



## Newsletter 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parents and families,

Last Friday evening, our choir took part in a wonderful performance of the cantata, 'The Journey'. Performing alongside three other schools from Hertford and Ware, our choir members were a true credit to the school. It was a lovely evening of narration and song.

I would like to extend a special mention to Jess and Iris (Year 4), who performed beautiful solos, and to Eleanor and Lily (Year 5), who expertly narrated sections of the story. A huge well done to them, and to the entire choir for their dedication and hard work.

I would also like to offer my sincere thanks to Emma Hanlon and Nicola Roberts for all of their support, time, and dedicated coaching of the children in advance of the performance; their hard work truly shone through.

We are making a final call for the Sponsored Bounce money to be collected and returned to school. We kindly request that all funds are submitted or paid via the Arbor app by 8th May.

Our goal is to finalise the purchase of new laptops and iPads as soon as possible so that the children can benefit from this new technology throughout the summer term. Certificates and prizes will be awarded to the children shortly after the deadline. A sincere thank you to everyone who has already sent in their donations.

To round off the week, Year 1 treated their families to a fantastic class assembly yesterday. It was a joy to see the children showcase their learning from across the curriculum. They spoke and performed with such confidence—well done to Year 1!

### After School Clubs

This term, we have organised an extensive selection of after school enrichment activities, featuring six clubs hosted by external providers and eight clubs led by our own school staff. We have worked hard to ensure that club opportunities are distributed equally across all year groups, providing every child with a fair chance to participate.

Our ambition is for every child to engage in at least one enrichment club per week. We recognise, of course, that some children already participate in activities outside of school hours; however, we remain committed to offering a diverse range of activities to support their personal development.

Due to the increased number of sessions running this term, I am pleased to announce that we have been able to accommodate every child's first choice of club.

As we move into the term, the following clubs have a small number of vacancies: photography, athletics, rounders, art, science and sewing. We would dearly love to see every single space filled, so if your child would like to join an additional club, please do get in touch with the admin team. These remaining spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and we look forward to seeing the children enjoy these additional opportunities.

### Enterprise Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our Easter/Spring Enterprise Day event, which took place on the last day of the spring term. The final profits have now been calculated and are as follows:

Pre school: £114.13	Year 3: £106.44
Nursery: £93	Year 4: £103.41
Reception: £114.21	Year 5: £170.50
Year 1: £48.81	Year 6: £83.00
Year 2: £110.79	

All monies raised will be spent on each of the classes during the summer term to provide additional treats and rewards.

## School Development Plan – Metacognition

One of the key priorities for us as a school is to embed metacognition practices into our day to day teaching. Metacognition is about moving away from children being passive learners and instead empowering them to take greater responsibility in their learning journey. It is often described as 'thinking about thinking'. It involves a child's ability to monitor, direct, and review their own learning processes. Rather than simply completing a task, a metacognitive learner asks themselves:

- "What is the best way to approach this problem?"
- "Have I done something like this before?"
- "Is my current strategy working, or do I need to try something else?"

By developing these skills, children become more resilient and adaptable, understanding that 'getting stuck' is simply a puzzle to be solved through a change in strategy.

Our plan to develop metacognition across the school is carefully phased to ensure the strategies are deeply rooted in our classrooms: Currently, our priority is establishing robust metacognitive habits across Key Stage 2. You may notice your child talking more about how they planned a piece of writing or how they checked their working in mathematics. From September 2026, we will be looking to adapt and develop these frameworks for our Key Stage 1 children. While the language used may be simpler, the goal remains the same: helping even our youngest learners reflect on their successes and challenges.

You can support this development by asking 'process' questions rather than just 'result' questions. When your child is doing homework or learning a new skill, try asking:

1. "How did you decide to start that?"
2. "What was the most challenging part, and how did you get past it?"
3. "If you did this again, what would you do differently?"

## Attendance: Every Moment Matters

Whole School Attendance this week: **96.81%**

This term's whole school attendance is: **96.88%**

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

	Attendance This Week	Achievement
Wilson Class (Reception)	95%	↓ Declining Attendance
Riley Class (Year 1)	99.3%	💎 Setting the Standard
Blake Class (Year 2)	97.2%	👉 Good Progress
Morris Class (Year 3)	94.4%	↓ Declining Attendance
Seurat Class (Year 4)	100%	🏆 Attendance Champions
Crosby Class (Year 5)	95.2%	↓ Declining Attendance
Moore Class (Year 6)	96.8%	💎 Setting the Standard

### 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.

## Autism Acceptance Month

Following our whole school assembly this Monday, I would like to share some reflections on Autism Acceptance Month and how we are marking this important time with the children. Within our school community, we have a growing number of children in every classroom who are either diagnosed with autism, on the pathway for an assessment or are currently undiagnosed, and it is vital that we foster an environment where they feel completely at home.

