



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Spring Term - Number 2 - Friday 26th January 2024

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Somehow we are already four weeks into the spring term, with so much having happened since the last edition of the newsletter. The following pages are just a flavour of what has been going on in (and out) of school. It was nice to finish the week with some sunshine today and we are looking forward to the final two weeks of the half-term, after which we will be half-way through the school year! As ever, thank you for your support of the school and your children's learning, which really does make a difference. Have a lovely weekend,

Simon Croutear

Staff news

We are pleased to be able to share teaching arrangements for Willow Class when Mrs Rogers begins her maternity leave. From Monday 11th March, Mrs Nicholls will become the full-time Willow Class teacher. A separate letter with further details has been sent to Willow parents today.

Frogs DISCO!

The Frogs New Year disco was great fun last week, with over 50 pupils entertained by DJ Muggs and some excellent dance moves on display! Many thanks to the Frogs team who organised and ran the event.



KS1 junk modelling request

Year 1 and 2 pupils will be continuing their 'Titanic' project by creating their own models of the famous ship and so we are requesting donations of cardboard boxes, tubes, etc. to assist with construction! Pupils can bring in their junk modelling materials from next week.

KS1 Sea City museum trip

The Year 1 and 2 pupils had a terrific day in Southampton on Wednesday as they visited the Sea City Museum as part of their Titanic project. Thank you to the staff team who ensured the trip ran smoothly, as well as the parent volunteers - including our parent governor Mr Ruddy who drove one of the mini-buses.





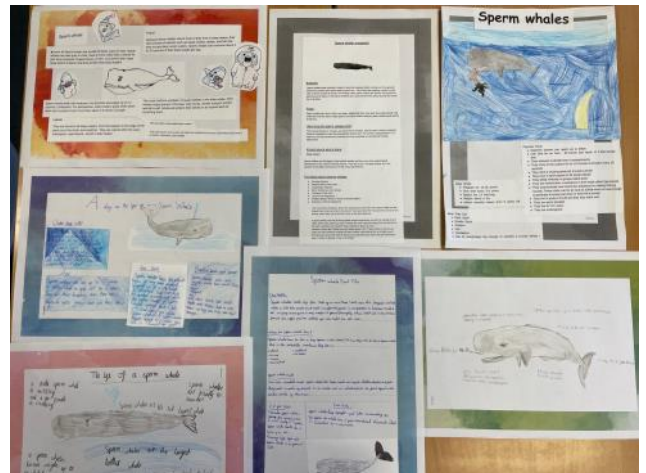
'Gamechangers' Project 2024

Each year the Winchester diocese encourages all church schools to engage with a centrally-themed project, which becomes the focus of the Year 6 Leavers Service at the cathedral in the summer. Today, Oak Class were introduced to the 'Gamechangers' project, which focuses on the idea of somebody's actions having a significant positive effect on something - they looked at examples of sporting gamechangers, considered Jesus as a gamechanger and thought about what qualities a gamechanger would need. Inspired by the official logo, Year 6 designed their own to form this fantastic piece of collaborative artwork.



Pine Class learning

Pine Class have really enjoyed the book 'Whale Boy' (Nicola Davies) in their English lessons this term and have produced some super non-chronological reports on whales, as well as whale-inspired paintings.



Non-uniform day

Next Friday (2nd February) we are having a non-uniform day to support the Dorset Children's Foundation. An independent local charity, the DCF is dedicated to improving the lives of children living with disabilities in the local community. Mrs Clapcott, a regular volunteer at William Gilpin, works closely with the charity through her Awesome Archie work, and asked if we would help with their fundraising day. As a school, all of the wonderful SEND resources which Mrs C donates to us, including Chromebooks and sensory equipment/toys, are funded by the DCF, and we are delighted to be supporting this local cause.



As usual, the suggested donation is £1.00 per pupil, but please give what you can. As WG pupils (and staff) know very well, Mrs C is renowned for her flamboyant, bright and colourful outfits, so we would like pupils to adopt this style next Friday!





Parent reminders

Please can we once again remind parents that **the school car park / driveway should not be used for dropping off or collecting pupils**. Many children cross the driveway when walking up to school and we are unable to staff this area - please use the dropzone or park away from school and walk your children to the gate.

In addition, can we kindly request that parents refrain from telling pupils that school will call them if they say they are feeling unwell. We do understand that this is often a successful strategy in persuading children to come into school, but please be assured that we will always contact parents should our first aiders deem it necessary.

Finally, we have had a request from one of our neighbours in Gilpin Close if parents could prevent pupils from walking up onto the grass bank on the corner just before reaching school, as there are lots of bulbs ready to come through and it would be nice for us all to see them bloom.

Thank you for your understanding.

Diary Dates

Friday 2nd February	Non-uniform day in support of Dorset Children's Foundation (bright clothes)
Monday 12th - Friday 16th February	HALF-TERM
Monday 26th February - Friday 1st March	KS2 Assessment Week
Saturday 2nd March	FROWGS Spring Crafternoon
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 March - Friday 12th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Wednesday 17th & Thursday 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 day
Thursday 13th June	SCARF Workshop Day
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 this week went to:

Year R - Jagger B

KS1 - William R

Beech - Joshua S

Pine - Alyssa L-S

Oak - Esme W



Top Table

Cordelia B, Red, H Sophia M, Maisie F (KS1)

Freddie G, Archie D, Rafe T (KS2)

Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance last week was 94.5% and **Beech Class** regained the Cup with 96.3%.

House Points

Ipley House took the trophy this week, to go joint-second for the year with Setley. Wilverley narrowly lead with four victories. It's a close race!