



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Spring Term - Friday 27th February 2026

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Courage, Compassion and Community

In Worship this week, we thought about Courage. We acknowledged that it can be hard to tell the truth and that, if we don't tell the truth when we need help, it can hold us back from learning more and more.

We looked at the example of Usain Bolt. Bolt became the fastest person in the world, ever. But it wasn't always like that for him and we learned that he had to be honest that he needed help before he could win and break records.

We reflected on the fact that, sometimes, we can think that everyone else can just do the thing we want to get better at, that they don't need to practice and that they don't need help. We clarified that, in fact, everyone needs to learn, everyone needs to practice and everyone needs help. When we realise this, it's easier to be honest and to ask for help when we need it.

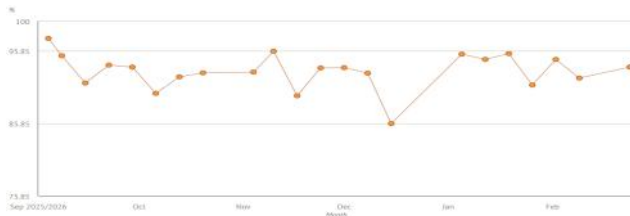
Next time, we're going to consider the life of someone in the Bible who had to be courageous and honest that they needed help.

Attendance

When children are in school, they can learn more.

When children miss a day, they find it hard to catch up. Learning builds up in journeys and it's difficult for children to fill in gaps and to be ready for the new learning if they miss steps along the way.

Since January, attendance has improved and we must celebrate this.



Attendance for the Autumn Term was 92.36%.

Attendance since January has been 94.02%.

That means that more children have benefited from more learning and that they are being set up for more and more success.

I look forward to celebrating next week's successes with you.

Dan Genn
Interim Headteacher

Celebration

Headteacher Awards this week

Willow - Ellie P

Maple - Jimmy C & George P

Rowan - Cordelia B & Milan J

Oak - Oscar H & Kara F



are:

Attendance Cup

This week the School attendance was won by Oak Class who took the cup.

Drop-zone

Please remember to use the drop-zone correctly, cars should not be left unattended. The staff member of the gate will call for your child and send them to you.

The school driveway and carpark should not be used for dropping or collecting pupils, unless prior permission has been granted.

Thank you for your understanding.



William Gilpin CE Primary School

Gymnastics club—starting 4th March after school

A gymnastics club for children in year R to year 6 will start on Wednesday 4th March. Use the link below to sign up:

<https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/948823>

Please ensure you sign up today or we may not be able to run this club



School uniform

We are proud of our school uniform which we wear to promote equality, enhance safety, and foster a sense of belonging and school pride,

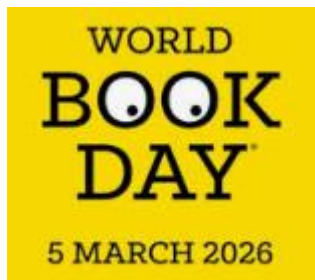
We have noticed that some children are wearing non uniform items to school, in particular long sleeved tops under the gold polo shirt. These are not allowed.

Full details of the uniform can be found on the website, link below:

[William Gilpin uniform](#)

WORLD BOOK DAY

Our theme this World Book Day is Design, Build, Discover



Please send the children to school on **March 5th** dressed up as their favourite book

character/author or in their PJs ready for a fun day of activities. Don't forget to ask friends and family to sponsor the children - sponsorship helps us to cover the cost of the days activities and materials, as well as contributing to our longer term fundraising goals.

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/fundraising/readathon26fundraising/readathon26>

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION @Williamgilpin

If you have cause for concern about any child you should report it immediately to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead is:
Mr Dan Genn– Headteacher
and in his absence:
Mrs Louise Nicholls or Mrs Susannah Roberts

You can also contact Children's Services directly at any time to report concerns using the following numbers:

Hampshire Children's Services - 0300 555 1384
Hampshire Children's Services out of hours - 0300 555 1373

ARBOR

The Parent Portal and Arbor App allows parents and carers to receive communications, look at attendance and update their child's records (for example, a change of address, new medical condition or changes to parents' contact details). We are keen to use Arbor to share more information with you.



If you do not already have a login for Arbor please follow these instructions.

- Download the Arbor app from Playstore for android devices or the Apple Store for iPhones.
- Go to <https://login.arbor.sc> and click Forgotten your password? using the email address that you usually receive school communications from, follow the instructions to set your password.

