



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Spring Term - Number 4 - Monday 4th March 2024

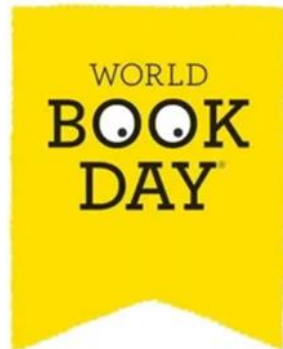
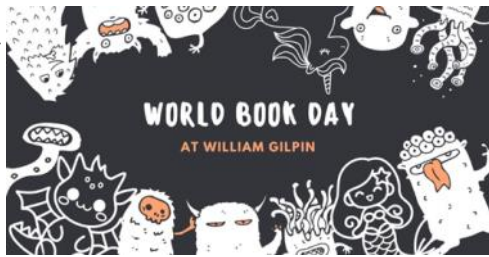
HEADTEACHER UPDATE

There is much to report on since the last newsletter and I am sure you will find plenty of interest in this bumper-edition. It has certainly been a wet end to February and, although we have managed to get outside most days and make use of the playground, we have restricted use of the field recently due to the muddy conditions - hopefully you have noticed uniforms a little cleaner? Sadly we had to postpone Forest School and re-wilding last week for the same reason but we are hopeful of a drier week ahead - it has been nice to have some sunshine this morning. May I draw your attention to the information about After-School Club on page 3 - we would love to see more pupils using this fantastic provision. I know how important it is for working parents and we do need more attendance to keep the service financially viable. Certainly the children who do attend regularly love it - why not give it a try?!

Simon Croutear

World Book Day!

Excitement is building for World Book Day 2024, which we are celebrating on Friday of this week. This year the theme is 'mythical beasts & creatures' and we are looking forward to our visit from author Simon Chadwick, craft workshops, the annual 'book-swap' and of course the opportunity to dress-up! Pupils have also been challenged to raise sponsorship by completing the 'readathon' and in tomorrow's assembly, will hear from all of the teachers who will be sharing snippets of their favourite children's books. A huge thank you to Becci and the Frowgs team who put so much effort into William Gilpin World Book Day.



Worship focus

As we continue to focus on our school core value of 'community' this term, we learnt lots about the friends of Jesus in worship last week. We found out that an 'apostle' was a man or woman sent by Jesus with the message of who he is, and that Mary Magdalene was the 'apostle of the apostles'. Disciples were followers of Jesus and there were actually lots of them, although 'the Twelve' (Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Thomas, Matthew, Bartholomew, James, Simon, Thaddaeus & Judas) are the famous ones.



David, our visiting pianist, began teaching us a new song to learn the names of the twelve disciples. We also considered the significance of the number twelve in the bible - the first recorded words of Jesus were at the age of 12, there were 12 baskets of food left over when Jesus fed the 5,000, the Kingdom of Heaven is described as having 12 gates made of 12 pearls and 12 foundations, and there are 12 major constellations of stars because Christians believe that God rules over all of the heavens.

Staff news

We will soon be saying goodbye to two of our wonderful teachers as Mrs Rogers begins her maternity leave next week and Miss Crossen leaves at Easter to begin a new career. Mrs Nicholls will be covering Willow Class for the rest of the school year and, as explained in the separate letter today to Year 6 parents, Miss Andrassy will be the Oak Class teacher for the summer term. Oak Class parents are invited to meet Miss Andrassy after school on Monday 11th March.

Celebration worship invite

Every Friday morning we hold our Celebration Worship, during which we give out the weekly Headteacher Awards, SCARF certificates, Top Table stars, the Attendance Cup and the House Cup, as well as celebrate our weekly Priestlands sports team and any other achievements. It is always a lovely way to end the week and we would very much like to share this event with parents on **Friday 15th March**. Please come up to the top door from 9am, for a 9.05am start.



