



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Autumn Term - Number 1 - Friday 8th September 2023

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

What a hot first week of the new school year - we have really enjoyed the sunshine and being outside! We have been very impressed with how the children have returned and they have done very well learning new routines and settling back into learning. Junior teachers have enjoyed meeting with parents this week to explain the curriculum, teaching arrangements and answer questions. The meeting for Year 1/2 parents is on Monday (3.30) and for our new Year R parents the following Monday. We are looking forward to our new pupils starting next week, which also sees Year 6 on their residential to Calshot - hopefully the fine weather continues for them! It has been nice to welcome Miss Simkins, our new deputy Headteacher, to William Gilpin this week. Have a lovely weekend,

Simon Croutear

SCARF

In worship on Tuesday we introduced our new PSHE curriculum to the pupils, hearing a story about Harold the Giraffe, who used his multi-coloured scarf to remember some important words. S for safety, C for caring, A for achievement, R for resilience and F for friendship will become key values for us this year. All classes will carry out their weekly SCARF lessons on Wednesdays (which we are calling 'Scarferoons'), followed by the return of enrichment (which many of the Juniors remember fondly from the pre-Covid days). As teachers have explained in the parent meetings this week, if pupils are not meeting behaviour expectations, they may miss their enrichment time and instead participate in a 'Restore, Reflect, Remember' session, using SCARF resources, to support them in making better choices. Parents will always be informed if their child has been invited to an RRR session.



OPEN DAYS

We are holding open days for prospective September 2024 starters on the following dates - if you know of anybody who has a child starting school then, please do spread the word!

Tuesday 10th October, 9.15am

Wednesday 1st November, 11.00am

Thursday 23rd November, 1.30pm

Monday 8th January, 11.00am

Morning communication

If you need to get a message to class teachers in the morning, you can do this via the member of SLT on the gate or alternatively via the school office. Parents are not permitted to enter the school building at drop-off, please say goodbye to your child at the cloak-room doors. Thank you for your understanding.

Snacks & lunchboxes

A daily fruit snack is provided for all infant pupils, who do not need to bring in anything additional. Junior pupils can bring in a morning snack which should be a healthy snack (ie. not crisps or chocolate bars). There is also the option to purchase snacks from the school kitchen (bread rolls, milk, juice).

We have noticed some pupils with packed lunches from home are very keen to eat their sweet items first and we are reminding pupils to eat savoury items first. Please ensure your child has a balanced packed lunch to enable us to do this.



Trips & visits

We are committed to planning a number of exciting trips & visits for all classes this year. Apart from residential, we always state that contributions are 'voluntary' - however it is imperative that as many parents as possible do pay, as if trips are not financially viable they cannot run. We look forward to sharing plans for trips in due course.



Top Table!

Despite the hot conditions this week, we have switched back from our outside eating in the summer term to the school hall, which means the Top Table has returned! Each week, staff record the names of pupils who are being 'ready, respectful & safe' in the lunch hall, for example: leaving the table **READY** for the next person, talking **RESPECTFULLY** and being **SAFE** with cutlery. It was great to see our first Top Tables of the year at lunchtime today!



Celebration

We had a really enjoyable first Celebration Worship of the school year, introducing our new 'SCARF' certificates, alongside our usual awards.

Headteacher awards went to:

- KS1 - Valentina L-S & Harry M
- Beech - Cleo B
- Pine - Josh O
- Oak - Elliot



SCARF certificates

- KS1 - Red H & Billy B
- Beech - Leo R
- Pine - Lucy P & Jett J
- Oak - Cai M & India R



Top Table

The Top Table returned today - well done to Gwen, Sol, Benji & Milan (KS1) and Freddie G, Sophie S & Lucy (KS2).

Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance this week was a pleasing 96.9%, with **Beech Class** taking the cup with a fantastic **99.4%**.

Diary Dates

Monday 11th September	Year R start (am only) Year 6 at Calshot Year 1/2 parent meeting (3.30) FROWGS A.G.M. (8.30pm)
Friday 15th September	Willow / Maple Forest School
Friday 22nd September	Beech / Pine Forest School
Sunday 24th September	FROWGS Food Festival
Friday 6th October	Willow / Oak Forest School
Tuesday 10th October	OPEN MORNING (9.15am)
Friday 13th October	Maple Beech Forest School
Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th October	PARENTS EVENINGS (3.30–6.30pm)
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October	HALF-TERM

Remaining INSET days for 2023/24:

Tuesday 2nd January 2024, Thursday 28th March 2024, Monday 22nd July 2024, Tuesday 23rd July 2024