In this talk I want to report on some recent joint work with Sam Chow. We show that the number of irreducible monic integer polynomials of degree n, with coefficients in absolute value bounded by H, which have Galois group different from S_n and A_n, is of order of magnitude $O(H^{n-1.017})$, providing that n is at least 3 and is different from 7, 8, 10. Apart from the alternating group and excluding degrees 7, 8, 10, this confirms an old conjecture of van der Waerden to the effect that irreducible non-S_n polynomials are significantly less frequent than reducible polynomials. Our preprint can be found on the ArXiV under https://arxiv.org/pdf/2106.14593.pdf.