



# William Gilpin School

## Newsletter

Autumn Term - Number 3 - Friday 6th October 2023

### HEADTEACHER UPDATE

The unseasonal autumn warmth has been a nice way to end a week which has once again been eventful and productive. Today I carried out a monitoring morning of learning in KS2 with Miss Simkins & Mrs Doggett and we were so impressed with the lessons we saw - engaged, hard-working pupils who were proud of their books and keen to talk about their work. Please do take the time to read through this packed newsletter as there is lots of information about upcoming events - the diary dates section on page 3 has been updated through to Christmas. As you will see, there are many opportunities for parents to come into school and we look forward to seeing you. Have a lovely weekend & enjoy the sunshine!

*Simon Croutear*

### Open Morning

We are holding our first Open Morning next week (Tuesday 10th October) at 9.15am for parents of children starting school in September 2024. Please do spread the word!

### Parents Evenings

Our Autumn Term parents evenings are being held on **Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th October**, 3.30 - 6.30pm (from 2.30pm for Year 1 & 2 parents). Parents have already been emailed information about booking - if you have not yet booked, please do so as soon as possible.

### Harvest Festival

We are holding our Harvest Festival on **Wednesday 18th October at 2.45pm** in the school hall. Parents are very welcome to join us and it will be the first worship taken by our new vicar, Terence. As usual, we will be collecting for the **Lymington Basics Bank** and so would welcome **donations** of the following: tinned hot meat (stew/chilli/meatballs) or tinned cold meat (ham/chicken/corned beef), tinned pasta (macaroni cheese/spaghetti hoops), sweetcorn, rice pudding, custard, jam, honey, fruit juice, coffee, all purpose cloths, washing-up liquid, anti-bacterial spray, soap, shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, nappies (particularly sizes 4,5 and 6) and baby wipes. Pupils can bring in any donations to school on this date.

### Willow/Maple Shared Storytime

Our first 'Shared Storytime' will take place at **2.45pm on Monday 9th October**. Parents of pupils in Willow & Maple Class are warmly invited to join us in the classrooms.



### School Social!

Traditionally we hold an annual social evening for the parents of our new Year R parents but this year we would like to invite **all** William Gilpin parents to an informal 'school social' in the hall on **Thursday 2nd November at 7pm**. Frowgs will be running a bar selling drinks and snacks and we would love to see you there!



### Oakhaven non-uniform day

On **Friday 20th October** we are supporting the 'Oaktober' fundraising appeal for Oakhaven Hospice with a 'wear it green' non-uniform day. Of course, the William Gilpin uniform already features plenty of green, but pupils are invited to dress-down in green for a suggested donation of £1.00.

Oakhaven  
hospice

Do it for  
**Oakttober**

This October do something different to make a difference



## Pickleball!

We had a terrific afternoon on Tuesday when the children got the opportunity to try the sport of 'Pickleball'. Miss Thompson, who has recently taken up the sport herself, arranged for coaches Karen & Tania from Smedasports to visit us and run a taster-session with each class. It proved very popular and we are hoping to introduce an after-school Pickleball Club - watch this space!



## Tudor House museum visit to KS1

On Wednesday, KS1 had a visit from the Tudor House Museum in Southampton, who told them about both Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. The children were able to explore artefacts, sequence events on a timeline, practise bandaging skills(!) and dress up as costumes from the time of the Crimean War.



## Pupil leadership

Today we announced the new School Council for 2023-24. These pupils were elected through a vote by each class and will be working with Miss Crossen this year giving pupil voice to school improvement.



Our new Church-School Vision group will be guided by Mel and Vicar Terence to further strengthen our church-school distinctiveness. We were delighted that so many children were interested in being part of this special group.



## School kitchen update

The kitchen will be re-introducing the salad/fruit bar from next week and we will be encouraging children who have school meals to complement their lunch with this healthy option.

Our cooks always **slice fruit and salad** (such as grapes and tomatoes) to ensure they are not a choking hazard. Please can we request that parents do the same for such items in packed lunches brought in from home.

## House Captains

Last week we elected our new House Captains and the huge number of house points accumulated so far this term were finally counted (Wilverley victorious). Congratulations to Ava, India, Nyla, Niamh, Charlie & Cai who will lead their respective houses this year. It was lovely to read Ava's reasons for wanting to be elected!

I started properly at William Gilpin in my 3<sup>rd</sup> year after a tough time at ~~my~~ my last school. Very quickly Schools became a place for me to laugh, learn and celebrate myself and what makes me, me. William Gilpin has given me a passion for learning, Brilliant friends who pick me up and support me, courage, ambition and a community that I didn't think possible. I owe William Gilpin a lot, as house Captain I will be ready to give back and make my last year at William Gilpin the best yet elected!





## Solent Maths hub

We are now officially an accredited school of the Solent Maths Hub, which is one of a network of 40 Maths Hubs in England, working together within the Maths Hubs Programme, which began in 2014. The programme is funded by the Department of Education (DfE) and coordinated by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM). Maths Hubs are a structure, within a school-led system, for promoting and connecting different schools and organisations that aim to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics through collaborative CPD. Maths Hubs harness all maths leadership and expertise within an area to develop and spread excellent practice, for the benefit of all pupils. Mrs Hartwell, our Maths lead, has been working with the hub for some time and this year two more William Gilpin teachers are joining.



2023/24

## Celebration

### Friday 29th September

KS1 - Harry H, Isla G & Milan J

Beech - Biagio R

Pine - Archie D

Oak - Lydia W

### SCARF certificates

KS1 - Mollie W, Fenella T & Alyssa B

Beech - Alyssa L-S

Pine - Sam R

Oak - Harriet M & Harry W



### Top Table

George P, Maddie S, Megan H & William R (KS1)

Hamer S, Alyssa L-S & Sam R (KS2)

### Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance last week was a pleasing 95.8% (up from the previous week), with **Maple Class** taking the cup again with an excellent **98.9%**!

### Friday 6th October

KS1 - Maddie S, Benji B & Thomas Y

Beech - Owen H

Pine - Alyssa L-S

Oak - Robby M

### Top Table

Dalia T-H, Levana B, Annie F & Josh L-M (KS1)

Cleo B, Evelyn W, Oscar H (KS2)

### Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance this week was down to 93.4%, and **Willow Class** won the cup with **97.5%**!



## Diary Dates

Monday 9th October	Willow/Maple Shared Storytime, 2.45pm
Tuesday 10th October	OPEN MORNING (9.15am)
Thursday 12th October	Frowgs Movie Night, 3.30 - 5.00pm
Friday 13th October	Maple / Beech Forest School
Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th October	PARENTS EVENINGS (3.30-6.30pm)
Wednesday 18th October	Harvest Festival, 2.45pm (parents welcome)
Friday 20th October	'Wear-it-green' non-uniform day for Oakhaven Flu Immunisations
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October	HALF-TERM
Wednesday 1st November	OPEN MORNING (11.00am)
Thursday 2nd November	School Social, 7.00pm
Tuesday 14th November	Book Fair starts (one week)
Wednesday 29th November	Willow/Maple theatre trip - Stickman
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

## Parking

Please can we remind parents to be considerate when parking cars near school. We have received complaints recently about parents blocking driveways of local properties. Thank you for your understanding.