



March 2021

NEWSLETTER - Issue 4

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NEWSFLASH!
MR BACON HAS RECEIVED THE KEYS FOR
WATLING ACADEMY AT BARROSA WAY FROM
MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Words from Mr Bacon
Head of School

I have never been more proud of every single student at Watling Academy than I have this term. Their resilience throughout lockdown, their positive attitude towards their online learning and the way in which they have returned to Watling has demonstrated a level of maturity well beyond their years. Seeing students return with a smile, on the 8th March, filled me with pride and it has been great to see them catching up with their teachers and with their friends.

I would also like to thank all parents for your support with your son/daughter's learning at home. Not an easy task at times I know from my own experiences with my daughters of similar ages. Thank you for the many emails we have received, both thanking us for our continued support, and in offering any supporting comments to help maintain the learning momentum at home. All thanks were shared with staff at Watling and your kind words were much appreciated.

The most exciting news I have to share is that we have now taken the keys for Watling Academy on Barrosa Way, Whitehouse. I hope the photos included within this newsletter provide a taste of what to expect. It really is a remarkable building! Whilst we are now busy going through the tasks that come with moving into a new build, my plan is to offer tours to all year 7 students and the parents of year 7 students as soon as we are able to do so. I will write to you and let you know exact dates and plans as soon as we have put these in place. My plan is for this to happen before we meet with our new cohort of Year 7 students and their parents as part of the 2021 transition programme.

I wish you all a safe and happy Easter break.

Mr I Bacon
Head of School



PHOTOS OF INSIDE THE BUILDING



SPANISH SPELLING BEE



Foreign Language Spelling Bee
2021

For Stage 2 of the Spelling Bee competition, students had to correctly translate and spell in Spanish as many words as possible in a minute. This time students had a total of 150 words to learn.

The students participating in Stage 2 of the House Competition were:

- * **Cindy Odiba – Leyh**
- * **Jago Lawrence – Leyh**
- * **Jenisha Chandravathanan - Marshall**
- * **Janelle Sol-Boateng – Marshall**
- * **Joshua Memery – Rutherford**
- * **Jenefa Repuri – Rutherford**
- * **Gabriel Madureira – Laine**
- * **Simina Geanta – Turing**
- * **Camila Todeschini - Turing**

The total number of words correctly translated and spelt in a minute by each House was:

- * **Joint 4th – Leyh and Laine – 7**
- * **3rd - Turing – 10**
- * **2nd - Rutherford – 12**
- * **1st - Marshall – 16**

Well done to all those who have taken part. It is great to see everyone spelling words in Spanish using the Spanish alphabet. This will really help you with your learning.

The 3 students with the highest number of words correctly translated and spelt in a minute were:

- * **Jenisha Chandravathanan (8)**
- * **Jenefa Repuri (8)**
- * **Janelle Sol-Boateng (8)**

These winners will now compete in Stage 3 – Regional Competition. Please wish them luck as the winners from this stage may then compete in a National Final.

<http://www.flsb.co.uk/>

Mr Scott

WATLING ACADEMY ECO COMMITTEE UPDATE

On Monday 22nd March, our Eco Committee and Student Council recently had a productive meeting about sustainability in Milton Keynes with leaders from Citizens:MK. This organisation is a growing alliance of diverse community groups – churches, mosques, schools and others – working together for a thriving, inclusive and fairer Milton Keynes. Several important issues have already been identified which our students and Citizens:MK look forward to addressing together.

Ms Piper

NIFTY LIFT COMPETITION

Poster
#9



Big congratulations to Erin Frosdick from 7RST who was one of the winners of the Niftylift Worldwide STEAM Poster Challenge. The entrants were challenged to design a poster highlighting the STEAM subjects of: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths and the competition was a tie in with British Science Week.

As her prize Erin will go on a VIP factory tour to meet with Niftylift engineers and drive one of their machines once covid restrictions allow.

We are grateful to all at Niftylift Worldwide as our links with them continue to provide exceptional STEM opportunities for our students and school.



The maths department enjoyed recent celebrations for Pi day. Students were tasked with the challenge of learning as many digits of Pi as possible off by heart. The first round took place in form groups and the winning member of each form then took place in the final to crown the overall champion.

The competition was very close and the final was tight. Those who made it to the final were:

- Foster Blackman-Amiss 7GHN**
- Simina Geanta 7BPR/KBM**
- Princess Mgbemere 7JCY**
- Naseem Ali 7FWL**
- Thomas Minty 7CBL**
- Zain Faisal 7RST**

Naseem Ali, 7FWL was the overall winner. He managed to correctly recite 169 digits of Pi. What an incredible achievement. Well done Naseem!

Mrs Wall



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Dates for your Diary:

Last Day of Term
Friday 26th March

Students Return to the
Academy Building (Fairfields)
Monday 12th April

PTA MEETING
Monday 26th April

School Closed
Bank Holiday
Monday 3rd May

Last Day of Half Term
Thursday 27th May

School Closed
Inset Day
Friday 28th May

School Closed
Inset Day
Monday 7th June

Students Return to the
Academy Building
(Whitehouse)
Tuesday 8th June

Coming Soon!
Dates TBC
Student and Parent
Tours of Watling
Academy, Barrosa Way
Whitehouse

MINDFUL COLLABORATION



This piece is entitled *Mindful Collaboration*. It includes artwork from each of our inaugural cohort of Year 7 students and was assembled during the third UK National Lockdown.

Congratulations go to Jenefa Repuri whose Zentangle inspired Watling logo work was chosen by Head of Year, Mr Gibbs to fill the central space. We have our fingers crossed that this piece will be accepted for exhibition at Westbury Arts Centre Milton Keynes Open Exhibition in July.

Should any students be interested in submitting individual entries to the exhibition, Westbury Arts Centre are inviting submissions free of charge for under 18s. Individual entries will also be entered into the 'Westbury Young Artist of the Year' competition. Deadline for submissions is 4th May. Full details of how to submit can be found here:

<https://www.westburyartscentre.org.uk/milton-keynes-open>

Ms Piper



Please remember to order your school lunches and breakfast club on **SIMS Pay** and book your after school place via Microsoft Forms using this link

<https://bit.ly/WatlingAfterSchool>

by midnight on the Thursday before the week that breakfast club and lunches are required.

Thankyou !

Mrs Gaughan



Watling Academy held a Charity non-uniform day on Friday 19th March for Comic Relief/Red Nose Day.

We raised a grand total of **£159.50**

Thanks to everyone who donated!

Mr Gibbs

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

During these unprecedented times we encourage students and parents to look after yourselves and others by adhering to the Government guidance. Advice is available on protection measures, employment and financial support, education, travel and public services.. Together we can make a difference. Follow the guidance, support each other and take care.

The latest advice and information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

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RESPECT, RESPONSIBILTY and KINDNESS