You may have noticed a shift in language in recent years from "awareness" to "acceptance." While awareness is a vital first step, it often implies a passive acknowledgment. Acceptance, however, is an active choice. It is about moving beyond simply knowing someone is autistic to ensuring they are valued, supported, and included as they are. This shift moves the focus away from "fixing" a person and towards adapting our environment and attitudes so everyone can thrive.

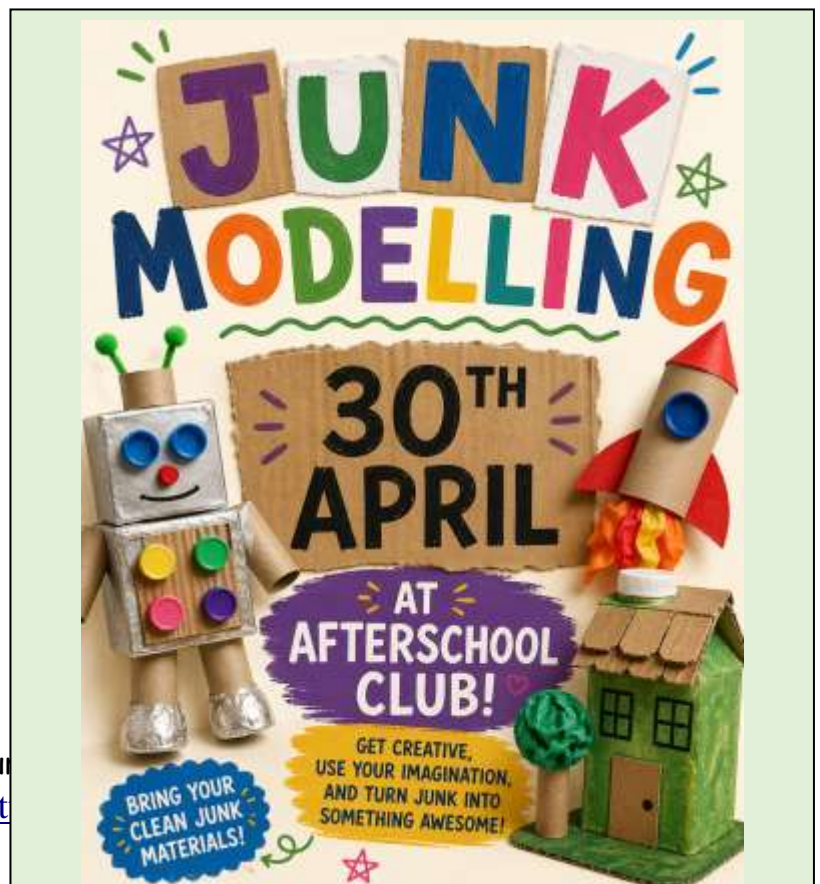
This commitment is woven into the very fabric of our school. One of the core pillars of our school vision is to "encourage understanding and acceptance of themselves and others." By helping our children understand that every brain works differently, we teach them to accept their own unique strengths and challenges, as well as those of their peers. Our goal is to create a culture where being different is not something to be tolerated, but something that is understood as a natural and valuable part of our human community.

We are fortunate to live in a time where insight into neurodivergent experiences is more accessible than ever. There is a vast amount of literature available now to read, and we continue to encourage you to take advantage of the free training sessions for parents which we regularly publish in our weekly newsletters. Popular culture also provides helpful windows into these experiences; series such as The 'A Word' and 'The Good Doctor' (both currently available on Netflix) can support the ongoing education and acceptance within our own families. Thank you for making our school a place where every child feels seen, understood, and accepted.

## Class Photographs

Next Wednesday, the school photographer will be in school to take our annual class photographs. Again, this year, we are opting for a traditional style as this is the preferred style requested by parents, and we would like the children to look exceptionally smart for the occasion.

Please ensure your child arrives at school in their full uniform, paying particular attention to their appearance. All children must wear their school uniform even if they have P.E. scheduled on that day; for this occasion, they will participate in P.E. in their school uniform rather than their kits. It is essential that every child has their school jumper or fleece with them, as these must be worn for the photograph to ensure the class appears consistent and tidy





Hello everyone! 🌻

This week we're letting you know about the next upcoming clothing donation

### Winter Clothing Collection: 5th June

Since the sun is finally making a guest appearance, it's time to trade the puffer jackets for petals and clear those winter cobwebs!

We are collecting good quality winter 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!



