



# William Gilpin School

## Newsletter

Autumn Term - Number 7 - Friday 13th December 2024



### HEADTEACHER UPDATE

What an incredibly 'Christmassy' week we've had at school, especially over the last two days with our Christmas lunch, dash and market, and this afternoon's lovely Christingle Service. Please see the rest of the newsletter for photos. Of course, next week our youngest pupils take centre stage as the much-anticipated Nativity performances take place - I have just caught a few minutes of rehearsals and parents are certainly in for a treat! We also have the end-of-term music concert and Movie Night to come (Wednesday) and our Christmas Service at St. John's on Friday morning. With so many events, we've moved the diary dates to the front page of the newsletter for ease of reference. Have a lovely weekend,

*Simon Croutear*

### Goodbye Mr Skinner

After twelve years as a William Gilpin governor, and over four as the Chair, we say goodbye and thank you to Tim Skinner, who is stepping down from his role at the end of term. We are pleased to announce that Melissa Ashcombe has been appointed as the new Chair from January. Tim shares this message:

*When I was asked to become a governor at William Gilpin 12 years ago, I didn't have clue what being a governor was all about. As I step back now, I can tell you that it is a truly amazing experience as well as being profoundly humbling. Governors are not involved in the day to day running of the school but rather it falls to us to ensure that the vision and ethos of the school is clear to all and is not only maintained but progressed. It is not just a matter of the curriculum (though that of course is fundamental) but also the formation of a child's life skills that will act as the foundation of everything they do going forward. A huge responsibility. So while I say a heartfelt thank you to my fellow governors for all the help and support over the past few years. I must acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all the staff at William Gilpin but I also thank you, as parents, for entrusting the care and education - in the broadest sense of the word - of your children to the team at William Gilpin. With your help, I know that the school will continue to strive to provide the very best environment it can to ensure that your children become the very best they can be.*



### Diary Dates

Sunday 15th December	<b>Christmas Concert at St. John's (4-6pm)</b> <b>Family Bingo Night at Sway Village Hall (4.15-6.30pm)</b>
Monday 16th December	<b>Nativity performances (2.00 &amp; 5.30)</b>
Tuesday 17th December	<b>M&amp;M Productions pantomime - Sleeping Beauty</b>
Wednesday 18th December	<b>Music concert (9.05)</b> <b>Frowgs Christmas Movie Night</b>
Friday 20th December	<b>End-of-term Church Service (9.05am)</b> <b>School finishes normal time</b>
Sunday 22nd December	<b>Nine Lesson &amp; Carols Service at St. John's (6.30pm)</b>
Monday 23rd Dec - Friday 3rd January	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>
Monday 6th January	<b>First day of term</b>
Wednesday 8th January	<b>OPEN MORNING (9.30am)</b>
Friday 14th February	<b>INSET Day</b>
Monday 17th - Friday 21st February	<b>Half-Term</b>

Remaining INSET days for 2024/25:

Friday 14th February 2025, Monday 21st July 2025, Tuesday 22nd July 2025

### Year R 2025 applications

Please remember that the deadline for applying for a Year R place for September 2025 is **15th January**. We are running one more open morning, on Wednesday 8th January. Please do spread the word if you know anybody who has a child due to start school.



**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
 15 December 2024 - 4pm

Christmas Music  
 Mince Pies Mulled Wine  
 Christmas Play  
 and  
 Magical Father Christmas

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH,  
 BOLDRE, SO41 5PG**

Adults : £12.50 U16 : £6.50  
 Tickets : <http://www.tinyurl.com/OneWayTicketChristmas2024>

**CHRISTMAS  
 FAMILY  
 BINGO NIGHT**  
 SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER  
 4:15 TIL 6:30, IN SWAY

TICKETS £6 FOR TICKETS, VISIT:  
 INCLUDES GIFT FROM [tinyurl.com/xmasbingo24](http://tinyurl.com/xmasbingo24)  
 SANTA FOR THE KIDS

ORGANISED BY THE FRIENDS OF WILLIAM GILPIN  
 SCHOOL WITH THE FRIENDS OF TIPTOE SCHOOL

### Oak class trip to St Barbe

On Tuesday, Oak Class visited St Barbe museum in Lymington to support their learning about the history of the town. Their workshop focused on the different types of properties occupied by residents of Lymington over different historical periods.



### Beech class trip to Southampton

Beech Class spent the day in Southampton on Wednesday, visiting the Tudor House Museum to learn all about the history of the city during the second world war. Thank you to the parents who supported this trip.





## Christmas lunch & dash!

We had a fabulous Christmas dinner yesterday and a huge thank you to our new cook, Claire, who did an amazing job in preparing all of our festive lunches! With crackers from Frowgs (which pupils had decorated themselves), the children were treated to table service by the staff as a great time was had by all. Then in the afternoon, all classes completed the annual Christmas Dash around the field, watched by many parents and families, before the Market opened in the hall. Over £1,000 was raised for Frowgs - a phenomenal effort. What a day and thank you to everybody who helped and supported!



