



William Gilpin School

Newsletter



Summer Term - Number 6 - Friday 11th July 2025

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

As I write my final newsletter at the headteacher of William Gilpin Primary School, I reflect upon the journey of the past four and a half years and what it has meant to serve our unique and lovely school. I hope the newsletters over the years have provided an interesting window into the learning and achievements of our pupils, as well as the less interesting but necessary information and updates (one last parking reminder from me below...). The past two weeks have been filled with all of the usual end of year fun - arts week, sports day, moving up days and the KS2 production - and knowing that these are my last has made it all the more poignant. I look forward to seeing everybody at St. John's next Friday, when we also say farewell to our fantastic Year 6 leavers. Have a lovely weekend in the sun,

Simon Croutear

Parking

We fully appreciate the need for parents to collect and drop pupils efficiently but safety and community spirit is of the utmost importance. Please **park carefully in the drop-zone** so that vehicles are not blocking traffic on Pilley Hill. Please **do not use the school car park** unless you have been given permission by the school - vehicles moving up and down the driveway as children are walking to/from school always present a safety risk. One of our core school values is community - our neighbours (especially those who live by the gravel lay-by opposite the school) have a right to access to/from their properties at all times. **Please do not block driveways with vehicles.** Thank you for your understanding.

Celebration

Headteacher Awards went to:

- Willow - Aggie B
- Maple - Ottie T
- Beech - Arthur M
- Oak - Ashwin D



Attendance Cup

School attendance was 92.6%, with **Beech Class** taking the cup (94.5%).

Reading awards

Today we celebrated all of the pupils who completed the reading of books from the class reading spine boxes. Congratulations to Megan from Beech Class, who won the prize for the most books read!

Diary Dates

Monday 14th July	French Café event
Wednesday 16th July	Beech & Oak Forest School
Friday 18th July	Final day of term Church Service (1.30)
Wednesday 3rd September	INSET DAY
Thursday 4th September	First day of Autumn Term
Monday 7th September	New Year YR begin school
Sunday 14th September	Frowgs Food Festival
Friday 26th September	Year 6 visit to Priestlands
Monday 27th - Friday 31st October	HALF-TERM
Monday 3rd November	INSET DAY
Tuesday 18th November	School photos
Friday 19th December	Final day of term
Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January 2026	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5th January	First day of Spring Term
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February	HALF-TERM
Monday 23rd February	INSET DAY



Oak Class Production - The Island that Rocks!

This week the pupils of Year 5 and 6 performed their summer production, 'The Island that Rocks!' The full technical rehearsal was enjoyed by the rest of the school on Monday, before two excellent (but extremely hot...) evening performances to parents and families on Wednesday & Thursday. Well done to our Oak Class pupils, it was a great team effort and a super show!



Arts Week - Beach Appeal

We really enjoyed Arts Week last week, as we paid tribute to the amazing NHS with all of our art linked to this theme. Mrs Clapcott inspired us with her video tutorials and was in every day to help classes as we put together an exhibition which was visited by lots of parents on Friday after school. Over £250 was raised for the Beach appeal, a charity initiative helping to fund a vital new facility at Bournemouth Hospital which provides education to children who experience long hospital stays. Many thanks to all who donated and well done to Setley who won the art trophy.





Oak Class Greek cookery

This week Oak class had a special cookery lesson from Mrs Bull as they learned how to make delicious feta & spinach pastry triangles as part of their learning about Greece. They adapted the basic recipe and produced some excellent bakes, before evaluating their efforts!



Sports Afternoon

After postponing due to the heat last week, we had a terrific sports afternoon on Monday. The weather was perfect and it was a very exciting programme of races. Congratulations to Ipley house who won the Sports Day shield by just a single point!

French Café!

On Monday, pupils from Beech Class and Oak class will be showcasing their French learning when they run a special café for the school! Opening for one day only, the pop-up venue will feature table service and a menu featuring croissants, baguettes, chocolate milk and fruit juice! All pupils (including Maple & Willow) can **bring in a pound** to spend at the café and we would appreciate all KS2 pupils bringing in an apron to wear.

Frowgs news

We had an absolutely amazing Family Camp Out over the weekend - the weather held out, the vibes were vibing, the kids had a total blast, and the grown ups chatted until the small hours. Add in an evening BBQ, music and breakfast baps and it all added up to an incredible weekend. An event we will definitely be repeating. This week we have also run a bar at the evening production performances, will be running a stall at the Brew Forest Festival on Saturday this weekend, and handing out tickets to Paultons Park to those that ordered them next week - a super busy end to the school year. Check out the camp [video](#)!





After School Club

Greetings from After School Club!

Over the past fortnight we have been busy in After School Club preparing for the Boldre Village Produce Show that is taking place this Saturday 12th July. This week we have tried Leaf Printing and decorating plain biscuits, just 2 of the 4 categories open to children. You can still enter right up to when the doors close at 10.45 am on Saturday morning and its only 5p per class to enter.



Leaf Prints



Decorated Plain Biscuits



Last week we continued working on our 'Space themed mobile' in the School's category for the Boldre Produce Show. Most of our mobile items have been made using Hama Beads, except for a rocket and an astronaut which the children have coloured in or put together. I now just need to assemble the Space Mobile using all the lovely work the children have produced!



Hama Beads Space Creations



Final 16 pieces for the space mobile

Polite reminder

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

Next week is our last week before we break up for the summer holidays, so in honour of World Chocolate Day which was on 7th July we are having a week of chocolate activities in After School Club, including Chocolate Tiffin, Chocolate Crispy Cakes, Chocolate Bark and Chocolate Lollies!

This is what we are planning to do next week and our first week back in September:

Monday 14th July – Chocolate Tiffin

Monday 1st Sept – Summer Holidays

Tuesday 15th July –Chocolate Bark

Tuesday 2nd Sept – Summer Holidays

Wednesday 16th July – Chocolate Lollies

Wednesday 3rd Sept - **INSET DAY**

Thursday 17th July – Chocolate Crispy Cakes

Thursday 4th Sept – Cheese and Chive Scones

Friday 18th July – Film Night with crisps/popcorn

Friday 5th Sept– Film Night with crisps/popcorn

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.

Hope you all have an amazing peace filled summer holiday.

With blessings *Mrs Harding*