



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Spring Term - Number 1 - Friday 10th January 2025

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Happy New Year to everyone and I hope that 2025 has started well for all of our William Gilpin families. Pupils have very quickly got back into routines, enjoyed seeing their classmates again and we have had some lovely whole-school celebrations of the Epiphany. Maple class are especially happy to have Mrs Doggett back in class with them! We will continue to publish the diary dates on the front of the fortnightly newsletter for ease of reference - please note we do have an INSET day on the final Friday before the February half-term. Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Simon Croutear

Worship focus

The first day of the new term fell on the Epiphany and we marked this with a special 'welcome back' worship on Monday morning. We remembered the final part of the nativity story, as the Magi from the East visited the stable to worship Jesus. *Did you know that the bible never mentioned there being three wise men - only that three gifts were given?* We considered the meaning of the word 'epiphany' and thought about moments in our lives when we may have a sudden realisation and appreciation of what we take for granted.



Vicar Terence led a musical worship on Tuesday and taught us two new songs linked to the Epiphany - 'King's Came Riding' & 'Shining Star'.

On Wednesday we discussed the meaning of the word 'value', and how the true worth of something (or somebody) is not necessarily the same as monetary value.

Staff news

Last year Mrs Rogers celebrated the birth of her baby daughter and began her maternity leave. Mrs Rogers has decided not to return to her teaching post at William Gilpin - we wish her all the very best and thank her for her five years of service to the school.

Diary Dates

Friday 17th January, 9.05am	Parent Celebration Worship
Friday 24th January, 3.10pm	Maple Bake sale
Tuesday 28th January	Frowgs New Year DISCO (details soon)
Thursday 30th January, 3.30pm	Calshot residential parent meeting (Oak Class)
Friday 31st January, 9.05am	Parent Celebration Worship
Monday 3rd - Friday 7th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 10th - Thursday 13th Feb	Assessment Week
Friday 14th February	INSET Day
Monday 17th - Friday 21st February	Half-Term
Friday 28th February, 9.05am	Parent Celebration Worship
Monday 3rd March, 3.30 - 6.00pm	PARENTS EVENING
Wednesday 5th March	World Book Day
Thursday 6th March	PARENTS EVENING
Friday 14th March, 9.05am	Parent Celebration Worship
Friday 28th March, 9.05am	Parent Celebration Worship
Friday 4th April, 9.05am	Easter Church Service
	FINAL DAY OF TERM (normal closing)

Remaining INSET days for 2024/25:

Monday 21st July 2025 & Tuesday 22nd July 2025



Reporting absences

Please can we remind parents that pupil absence from school should be reported **directly to the school office**, either via phone (messages can left before office hours), via email or in person. Reporting absence to staff on gate duty is not sufficient. Please report any absences daily by 9.30am. Thank you for your support.

Uniform reminder

Pride in appearance is important to maintain high standards and our school uniform plays a key role in this. As a new term begins, please can we reiterate the importance for smart and correct uniform to be worn by pupils every day. A reminder of the uniform can be found on the school website [here](#). Whilst a small number of pupils with significant sensory issues have been given permission for uniform adaptations, we expect all other pupils to adhere to the uniform rules. Please note that boots are not permitted as uniform. Teachers will send reminder slips home if pupils arrive in school with the incorrect uniform. Thank you for your understanding.

Uniform boxes

If there are any parents who would be willing to help manage the second-hand uniform boxes, please do let the office know.

Alternative footwear

The winter months make our school field quite muddy and, with only a small playground, we do like to ensure the pupils have access to it as much as possible. To help keep the carpets cleaner, we do encourage pupils to have either a pair of wellie boots / outside shoes to change into at playtime, or a pair of slippers which they can wear in class when coming back into the school building (please ensure any slippers have proper backs so that they stay on).

New Forest Ukraine

In the office there is a box for small printer (ie not business printer) cartridges, which can be recycled and the profits will go to New Forest Ukraine. If anyone has ink cartridges to dispose of, please do bring them to the office and help raise funds to assist with providing essential items for those in Ukraine who are without.