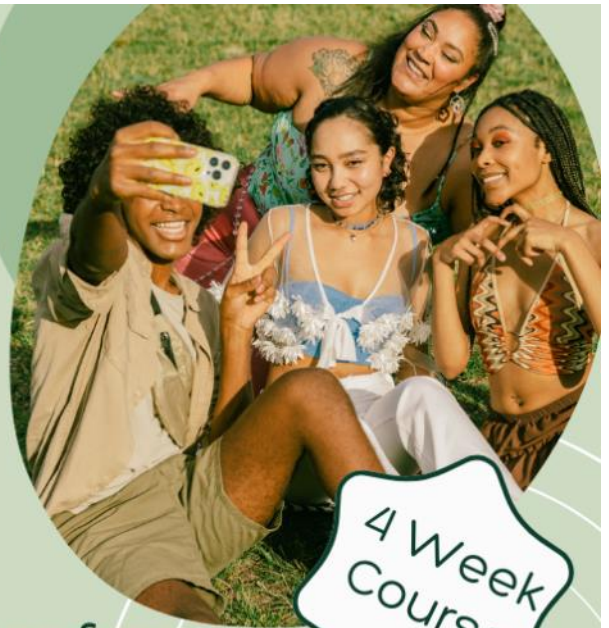


# CALM BEGINS WITH ME

A 4 week interactive Anxiety course designed for Tweens & Teens to learn alongside a parent.

Discover where anxiety comes from, why it happens, how it affects our lives and practical strategies to help manage it.

Only 10 family spaces available to ensure a calm, safe haven to learn and relax in.



4 Week Course


Hosted by Barefoot Wellbeing & Parent Coaching

[www.barefoot-coach.com](http://www.barefoot-coach.com)

Tel: 07554443122



 Starts 4th January 2025

 10-11.30am

 Perkins Hall, Pilley

## Awesome Archie donation

We remain very grateful to Beckie Clapcott, from 'Awesome Archie', who continues to support our school voluntarily every week.

This week she arrived with a donation of soft toys, which were gifted to our Year R children!



## Parking reminder

Please can we again remind parents that they should **not be parking and leaving vehicles in the drop zone** during the busy school drop-off / collection times of the day. Drop zone only works if everybody is using it as intended.

In addition, please do be considerate when parking near our neighbours' properties and **under no circumstances should drive ways ever be blocked**. Thank you for your support.



### After School Club

Festive greetings from After School Club,

I can't believe another fortnight has slipped by; they say time flies when you are having fun and we have certainly been having fun in After School Club. We have been concentrating on all things Christmassy. We made some lovely Chocolate Crispy Puddings, Chocolate Christmas Pudding Biscuits and fluffy Robin and Christmas Pudding pom pom decorations. Next week before we break up we are making Mince pie Swirls, Baubles and Hama Bead decorations.



Chocolate Christmas Pud Biscuits



Chocolate Crispy Puddings



Robin and Christmas Pud Pom Poms

This is what we are planning to do next week and the first week back after Christmas:

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Mince pie Swirls

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Chocolate Cakes

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Baubles

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Hama Beads

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Hama Beads

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Hama Beads

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Mince pie Swirls

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January – Confetti cakes

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Film night with Crisps

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January – Film Night with crisps

#### Polite reminder

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

After school club is open Monday to Friday 3.10 to 6pm. We offer two session choices: Option1 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.

I would like to wish you all a peace-filled, healthy and blessed Christmas break. See you all in January!

With blessings Mrs Harding

## Celebration

We held our usual weekly celebrations during today's Christingle Service. Headteacher awards went to:

Willow - Alfred Y

Maple - Vittorio R & Red H

Beech - Biagio R

Oak - Archie D & Lucy P



### House Points

Congratulations again to **Wilverley House** who won the weekly cup and the overall competition for the term.

### Top Table

KS1 - William R, Isla G, Vittorio R

KS2 - Evelyn W, Megan H & Biagio R

### Attendance Cup

Whole-school attendance was back above 90% this week (91.3%) and the winning class was **Beech**, with 95.8%.

## Choir club community singing

We are so pleased to have a William Gilpin choir running again and very grateful to Mr Woodgates for making this possible. His group has gradually grown in numbers over the term and this week they performed for the first time, at the Pilley Lunch Club. They will also be on the billing at the Music Concert next week! If your child would like to join the choir next term (Year 2 - 6), please let the school office know. They meet after school every Thursday, and parents are welcome to stay and have tea/coffee with Mel (with arts & crafts on offer for younger siblings).

