



William Gilpin School

Newsletter

Summer Term - Friday 19th June 2026

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Courage, Compassion and Community

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful and busy week at William Gilpin

It has certainly been an action-packed week this week. Alongside the usual all the usual learning there have been a number of extra events this week. Attendance has been particularly high with Oak class having 100% and punctuality has been good with this term's improvements being maintained.

Tuesday saw a trip to New Park, where highlights included making crafts out of leather and watching the informative and very funny Sheep Show – always a highlight for me at any country fair. The children came back full of enthusiasm, regaling us with stories of everything they had learned.

Wednesday saw the school choir join a massed choir comprising a number of schools in Winchester Cathedral. Comments were passed back to me about the exemplary behaviour shown by them. Top of the school, with their William Gilpin values shining through. We are proud of all the children and thank Miss Coxon for her leadership of the choir this year.

On Thursday the Church Vision Group crafted superb and original bees for their new display board, with some inspiring bee-themed messages – Bee Kind, Bee-lieve, Bee Helpful... Their work looks bee-utiful. Thank you, Claire.

Dan the Skipping Man joined us for skipping workshops. Some children had to work on their skipping and some children needed to work on their resilience. The ability to fail but try again is what gets us far in life, and opportunities to try out new skills in this way are invaluable for embedding that try-again attitude.

As part of Friday's Celebration Worship, we celebrated "Thank a Teacher Day". Thank you so very much to the parents' association, FROWGS who hijacked the end of the Worship and presented meaningful and beautifully written certificates of appreciation to every member of staff. They also treated us to a fabulous breakfast of bacon and avocado rolls and left a huge box of treats in the staff room. The children were given packets of stickers to place on teachers and say thank you. Thank you so much, FROWGS; we are very lucky to have you.

Your children may have come home with unlikely tales of a piano on the field. The rumours are true. Thank you to a parent who donated a piano for the children to use at playtimes. It has been a huge hit and is loved by us all.

Meanwhile, we welcomed two new members of the staff team. Deborah Kelly, our new SEND and Inclusion Lead, had a handover day this week and will be returning in two weeks' time. Jo Wallis has joined us as our new school cook, so we will be returning to the full school menu from Monday. Welcome to them both.

I hope the children enjoyed the last-minute water fun this afternoon. Thank you again to the FROWGS. I also hope you all have a lovely weekend and are able to enjoy the sunny weather.

Kinds Regards

Elizabeth Cox
Headteacher