Willow toy appeal

Miss Thompson would very much appreciate donations of any of the following:

- role play sets (ie. hairdressers, doctors, vets, police, etc)
- Dressing up
- Construction toys
- Arts & crafts
- Building toys
- Games

BEAVERS

TIME FOR FUN

For fun, friendship and activities that get you thinking as well as doing.

Thursday's 6pm - 7:30pm

The Scout Hut, Off Lodge Road, Pennington, Hampshire, SO41 8HH

scouts.org.uk/get-involved
scoutfirst@gmail.com

[f](#) /ScoutAssociation
[t](#) @UKScouting

cubs

LEAP FORWARD

We've been helping young people have the time of their lives for nearly 100 years. Join us for another century of fun, friendship, and adventure.

Wednesday's 6:30pm - 8pm

The Scout Hut, Off Lodge Road, Pennington, Hampshire, SO41 8HH

scouts.org.uk/get-involved
scoutfirst@gmail.com

[f](#) /ScoutAssociation
[t](#) @UKScouting



After School Club

Happy New Year from After School Club.

Our last week at school before Christmas was very busy. We made Mincemeat swirls, Baubles and Hama Bead Christmas decorations (see pictures below).



Mincemeat Swirls



Baubles



Hama Bead Decorations

Polite reminder
Please can parents return any After School Club cooking containers so that we can reuse them.
Many thanks

I also brought in one of my rabbits called 'Cranberry'. The children really enjoyed the experience especially having time stroking and cuddling him.



Cranberry the Netherland Dwarf Rabbit having cuddles and playing in his playpen.



This week we have made Chocolate and Confetti cakes and more Hama bead creations. (Hama beads is a popular activity in After School Club.)



Chocolate / Confetti Cakes



Hama Bead Creations

After school club is open Monday to Friday 3.10 to 6pm. We offer two session choices: Option 1 from 3.10 to 4.30pm (£6.00) and Option 2 from 3.10 to 6pm (£12.50). After 4.30pm we do activities, such as cooking and craft. Don't forget to book via Scopay or the school office.

With blessings *Mrs Harding*

This is what we are planning to do over the next fortnight:

Monday 13th January – Confetti Cakes

Tuesday 14th January – Junk Modelling

Wednesday 15th January – Junk Modelling

Thursday 16th January – Chocolate Rock Cakes

Friday 17th January – Film night with Crisps

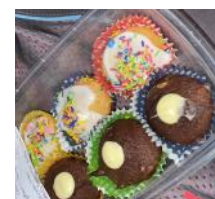
Monday 20th January – Chocolate Rock Cakes

Tuesday 21st January – Bead Craft

Wednesday 22nd January – Bead Craft

Thursday 23rd January – Cheese and Tomato Pinwheels

Friday 24th January – Film Night with crisps



Celebration

We awarded 'personal best' pencils to all pupils who achieved a PB during Autumn 2 in our celebration worship today.

Weekly Headteacher Awards went to:

Willow - Jimmy C

Maple - Hugo M & Benji B

Beech - Archie B

Oak - Bertie B, Karenza F, Hamer S & Kayler M



House Points

Congratulations to **Ipley House** who won the first weekly cup of the new term with 434 points.

Top Table

KS1 - Olly K, Archie M & Suzie S

KS2 - Poppy L, Sam R & Evita B

Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance was 89.9% this week and the winning class was **Oak**, with 93.9%.

Parent Celebration Worships

Again this term we are inviting parents / families to our Friday Celebration Worships every other Friday. This is a lovely opportunity to join us in celebrating pupil achievements and always such a positive way to end the week.

The top door will be open from 8.45am on these dates, with tea/coffee served for a 9.05am start.

Spring Term parent celebration worships:

- Friday 17th January
- Friday 31st January
- Friday 28th February
- Friday 14th March
- Friday 28th March

Please also remember that we love to celebrate pupil achievements outside of school, so do send in any photos / trophies so that we can share these successes with the whole school!