Spring Crafternoon

It was lovely to see so many children and families enjoying the Spring Crafternoon in the hall yesterday - there was a fantastic range of craft activities and everyone went away very happy! A huge thanks to the many volunteers who gave up their Sunday afternoons to provide such an enjoyable community event and to Becci & the Frowgs team for organising.



Parents Evenings

Pupils have been carrying out their assessments in Maths & English last week and this week, and our spring term parents evenings will take place on **Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th March (3.30 - 6.30)**. Please book these in the usual way via the email link which will be sent out later this week.

Pizza fractions!

Dividing fractions is a tricky concept to master but Oak Class very much enjoyed learning how to with slices of pizza!



Dodgeball champions!

We recently won the Priestlands dodgeball competition! It was a fantastic performance from our mixed-Year 6 squad who showed great skill and teamwork. Every Wednesday we participate in the Priestlands Sport Partnership events, giving pupils throughout the school a chance to compete in inter-school sport in a secondary setting. Last week our team of Year 1-2 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their futsal competition and this Wednesday we are looking forward to KS2 athletics. Thank you to Mrs Granger who organises our PSP teams and takes them to the event each week - along with Mrs Bird who continues to volunteer her time.



Drop-zone

Please remember to use the drop-zone correctly, cars should not be left unattended and they must be parked properly - if the drop-zone is full, please park elsewhere. The school driveway and carpark should not be used for dropping or collecting pupils, unless prior permission has been granted. Thank you for your understanding.



After-School Club

After school club is open Monday to Friday, 3.10 to 6pm. We offer two session choices: Option 1 from 3.10 to 4.30pm (£6.00) and Option 2 from 3.10 to 6pm (£12.50). After 4.30pm we do activities, such as cooking and craft. Here is a sneaky peek at our forthcoming activities:

Monday 4th March – Cheese Scones

Tuesday 5th March– Mother’s Day Craft

Wednesday 6th March – Mother’s Day Craft

Thursday 7th March – Mini Victoria Sponges

Friday 8th March – Matilda film night

Monday 11th March – Mini Victoria Sponges

Tuesday 12th March – Red Nose Day Craft

Wednesday 13th March – Red Nose Day Craft

Thursday 14th March – Red Nose Day cakes

Friday 15th March – Film night with crisps (see advert) and popcorn

Don’t forget to book via Scopay or the school office. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Mrs Harding



‘Matilda Night’

(the musical)
Showing in
After School Club
On Friday 8th March
(School World Book Day)



Film starts at 3.20pm



Why not join us for the film, chocolate cake and Hot Chocolate
After School Club runs from 3.10 to 6pm, Monday to Friday
To book: Go to Scopay or the School Office
Any queries please speak to Mrs Harding

Diary Dates

Monday 4th - Friday 8th March	KS1 Assessment Week
Friday 8th March	WORLD BOOK DAY
Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th March	PARENTS EVENINGS (3.30 - 6.30)
Wednesday 27th March	Easter Service at St. John’s (9.05)
Thursday 28th March	INSET Day
Friday 29th Mar - Friday 12th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Wed 17th & Thu 18th April	Year 6 Bikeability
Friday 19th April	FROWGS Quiz Night
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 13th - Friday 17th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Monday 20th - Friday 24th May	ARTS WEEK
Monday 27th - Friday 31st May	HALF-TERM
Tuesday 4th June	William Gilpin 300th Anniversary celebration
Saturday 15th June	FROWGS Summer Fete
Thursday 20th June	Year 6 Winchester Cathedral visit
Tuesday 9th July	Year 6 Priestlands Intake Day
Friday 19th July	Church Service (1.30pm) Final day of term
Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July	INSET Days

Celebration

Headteacher’s Awards last week went to:

Year R - Eric H-C

KS1 - Annie F, Alyssa B, Fenella T & Cici B

Beech - Arthur M

Pine - Poppy L

Oak - Jasper H & Charlie B



Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance last week was 94.4% (up from the previous) and the cup was shared between **Willow & Maple** class!

House Points

Wilverley House regained the trophy this week and extended their lead over Ipley & Setley.