## You shop, retailers donate to

Friends of Watton at Stone School

every time you shop online



Search for us on: [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)



# Free Parenting Online Courses

**Beezee FAMILIES**

**FREE Healthy Lifestyle support for families in Hertfordshire**

Our **FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes** start on **27th April 2026**, with an intro call beforehand

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>HATFIELD</b> Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm	<b>CHESHUNT</b> Oakview Primary School EN7 8LB 5:00 - 7:00pm	<b>STEVENAGE</b> Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:00 - 7:00pm	<b>WATFORD</b> Chater Junior School WD18 0ND 5:00 - 7:00pm
<b>** NO SESSION **</b>	<b>HEMEL HEMPSTEAD</b> Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5J5 5:00 - 7:00pm	<b>BOREHAMWOOD</b> St Michael's & All Angels Church Hall WD6 5EQ 5:00 - 7:00pm	<b>** NO SESSION **</b>
<b>ONLINE (10 weeks)</b> (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	<b>ONLINE (10 weeks)</b> (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	<b>ONLINE (10 weeks)</b> (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm	<b>** NO SESSION **</b>

Sign up today!

[K3info@coramfamilylives.org.uk](mailto:K3info@coramfamilylives.org.uk)

01707 248 646

Hertfordshire

Our programmes are for children. Please keep your child safe. See our website for more information.

**coram family lives**

**Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children - online programme**

Come along to our six-session programme, specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

**The programme includes:**

- Understanding SEN and its impact on children and family dynamics
- Effective communication skills
- Managing emotions and stress
- Collaborative problem solving
- Building a supportive network
- Creating a unified parenting approach

**Dates and times**

**Date:** Wednesday 22nd and 29th April, 6th, 13th and 20th May and 3rd June 2026  
**Time:** 9.30am to 11.30am

**Date:** Thursday 23rd and 30th April, 7th, 14th, 21st May and 4th June 2026  
**Time:** 7.00pm to 9.00pm

**This will be delivered online via MS TEAMS**



For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email [services@coramfamilylives.org.uk](mailto:services@coramfamilylives.org.uk) or call **0204 522 8700** or **0204 522 8699**

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# Groups and workshops

Summer 2026

## Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

Thursday 14th May to 25th June, 7pm - 9pm

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

## Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 13th May to 24th June, 7pm - 9pm | Monday 1st June to 6th July 9.30am to 11.30am

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.

## Getting on with your Pre Teen / Teen (6 weeks) Online group

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June to 10<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30am to 11.30am

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

## Sibling Rivalry Online Workshop

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am to 11.30am

This workshop provides parents/carers with practical strategies and tools to effectively foster positive sibling relationships, promote cooperation and manage conflicts between children.

## Reducing Conflict Online Workshop

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 7pm to 9pm

This workshop is for parents/carers struggling with conflict within their family life and provides tools to promote a cooperative and collaborative approach to resolving the conflict.

## Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am to 11.30am


This workshop helps parents/carers understand what ADHD is, why it makes sense for a child to be anxious if they have ADHD, strategies to help support you and your child, plus signposting to other support that is available.

All our programmes provide support, information and resources to parents, carers and adult family members in Hertfordshire so they can help their children reach their full potential. For more info, please contact Louise on 0204 522 8700/8701 or email [services@coramfamilylives.org.uk](mailto:services@coramfamilylives.org.uk) or scan the QR code for our online form.



**We build better family lives together**

[www.coramfamilylives.org.uk](http://www.coramfamilylives.org.uk)

