



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Summer Term - Friday 22nd May 2026

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Courage, Compassion and Community

This week has been filled with many positive moments across the school community. Parents' Evening was both valuable and encouraging, providing an important opportunity to celebrate children's progress and achievements while also discussing next steps in their learning journey. Strong parent partnerships are such an important part of school life, and it was wonderful to see this partnership in action throughout the week.

A huge thank you goes to Miss Bea Turner for creating bespoke phonics packs for every child and for leading today's phonics workshop. We are also grateful to all the parents who attended and for the fantastic support shown at Celebration Worship. It has been lovely to welcome so many families into school.

This week we have also said two fond farewells to valued members of staff. Mel, our Church Family Support Worker, leaves us to continue her career as an ordained minister after providing incredible support to so many families within our community. Kevin, our multi-talented caretaker, is also moving on after travelling to Pilley from Poole each week he has now secured a role closer to home. Both Mel and Kevin will always remain part of the William Gilpin family, and we thank them sincerely for their dedication and service.

Children have continued to embrace the new curriculum with enthusiasm and excitement. Many have spoken positively about the increased challenge in maths this week, and it has been wonderful to hear them discussing the topics that have inspired and motivated them in their learning.

Alongside this, staff have taken part in training focused on our new EYFS and KS1 curriculum, and we are incredibly excited about the plans for September. We were also pleased to welcome Lisa Karalius, a Hampshire adviser, who worked with me to finalise next year's English curriculum. New engaging texts have been ordered and further staff training will follow to support these exciting developments.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to speak with me about any concerns following the Ofsted report. These conversations are invaluable, and I remain more than happy to meet with any parent at any time to discuss your child and our plans for continued rapid progress.

Another exciting piece of news this week has been the appointment of a highly experienced SENDCo. I was particularly impressed by her clear vision and the warmth she showed in building relationships with both children and staff. She will be a tremendous asset to the team. She will not have a class responsibility and will work two days a week from September. The full staffing plan for September will be shared on 5th June.

Finally, with the wonderful weather we have been enjoying, I would like to wish all our families a happy and safe half-term break. I look forward to welcoming you and your delightful children back to school on 1st June.

Elizabeth Cox
Headteacher

Celebration

Headteacher Awards
this week are:

Willow - Lucy
Rowan - Harry M, William
Oak - Archie, Kara



Attendance Cup

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

Missing uniform

During half term please could you check that your child's uniform is named and return any uniform named as belonging to other pupils (and any school PE kit). Thank you!

Inset Days 2026-27

This week Governors have agreed the inset days for the next academic year as 1st and 2nd Sept, 2nd and 3rd November and 22nd February. Hampshire Term dates can be found using the link below:

[Hampshire Term Dates](#)

Gymnastics

Please see flyer attached for Gymnastics Club starting 3rd June. To enable this club to run we need a minimum of 15 participants so please book early!