



William Gilpin School – Newsletter



Autumn Term – Friday 3rd October 2025

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

It gives me great pleasure to write the first newsletter update for this academic year and I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the whole school community for their very warm welcome. It has been a busy start to the school year for all of our children. We have been working enthusiastically throughout the school day and have already celebrated many achievements in our celebration assemblies. Our Harvest celebration was a particular highlight where we received lots of donations for the Lymington Basics Bank and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their generosity in supporting this cause. Over the coming weeks, our children will be thinking about Remembrance Day. Some of our children will be attending a special service at the War Memorial Hall and all of our children will be creating purple poppies in memory of the animals of the war - some will even be displayed at the North Altar, St John's Church! Please look out for these when they are completed.

Denise Williams

DROP ZONE

Can we please remind parents that the drop zone is for dropping and picking up children only. In order to maintain a turnover of parents being able to use this facility, please can we ask that you drop or pick up as quickly as possible, and do not park and leave your car to go into school. Please also do not use the drop zone to turn in; there is insufficient visibility on that part of the hill and cars travel very quickly in both directions.

YEAR R CLASS PHOTO

Every year the Advertiser & Times run a feature with photos of the new Year R classes in the local schools. We will be taking part and the photographer will be here on Thursday 9th October to take the Year R photo. We will let you know when the feature will be in the paper.



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CELEBRATION

Headteacher awards went to:

WILLOW – Eliza M

ROWAN – Harry H, Zoryan B

OAK – Harry M, Archie B, Nick B



Term dates

Friday 24 th October	Last day before half term
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October	October half term
Monday 3 rd November	INSET DAY
Tuesday 4 th November	Children return to school

UNNAMED CLOTHING

Please ensure that you name ALL items of clothing that come into school – especially hoodies and jumpers which are the items which get taken off during the day. We have numerous unnamed jumpers/hoodies which, unless the children recognise them themselves, we cannot return to the rightful owner. We will put these in the preloved boxes of uniform just outside reception – so if your child loses an unnamed jumper, please look in the boxes.

Parent Celebration Ceremony dates

Friday 10 th October	9:05am, school hall
Friday 24 th October	9:05am, school hall
Friday 14 th November	9:05am, school hall
Friday 28 th November	9:05am, school hall

2026 INSET DAYS

Monday 23 rd February 2026	INSET DAY
Friday 27 th March 2026	INSET DAY
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	INSET DAY



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TRIP TO HAMPTON COURT PALACE – YEARS 2-6

The week before last, years 2-6 went on an incredible trip to Hampton Court Palace in London. The children had an amazing day learning about Kings, Queens, thrones, crowns and swords and how the Royals lived their lives 'in those days'. The children were thoroughly immersed in the past and learned so much about British history. Hopefully they will remember their visit for many years to come!



Diary dates

Tuesday 7 th October	Meet & Greet coffee morning – meet Mrs Williams (9 – 9:30am)
Tuesday 7 th October	Willow Class parents evening, school hall (3:30 – 5:50pm)
Wednesday 8 th October	School Open Morning for parents of new starters in Sept 2026
Thursday 9 th October	Advertiser & Times Yr R photograph
Thursday 9 th October	Open evening at Priestlands School
Tuesday 14 th October	Willow, Rowan & Oak parents evening, school hall (3:30 – 6pm)
Wednesday 15 th October	Rowan & Oak parents evening, school hall (3:30 – 6pm)
Thursday 23 rd October	“Wear it Green” Day to raise money for Oakhaven (more details to follow)
Friday 24 th October	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 4 th November	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB CLOSED due to staff training
Thursday 6 th November	School open afternoon for parents of new starters in Sept 2026
Tuesday 11 th November	Year 5 & 6 pupils to Remembrance Ceremony at Boldre War Memorial Hall
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need
Tuesday 18 th November	Individual and family photographs
Monday 24 th November	Flu immunisations in school (all years – further details & permissions to follow)
Monday 1 st December	School open morning for parents of new starters in Sept 2026
Wednesday 10 th December	Afternoon & evening KS1 Nativity performances
Friday 12 th December	Christingle Service (2:30pm)
Monday 15 th December	End of term music concert for those learning instruments (9:05am)
Tuesday 16 th December	Y6 height & weight measurements (further details to follow)
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch
Friday 19 th December	School Christmas end of term service at St John’s Church, Boldre (9am)