

## Newsletter 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026



Dear Parents and families,

Although very belated, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all of the staff at Watton, to wish you a Happy New Year and, although a distant memory, we hope you had a lovely Christmas, managed to relax and had a lovely time with friends and family. It is hard to believe that we are a third of the way through the academic year but I have to say your children are nothing but a credit to you and to us. We look forward to another brilliant term and sharing our successes, events and news with you over the coming weeks.

As we have already seen with the snowfall this week, winter weather is officially upon us. I wanted to take this opportunity to share our contingency plans for extreme weather and snow. Our primary goal is always to keep the school open and maintain a normal routine for our children. However, the safety of our children, parents, and staff is our top priority.

We will make every effort to remain open. A decision to close the school is only made if the site is deemed unsafe or if staff-to-pupil ratios cannot be met due to travel disruptions.

In the event of a closure or later start to the school day, we will notify you as early as possible via our usual communication channels.

### Remote Learning Plan

If school has to be closed, learning will continue at home. We are committed to providing a structured day to keep the children engaged. Teachers will provide:

- \* **Live Zoom Sessions:** These will take place throughout the day to introduce new topics and stay connected with the class.
- \* **Follow-up Activities:** Tasks will be set for children to complete independently following each live session.
- \* **Regular Updates:** Zoom login times and details will be sent directly to you via Marvellous Me by the class teachers.

### How You Can Prepare

To ensure a smooth transition to remote learning, please ensure you have access to your Marvellous Me account.

We also recommend checking that you have set up a free Zoom account on your home device.

We appreciate your continued support and cooperation in keeping our school community safe and learning, whatever the weather may bring.

### Year 3 Class Assembly

We are pleased to let you know that Year 3's class assembly is on Thursday 15th January. We would like to extend a warm invitation to the parents and families of children in Year 3 to come along and watch. The children are eager to showcase the fantastic topics they explored during the Autumn term. The assembly will start at 9:00 am and last approximately 20 mins. Please enter the hall via the wooden gates in the staff car park. These assemblies are a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to build confidence and share their learning journey with you. We look forward to welcoming Year 3 families into school for this event.

## Considerate Parking

As we move into the new term, I would like to share a reminder regarding parking near the school. Our primary concern is the safety of our children, and we need the support of our entire parent community to ensure the beginning and end of the school day run smoothly and safely.

To help us achieve this, please take a moment to review our parking guidelines:

**The Children's Centre Car Park:** Space is at a premium, so please ensure you park strictly between the marked bays. This simple courtesy ensures that we can accommodate as many vehicles as possible and prevents unnecessary congestion.

**Rectory Lane:** We kindly ask that you avoid parking along Rectory Lane, especially as you approach the school gates.

**Keep Pavements Clear:** Please do not mount the kerb. Pavements must remain unobstructed for families walking with small children and pushchairs.

**Respect the Zig-Zags:** Never park or drop off opposite the yellow zig-zag lines. These zones are designed to provide a clear line of sight for children crossing the road.

Please be aware that we have been informed to expect further spot checks from our local PCSOs this term. They will be monitoring the area to ensure all road users are following safety regulations and parking legally. A huge thank you to the many parents and carers who already park considerately and safely. Your patience and care truly make a difference in keeping our pupils out of harm's way.

## Helping Herts Homeless

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our entire school community for your incredible generosity following the children's Christmas performances. Thanks to your kind donations, we raised a fantastic £274 for our chosen charity, Helping Herts Homeless. This contribution will go directly toward supporting the vital work they do across Hertfordshire. Thank you for helping us make a difference.



## Year 6 Super Starter

Our Year 6 scientists kicked off their new science topic this week with an "electrifying" hands-on investigation into the world of **static electricity**. The classroom was buzzing as students discovered how friction—simply rubbing a balloon—creates an extra electric charge. The highlight of the lesson was watching the laws of physics in action: by holding a charged balloon near a lightweight aluminium can, students were able to pull the can across the table without even touching it!



# Watton At Stone Nursery

## Admissions 2026-2027

Flexible 30 hours available



Led by a qualified teacher



Nurturing staff and environment

We will be offering wrap around care for  
Nursery children from September 2026

Was your child born between

1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023?

Please join us for a Nursery offer information meeting on:

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 6:00pm**

Please contact the school office on 01920 830233 to book your place.

## Fun In The Snow

What an amazing first day back to school the children had this week where the children got to play in the snow at playtime and lunchtime. Lots of children took the opportunity to build snowmen or snowballs.