Smart Watches

Mobile phone and smart watch technology has advanced significantly over the last few years and continues to evolve. Most phones and smart watches now offer internet and e-mail access, alongside standard functions of messaging, camera, video and sound recording.

Smartwatches are therefore not permitted to be worn to school, as staff are unable to monitor them closely enough to ensure they are being used appropriately. However, in line with our passion for helping children to tell the time, a standard analogue or digital wrist watch may be worn. If you are unsure whether your child's watch is appropriate, please speak to the office.



Diary Dates

MARCH

Thursday 5th	World Book Day
Friday 6th	Willow Cake Sale
Friday 13th	9.05am Parent Worship 7.00 Candle Painting Craft evening (age 12+) Sway Church Rooms
Saturday 14th	Crafternoon—details to follow
Monday 23rd	Frowgs Break the Rules Day—details to follow
Wednesday 25th	9.05 am Easter Music concert for those learning instruments/singing
Thursday 26th	9.00am School Easter end of term service at St John's Church
Friday 27th	INSET DAY

Monday 30th March—Friday 10th April
EASTER HOLIDAYS

APRIL

Monday 13th	First day of Summer Term—Welcome Mrs Cox
Sunday 26th	Frowgs Colour Run

Outstanding payments

As we approach the end of the financial year please could we request that you log onto your scopay account and clear any outstanding balances for lunches, breakfast and after school clubs, music lessons and trips.

Helping you to better protect your children online!

The NSPCC website offers a myriad of advice for parents to help keep children safe online whilst enjoying the benefits of connecting with friends, playing games and being creative. The online world progresses phenomenally quickly and it is a job to keep up with what is happening— children often find out about things before their parents! Sometimes children will feel pressured by their peers to get a certain app or game, which may have harmful content which parents are not aware of. There is a great deal of help and support online—the 2 websites below are a good starting point:

The NSPCC website not only offers advice to parents, but also provides fun activities for children to help them to learn about staying safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

The CEOP website also contains an education programme on their website which is age appropriate

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/Who-are-we/>



WORLD BOOK DAY

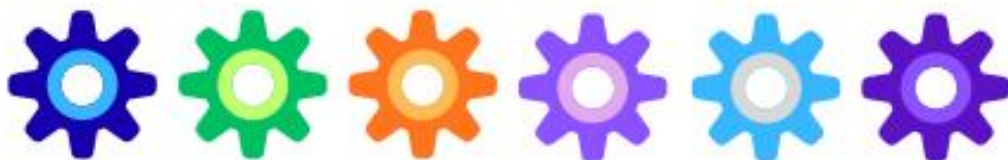
AT WILLIAM GILPIN

Our theme this World Book Day is **Design, Build, Discover**

Please send the children to school on **March 5th** dressed up as their favourite book character/author or in their PJs ready for a fun day of activities. We look forward to seeing a wide variety of comfortable dress up and comfy pyjamas!

Don't forget to ask friends and family to sponsor the children - sponsorship helps us to cover the cost of the days activities and materials, as well as contributing to our longer term fundraising goals.

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/fundraising/readathon26>



Tag Friends of WGS in a photo of a challenge in action on Facebook or Insta to be entered for a chance to win a prize!

Don't forgot to bring a book or two for the book swap and to dress up or come in your PJs on March 5th

Forest Pest Control Lymington



Invertebrates Morning

Come and visit our shop and meet Sandra from Bishopstoke Invertebrates. Sandra will be displaying her wonderful collection of tarantulas, Snakes, stick insects and other invertebrates. Have a hands-on experience and explore nature close-up. No entry fee but donations accepted for handling.

SATURDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2026 10am – 2pm

7 Angel Courtyard, Lymington, SO419AP

forestpestcontrol@outlook.com

Mob: 07907966737 or 07771333244

CANDLE PAINTING

Craft Evening

FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2026
SWAY CHURCH ROOMS
AT 7PM

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

[TINYURL.COM/CANDLES26](https://tinyurl.com/candles26)



ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

 **National Online Safety**
#WakeUpWednesday





Hampshire
County Council

Library Service

Inspired by The Tiger Who Came to Tea Thursday 5 March, 3.15-4.30pm At Lymington Library



Join us for a 'Tiger Who Came to Tea' inspired afternoon with a Tiger craft, a fun trail and a Tiger of a story time!

Parent/Carers must stay with children under 9.

£1.00 per child for the craft activity. No need to book just turn up.