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## House Points

### This week

First place - Yellow House - 432

Second place - Green House - 427

Third place - Red House - 402

Fourth place - Blue House - 376

### This term

First place - Yellow House - 1,159

Second place - Blue House - 1,147

Third place - Green House - 1,120

Fourth place - Red House - 1,107

## Birthdays this week

We wish these children a very happy birthday



Harlen H - 20<sup>th</sup> April

Lyra S - 21<sup>st</sup> April

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

## Great to Be Gold

<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p><b>Jimmy</b> - he has had a fantastic week, initiating interactions with adults, spreading his joy with smiles and giggles!</p> <p><b>Florence</b>- she has shown a real interest in our growing activities this week, joining in with activities and showing great recall when revisiting the activity later in the week! Great job, well done Florence!</p>	<p><b>Bertie</b> - he has done some fantastic exploring for growing week. He has shown a great understanding of how our plants grow and demonstrated this through his play. Great job Bertie!</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p><b>Cameron</b> - for engaging with new resources this week and coming into class happily. Excellent Cameron!</p> <p><b>Wilfie</b> - for showing a love of learning in our group times this week and showing confidence in our phonics lessons. Fantastic Wilfie!</p>	<p><b>Ivy</b> - for being a superstar and coming into the setting with confidence this week. Excellent Ivy, keep it up!</p> <p><b>Everley</b> - for settling in beautifully and fully immersing herself into new routines. Fantastic Everley!</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p><b>Miles and Fajar</b> - for being outstanding role models and always being well-mannered.</p>	<p><b>Victoria</b> - for always showing a love learning.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p><b>Freddie</b> - for following the rules in and around school.</p> <p><b>Eoin G</b> - for his love of learning in all subjects and producing some wonderful homework.</p>	<p><b>Orla and Lilli</b> - for constantly making the right choices.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p><b>William</b> - for working to the best of his ability and showing a love of learning in maths and guided reading.</p>	<p><b>Jack</b> - for being well-mannered. He always says "Good morning how are you today?" as he comes into school.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p><b>Darci</b> - for being an outstanding role model and being kind to others.</p> <p><b>Matilda</b> - for working to the best of her ability, trying her best in maths and reading.</p>	<p><b>Lucas</b> - for showing his love for learning, really working hard in all areas.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p><b>Eric</b> - for his good manners and curtesy to all teachers.</p>	<p><b>Beatrice</b> - for working to the best of her ability at all times and working hard in maths.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p><b>Ethan</b> - for always being well mannered and listening to adults.</p> <p>Olly - for working to the best of his ability</p>	<p><b>Rafe</b> - for his love of learning, especially in history.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p><b>Sam A-</b> for having love of learning in science; showcasing a strong understanding and interest in Charles Darwin and Evolution.</p>	<p><b>Imogen</b> - for helping lonely people at playtime and finding them friends to play with. For also showing this kindness and understanding towards peers in her class.</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:

Tristan - for being creative and choosing to write a story during child-initiated learning.  
Soren - for being our 'star writer' this week and showing growing resilience with his independent writing.

### Year 1:

Annie - for having pride in her performance and being resilient.  
Grace and Eva - for having high aspirations in their reading and singing during our performance practices.  
Owen T- is our 'star writer'. He always works hard on his presentation across all subjects.

### Year 2:

Tiora and Alfie - for working with others and showing curiosity when using a tablet to research what a plant needs to grow.  
Leo - is our 'star writer' for taking pride in his handwriting as he starts to independently join his letters.  
William - for showing kindness and empathy to a child in Reception class at lunchtime.

### Year 3:

Arabella- is our 'star writer' for really working hard on her consistency in her writing.  
George- for showing resilience and independence in his reading.

### Year 4:

Jess - is our 'star writer' for writing some excellent persuasive sentences in English this week.  
Darcy - for taking risks and working independently in class.  
Verity - for taking risks and showing resilience in swimming this week. She made fantastic improvement on last week.

### Year 5:

Mayci - for her kindness and empathy, always willing to support others.  
Danny - for working independently.  
Lily - is our 'star writer' for her creative writing.

### Year 6:

Josh - is our 'star writer' this week, he has taken on board his handwriting target and is practising at every opportunity - we can see the progress.  
Erin - for working with others, showing kindness and empathy and being respectful - she displayed all these qualities in our PE lesson

## Dates For Your Diary

Diary dates in red -new dates added this week

### Summer Term

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - Year 1 class assembly 9am
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> - Class Photos
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Year 1 parent meeting (Phonics Screening Assessment) 9am**
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Reception class trip to Mill Green
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Year 5 class trip to Watkins Farm
- **Friday 8<sup>h</sup> May - Year 1 parent meeting (Phonics Screening Assessment) 2.40pm**
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May - Key Stage 2 SATS
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May - The Big School Workout with Joe Wicks
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May - Reception class trip to Watkins Farm
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> May No Pens Day/ Forest School
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Reception class assembly
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - 29<sup>th</sup> May - Half Term
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Inset Day. School closed for children
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> June - Year 4 multiplication check for Year 4
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June - Year 1 phonics screening checks
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day 1
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June - Year 5 and 6 KNEX challenge
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day 2 Reserved (in case sports day 1 is cancelled due to the weather)
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - Year 3 class trip to Celtic Harmony
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Year 6 Crucial Crew 1pm start (Morgan's Primary School)
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Watton's Got Talent
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Year 4 residential trip to Hudnall Park
- **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Year 5/6 Online safety talk (delivered by Hertfordshire Police) 1.30pm**

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

- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Parents Online Safety talk (delivered by Hertfordshire Police) Time to be confirmed
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Peter Pan drama workshop Nursery - Year 2
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June - District Sports
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Full Governing Body Meeting
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Pupil Parliament Meetings
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June - 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 6 residential trip to PGL
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June - 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Assessment Week
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 End of Year Performance Dress Rehearsal
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 performances to parents 2.30pm
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July - IRock performances to parents 2.30pm
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 performance to parents 6pm
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 class assembly
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July - End of year reports sent home
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - End of Term. School closes 2.15pm