## House Points

### This week

First place - Yellow House - 325  
Second place - Green House - 312  
Third place - Blue House - 243  
Fourth place - Red House - 210

### This term

First place - Green House - 620  
Second place - Blue House - 617  
Third place - Yellow House - 590  
Fourth place - Red House - 512



## This Weeks attendance %

Wilson Class (Reception)	97.3%
Riley Class (Year 1)	99.1%
Blake Class (Year 2)	99.1%
Morris Class (Year 3)	99.1%
Seurat Class (Year 4)	99%
Crosby Class (Year 5)	98%
Moore Class (Year 6)	96.4%

Whole School Attendance this week 98.29%



 FACE	<b>January 2026 Timetable</b>
	All sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long
	<b>£24 each or FREE with School Membership</b>
	Book online at <a href="http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk">facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a>
	Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)
Autism - Improving Communication	5 Jan 10am
Improving Family Communication	5 Jan 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	6 Jan 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	6 Jan 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	12 Jan 10am
Understanding Anger	12 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	13 Jan 10am
Facing Defiance	13 Jan 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	19 Jan 10am
Anxiety Explained	19 Jan 7pm
Introduction to OCD	20 Jan 10am
What Is ACT	20 Jan 7pm
<b>FREE Responding to Angry Behaviour</b>	22 Jan 7-8pm
Raising Self-Esteem	26 Jan 10am
Decreasing Depression	26 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	27 Jan 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	27 Jan 7pm

## Creative Arts Day

I am delighted to share that we are busy planning our Creative Arts Day which will take place on Wednesday 21st January. This will be an inspiring, full day of creativity across the entire curriculum. Our theme this year is 'The Griffle'—a mysterious fictional character based solely on a written description. By working without a visual guide, we are confident the children will use their imaginations to produce exceptional creative writing and unique artwork. It is always a joy to see how a single prompt can spark such diverse and wonderful ideas.

You will be able to view some of the children's work during our upcoming Parents' Evenings, where each class will display their projects. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the progression of work and imagination from Nursery all the way to Year 6. We hope you enjoy seeing how our children's' skills and confidence grow as they move through the school. We look forward to sharing these "Griffle" creations with you soon!

Great to Be Gold		
<u>Pre Sch</u>	<p><b>Arthur</b> - Has been really kind to his peers this week, and has been sharing beautifully with his friends. We are very proud of you Arthur!</p> <p><b>Ophelia</b> - Has settled beautifully into Preschool, and has done a fantastic job following all the routines. We are very proud of you! Well done!</p>	<p><b>Ivy</b> - Has come back in to Preschool like a superstar! With a smile on her face, being super kind to her peers and helping our new friends if they are upset. We are very proud of you Ivy!</p>
<u>Nur</u>	<p><b>Winnie</b> - for settling in beautifully and showing independence with following new routines. Excellent Winnie, keep it up!</p>	<p><b>Carwyn</b> - for settling in really well since joining Nursery and exploring the environment. Great work Carwyn!</p> <p><b>Paislyn</b> - for sharing some of her holiday news with pride with adults and her friends. Fantastic Paislyn!</p>
<u>Rec</u>	<p><b>Victoria</b> - for always showing all of the Great to be Gold behaviours.</p> <p><b>Lily</b> - for working to the best of her ability especially with her writing in phonics.</p>	<p><b>Nora</b> - for working to the best of her ability and showing a love of learning with her independent writing.</p>
<u>Year 1</u>	<p><b>Lilli</b> - for constantly making right choices in class.</p> <p><b>Annie</b> - for impeccable behaviour at playtime and during outdoor learning time.</p>	<p><b>Benjamin</b> - for showing a love of learning during his first week in year 1.</p>
<u>Year 2</u>	<p><b>George</b> - for working to the best of his ability to retell a story through role-play.</p> <p><b>Olivia</b> - for working to the best of her ability when counting money in maths.</p>	<p><b>Noah</b> - for always being polite and well mannered.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<p><b>Ellis</b> - for making the right choices and showing his love for learning.</p>	<p><b>Amelia H</b> - for being an outstanding role model and constantly showing all GTBG values.</p>
<u>Year 4</u>	<p><b>Riley</b> - always been well-mannered, helpful and showing courtesy.</p>	<p><b>Freya H</b> - constantly making the right choices.</p>
<u>Year 5</u>	<p><b>Ab</b> - for his love of learning.</p> <p><b>Isabella</b> - for being an amazing role model. Always ready to learn and always trying her best.</p>	<p><b>Rafe</b> - for his love of learning, especially in science.</p>
<u>Year 6</u>	<p><b>Martha</b> - for being a super role model each and every day, in each and every lesson, in each and every way.</p> <p><b>Bobby</b> - for listening to the teachers and working to the best of his ability in maths and in his writing this week.</p>	<p><b>Josh</b> - for showing a love of learning in maths and English this week. He has made wonderful contributions to our Wisp story writing, with lovely outcomes of his own.</p> <p><b>Edward</b> - for being a super role model, especially in our history debate - a budding politician or lawyer in the making.</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:**

Tommy - for being our 'star writer' this week and showing resilience and independence with his letter formation.

Miles - for being respectful.

### **Year 1:**

Dylan - is our 'star writer' this week for trying his best during our English lessons.

Theo - for having pride in everything he does at school.

Kayden - for showing empathy and kindness to his friends and teachers.

### **Year 2:**

Mia - for being creative and taking pride in her gymnastics.

Lola - is our 'star writer' for taking pride in her presentation when writing full sentences.

