of Watton 70p per kilo. With an average bag weighing 7-10kg, the pennies quickly add up.

Please note: we cannot accept bedding, towels, branded school uniforms, soft toys, dressing gowns, or underwear (though bras are absolutely fine).

Thank you for your support!

Fathers Day Gift Stalls: 19th June Calling for volunteers!

With Father's Day approaching, we are getting ready to host our annual gift stall!

Remember how our wonderful dads stepped up to give the mums a well-deserved morning off for Mother's Day? We'd love to return the favour and keep that same energy going. We are looking for volunteers to help run the stalls, assist the children with their shopping, and help make the day special for the dads and father figures in our lives.

If you can help for an hour, please let us know either via an email to the school, or on the class whatsapp. Thanks!

*Psssst! Don't forget about Easy Fundraising!
Available in the app store or the play store.*



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:

Lenny and Faye - for showing curiosity during our class trip to Mill Green and asking lots of thoughtful and relevant questions.

Victoria - for being our 'star writer' this week by always challenging herself with her writing.

Year 1:

Ellis- is this week's 'star writer' for working hard during our English lessons.

George - for having pride in his writing.

Molly - for showing resilience with her learning.

Year 2:

Noah and Romilly - are our 'star writers' for working brilliantly as a team to create an eye-catching poster to remind us how to use apostrophes in our writing.

Year 3:

Ellis- for working well with others and being reflective.

Lillian is our 'star writer'- for working really hard on her presentation.

Year 4:

Jasper - for having high aspirations in his running club and achieving good results.

Amelia - is our 'star writer' for her excellent persuasive writing this week.

Riley - is our P.E star for improved resilience in swimming and listening to the adult's instructions and feedback.

Year 5:

AB - is our 'star writer' for his creative writing in English.

Connor - for having high aspirations in reading plus.

Sam - for having high aspirations in P.E.

Year 6:

Lexie - for being resilient in every lesson, trying to achieve a higher standard each time successfully.

Edie - for having high aspirations in all subjects - a great role model, full of questions to take her learning further.

Daya -is our 'star writer' - she has loved writing the non-chronological report on the Slave Trade, even writing in her own time to complete the work.

Dates For Your Diary

Diary dates in red - new dates added this week

Summer Term

- Monday 11th - 14th May - Key Stage 2 SATS
- Monday 11th May - Year 2 visit to Watkins farm
- Wednesday 13th May - Year 2 Infant Agility Sports event - Sele school
- Thursday 14th May - The Big School Workout with Joe Wicks
- Monday 18th May - Reception class trip to Watkins Farm
- Monday 18th May - Friday 22nd May - Walk to School week
- Tuesday 19th May - Year 6 parents PGL meeting 6pm
- Tuesday 19th - 20th May No Pens Day/ Forest School
- Thursday 21st May - Reception class assembly
- Monday 25th May - 29th May - Half Term
- Monday 1st June - Inset Day. School closed for children
- Tuesday 2nd - 5th June - Year 4 multiplication check for Year 4
- Monday 8th - Friday 12th June - Year 1 phonics screening checks
- Tuesday 9th June - Sports Day 1
- Wednesday 10th June - Year 5 and 6 KNEX challenge
- Thursday 11th June - Year 6 trip to Watkins Farm
- Friday 12th June - Year 1 trip to Mountfitchet Castle
- Tuesday 16th June - Sports Day 2 Reserved (in case sports day 1 is cancelled due to the weather)
- Wednesday 17th June - Year 3 class trip to Celtic Harmony
- Thursday 18th June - Year 6 Crucial Crew 1pm start (Morgan's Primary School)
- Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th June - Year 4 residential trip to Hudnall Park
- Wednesday 24th June - Year 5/6 Online safety talk (delivered by Hertfordshire Police) 1.30pm
- Wednesday 24th June - Parents Online Safety talk (delivered by Hertfordshire Police) 6pm

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- Thursday 25th June - Peter Pan drama workshop Nursery - Year 2
- Thursday 25th June - District Sports
- Thursday 25th June - Full Governing Body Meeting
- Friday 26th June - Pupil Parliament Meetings
- Monday 29th June - 3rd July - Year 6 residential trip to PGL
- Monday 29th June - 3rd July - Assessment Week
- **Friday 10th July - Watton's Got Talent (change to original date)**
- Monday 13th July - Year 6 End of Year Performance Dress Rehearsal
- Tuesday 14th July - Year 6 performances to parents 2.30pm
- 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
- Friday 17th July - End of year reports sent home
- Thursday 23rd July - End of Term. School closes 2.15pm