



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Spring Term - Number 1 - Friday 12th January 2024

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

A happy new year to all of our WG community, I hope that everyone enjoyed the Christmas break. We are well and truly back in the swing of things at school and it has been nice to see less of the wet weather of the first week of term. With 2024 upon us, the school diary dates all the way through to the end of the year now appear on page two of this newsletter, please do take a look and note down anything of importance. We have set our final two INSET days of the year for Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July, meaning our final day of the summer term is Friday 19th July. This may be useful to know if families are booking holidays for early on during the summer break. We are also looking forward later this year to celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of our school's founder, William Gilpin, who was born in 1724. There have been a few planning meetings already involving the school, parish council, the church and the History Society and we want to ensure our pupils and families are very much involved in marking this special year. A pupil art and history exhibition is planned for the school hall during the May half-term week and we will be having a special celebratory day at school on 4th June (Gilpin's birthday). More details to follow! Have a lovely weekend,

Simon Croutear

Endangered Animal Day

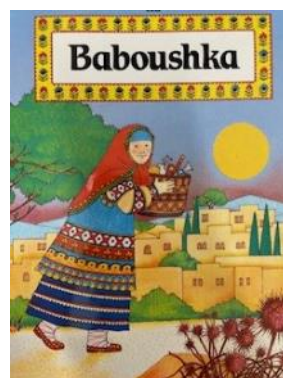
There was much excitement today as we were joined in school by a menagerie of animals in support of our 'Endangered Animal Day'.

This was organised by our Year 6 Eco Warriors - Lyra, Harriet, Ronan & Meisa - who wanted to raise awareness of the plight of some species and to fundraise for the New Forest Wildlife Park. Their presentation to the school in this morning's assembly explained the great job which the park does in caring for animals in need and taught us about some species which are near-extinction. A huge well done to our Eco-Warriors and many thanks for your donations, which totalled £93.57.



Worship focus

This week we marked Epiphany in our whole-school worships, reminding ourselves about the final visitors to the baby Jesus - the Magi, and how their discovering that the new king was not what they were expecting was their moment of realisation. We thought about times in our lives when we had experienced an 'epiphany moment' and also learnt about the Christian tradition of 'chalking the door' - lots of pupils had been predicting what the sign '20 + C + M + B + 24' above the hall door meant when it appeared earlier in the week. The numbers represent the new year and the letters the names of the Three Kings (Casper, Melchior & Balthasar). Vicar Terence continued the Epiphany theme yesterday, sharing the Russian folk-tale 'Baboushka' and teaching us to sing the Baboushka Carol.





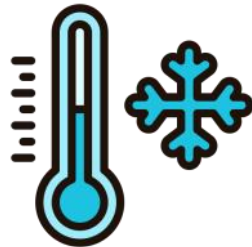
Frowgs DISCO!

The Frowgs New Year DISCO is next Friday (19th), straight after school until 4.30pm. Pupils can bring their disco clothes into school to change and Frowgs are looking for volunteers to help out - please see Classlist.



Cold weather

The freezing weather is upon us - please ensure that children come to school with **winter coats** (essential) and hats/gloves/scarves (recommended). We will ensure these are worn at playtimes, even if some are a little reluctant to do so.



Celebration

Headteacher's Awards this week went to:

Year R - Dalia T-H

KS1 - Red H

Beech - Leo R

Pine - Sam R

Oak - Cai M



Top Table

Suzie, George, Olly, Thomas (KS1)
Flynn, Oliver, Bertie (KS2)

Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance last week was 94.7% and **Maple Class** took the Cup with a perfect 100%! Well done Maple!

House Points

Ipley House won the first trophy of 2024 with 581 points, their second victory to draw level with Setley. Wilverley still lead the way this academic year with four victories.

Diary Dates

Friday 19th January	Frowgs DISCO (until 4.30pm)
Tuesday 23rd January	NSPCC Workshops for Years 2, 5 & 6
Wednesday 24th January	KS1 visit to Sea City Museum
Friday 2nd February	Non-uniform day in support of Dorset Children's Foundation
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 20th June	Year 6 Winchester Cathedral visit
Saturday 22nd June	FROWGS Summer Fete
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