### **Year 3:**

Kennedy- for being reflective and independent in his work.

Matilda- Is our 'star writer' for her independence in writing this week.

### **Year 4:**

Iris- is our 'star writer', she produced some wonderful setting descriptions.

Jasper - being resilient and always working with focus and determination.

Darcy has been awarded PE star for working well with others in their 'spy movement' topic

### **Year 5:**

Alessia - for working independently.

Ethan - for his resilience in swimming.

Millie - for having high aspirations in maths.

Eleanor - is our 'star writer', she produced a lovely piece of persuasive writing.

### **Year 6:**

Jack is our 'star writer'. He has worked really hard to produce a great piece of writing about the wisp - using figurative language to describe it.

Liam - for showing more resilience in his work and being respectful in class this week.

# Beane Valley SG14 3QA, 10am - 11.30am

You are invited to a relaxed and supportive coffee morning designed to offer valuable information and networking opportunities.

- Connect with other parents and carers
- Share experiences and gain insights into various topics that matter to you
- Practical advice & emotional support
- Meet and chat with others in a similar situation
- Bring any questions or topics you'd like to discuss
- Professionals in attendance including Early Years, Outreach, Family Support, Behaviour Support, DSPL, SPACE and ADD Vance

We look forward to seeing you there and fostering a strong, supportive community together!

DSPL3 Parent Coffee  
Morning 21<sup>st</sup> January

2026



Delivering Special  
Provision Locally

## Stay and Play



£2.50  
per family

### Session Details

Tuesday 9:30 - 11:00

Starting 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Beane Valley Family Centre, SG14 3QA

A fun session for children and families aged 0-5 years, with a range of activities and resources for them to explore. There is a specific area for babies with Family Support Staff on hand to offer support and advice. Come along to socialise with other parents and carers.

No booking required!

MORE INFORMATION: [hertsfamilycentres.org](http://hertsfamilycentres.org) CALL US ON 0300 123 7572



Here for young people  
Here for communities  
Here for you



0 - 5 years



Imagination Dance  
Community Interest Company

### Classes for those with suspected or diagnosed additional needs

#### Imagine & Move (Age guidance 3+)

Sensory movement classes for those who struggle to follow instructions and need support from a parent/carer to participate.

#### Magic Movers (Age guidance 7+)

Creative dance classes for those who can participate independently and follow instructions.

#### Moving on Up (Age guidance 16+)

Creative dance classes for those who can participate independently and follow instructions.

#### Stevenson: Tuesdays

Hempson Park Community Centre, SG1 3QU

Imagine & Move: 4:30-5pm | Magic Movers: 5:15-6pm | Moving on Up: 6:30-7:15pm

#### Flitwick: Tuesdays

Flitwick Leisure Centre, MK45 1TH

Imagine & Move: 4:30-5pm | Magic Movers: 5:15-6pm

#### Hitchin: Wednesdays

Westmill Community Centre, SG5 2PG

Imagine & Move: 4:45-5:30pm | Magic Movers: 4:45-5:45pm

#### Weaverham Garden, City: Wednesdays

Digswell Village Hall, AL6 8AT

Imagine & Move: 4:30-5pm | Magic Movers: 5:15-6pm | Imagine & Move Senior: 6:15-6:45pm

#### Hertford: Thursdays

Hertford Wellbeing Hub, SG14 2HN

Imagine & Move: 3:45-4:15pm | Magic Movers: 4:15-5pm

#### Biggleswade: Fridays

Saxon Pool & Leisure Centre, SG18 8SU

Imagine & Move: 4:30-5pm | Magic Movers: 5:15-6pm | Moving on Up: 5:30-6pm

**BOOK: [info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com](mailto:info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com) | 07394 934911**

### Dates For Your Diary

Diary dates in red - new dates added this week

#### Spring Term

- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16th January - Pupil Progress Meetings
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January - After school Enrichment Clubs Start
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January - Year 3 class assembly**
- **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January - Prospective Nursery Meeting (starting September 2026)**
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January - Creative Arts Day
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> February - Year 6 Mock SATs
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Internet Safety Day

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

- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Parents Evening 4pm - 7.30pm
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 5.30pm
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February - FOW clothing collection
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March - Sponsored Bounce
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Pupil Parliament Meeting
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> March - Assessment Week
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Comic Relief Day
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> March - No Pens Day/Forest School visits
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Enterprise Day
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - End of Term

### **Summer Term**

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Inset Day
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April - Back to School
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> April- Pupil progress meetings
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Class Photos
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May - Key Stage 2 SATS
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> May No Pens Day/ Forest School
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - 29<sup>th</sup> May - Half Term
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Inset Day
- 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
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day 2 Reserved (in case sports day 1 is cancelled due to the weather)
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Watton's Got Talent
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Hudnall Park
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Pupil Parliament Meeting
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June - 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 6 PGL
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June - 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Assessment Week
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 Dress Rehearsal
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 play
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July - End of Year Reports
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - End of Term

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School, Rectory Lane, Watton at Stone, Hertford, SG14 3SG <http://www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk>  
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