



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Autumn Term - Number 5 - Friday 10th November 2023



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Thank you for your support and understanding last week when we were faced with some rather challenging weather which caused significant issues for us. Thankfully, this week has been less unpredictable in that respect and we have enjoyed a busy and eventful few days, culminating in our Remembrance events today (see below). I was incredibly proud of Oak Class, who represented the school so impressively at the community service. On Sunday I will be laying a wreath on behalf of the school at the St John's service (10.45am), everybody is welcome. From next week it will feel like the Christmas run-in has begun - do see the updated diary dates for all of the planned events. Have a nice weekend,

Remembrance

Today we marked Remembrance at school with Mrs Linsley holding a special worship for Years R-5 and our Year 6 pupils attending the community service at the St. Nicholas chapel in the village.

Led by vicar Terence, the community service was as usual very moving and poignant, as our pupils read the names of those from Pilley & Boldre who have fallen in service. The Last Post was played by Ethan, a former William Gilpin pupil, and a wreath laid on behalf of the whole-school by Robby from Oak Class.



Oakhaven fundraising

We welcomed Hannah from Oakhaven Hospice to worship this week to present her with the funds we raised through our 'Wear-it-Green' day last month. Thank you for your donations, which totalled £90. Hannah told us about the amazing work which Oakhaven does in our community, caring for people at the end of their lives. We look forward to continuing our partnership with this wonderful local charity through activities such as the Acorn art project.



JRSO update

Our Junior Road Safety Officers have been busy this week, opening their lunchtime shop yesterday (selling a variety of items to help us 'be bright, be seen' this winter), as well as carrying out a traffic-counting activity on Pilley Hill this morning.



Their competition invited pupils to predict the number of vehicles passing the school from 8.40 - 9.00am. The result and winners will be announced next week! The JRSO shop will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with items priced between 30p and £4.

Pupil social media use

Please can we remind parents to be vigilant about children's access to and use of social media apps and websites, such as Snapchat.



Many of our junior pupils have mobile phones and devices but are still learning about the importance of safe and appropriate communication. This learning features significantly in our SCARF P.S.H.E. curriculum, with school technology and internet-access filtered and restricted. Please do consider using parental controls and/or checking your child's devices regularly. Thank you for your support.



Unregistered childcare

We would like to make parents aware about the law regarding childcare - whilst it is very common for relatives or friends to look after children other than their own, if you are **paying** somebody else to look after your child, that person should be registered as a childminder. Payment is defined as 'money or money's worth', e.g. cash, cheques or vouchers. [Childminders and childcare providers: register with Ofsted - Childcare and the law - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

CSV group

Our Church-School Vision group visited St John's church this week with Mel, and were given a special tour by vicar Terence. They will be designing a 'treasure-hunt' around our church to be enjoyed by other pupil groups as we ensure our children are familiar with St. John's and what an important role it plays in our school history.



Celebration

Headteacher's Awards this week went to:

Year R - Robin M & Olly K

KS1 - Toby B & Fenella T

Beech - Oliver H

Pine - Hamer S

Oak - Daisy W



Top Table

Maddie S, Vittorio R, William R & Harry C (KS1)

Autumn L, Harriet M & Nyla J (KS2)

Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance last week was 95%, with **Maple Class** retaining the trophy with a super 98.7%.

House Points

Having not been counted for a while, the totals were huge today - well done to **Wilverley House**, who won with **582** points!

Missing bag

One of our pupils in Beech Class has recently lost a black bag with footballs on. This is a similar style to that owned by other pupils - please can parents check to see if the wrong bag has been brought home by mistake?



The bag is similar (but not identical) to the one pictured. Please contact the office if you have any information.

School Social!

Sadly we had to postpone our planned School Social last week due to the flooding, but are pleased to announce a rescheduled date of **Thursday 23rd November, 7pm.**

Diary Dates

Sunday 12th November	Remembrance Service at St. John's church (10.45am)
Tuesday 14th November	Book Fair starts (one week)
Friday 17th November	Beech/Pine Forest School Children-in-Need non-uniform (spotty theme)
Tuesday 21st November	School Photographs— Individual Portraits and Siblings
Thursday 23rd November	Open Afternoon (1.30pm) School Social (7pm)
Friday 24th November	Willow/Oak Forest School
Wednesday 29th November	Willow/Maple theatre trip - Stickman
Monday 4th December	Willow/Maple 'Shared Storytime' (2.45pm)
Tuesday 5th December	Santa Dash & Christmas Market
Wednesday 6th December	KS2 theatre trip - Terrible Tudors
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
Monday 11th December	KS1 Nativity performances (2pm & 5.30pm)
Friday 15th December	Church Christmas Service (9.15am) FINAL DAY OF TERM