



WILLIAM MORRIS NEWS



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5th September 2016



I trust you have all had a lovely and much deserved summer holiday, although it now seems so long ago after just one day of being back at school!

2016-2017 is shaping up to be a year of much improvement and positive change. All the staff at William Morris, both new and old, have been working tirelessly over the break to create a new look and new feel about the school. Ms Price and I are so excited about the year ahead, as are all the other staff, and we cannot wait to get stuck in!



There has been a lot of change in personnel at school since the Summer Term and here is a quick recap/reminder for you of who's who!

EYFS/Nursery Leader	Mrs Murray	Oaks and Acorns
Year 1 Teacher	Ms Adelwohrer (Ms A)	Wattle Class
Year 2 and KS1 Phase Leader	Mrs Way	Willow Class
Year 3/4 Teachers	Mrs Ledger and Mrs Brice	Elm Class
Year 4/5 Teachers	Ms Ocana-Gil and Ms Badesha	Cherry Class
Year 6 and KS2 Phase Leader	Mrs Martin	Red Wood Class
Inclusion Assistant	Ms Beale	Inclusion Office
Office Administrator	Mrs Denny	Reception
School Business Leader	Ms Cumming	Reception
Executive Deputy Headteacher	Ms Price	SLT Office
Executive Headteacher	Ms Hiddleston	SLT Office

Logo and Uniform

Thanks to the winning designs by Summer King, Rosie Stoton and Lee Wiggins, we are so proud to present our new school logo and school sign. The school logo embodies everything we believe in as a school and sets the direction we want to travel in. The tree represents our journey of growth and the three people represent our community and working together in order to believe and achieve. Along with our new logo comes the schools vision and aims which also tie in to our very exciting House Point System. Each child was allocated a house and informed of the house colour before the summer holidays so that you could buy the right colour P.E. T-shirt. If you have forgotten which house and which colour your family belongs to, then please speak to the class teacher or the office.



Just a reminder about school uniform and the arrangements for the year. Although the logo has changed, the new school uniform will **not be compulsory until September 2017**. The old uniform is still available to buy and we will let you know as soon as possible when the new uniform is ready.

Please enquire at the office if you have further queries regarding the uniform. We have attached the new uniform policy which is mostly based on the guidelines we gave out before the summer holidays. Teachers will be monitoring uniform closely so please ensure your child is wearing the correct clothing at all times. If he or she is not wearing the correct school uniform a reminder slip will be sent home and it is expected that he/she will come in the right uniform on the following day.

School Day

A reminder that the school gates open at 8:25am. At 8:30am, a teacher will go onto the courtyard and ring a morning bell. The bell will indicate to the children that it is time to line up outside their classrooms where they will be greeted in the morning by their teacher. Please remember that mornings are very busy times for the teachers as they are getting things prepared and ready for the class and so any messages that are not urgent or an emergency should either be given to the office to pass on or an appointment should be made to see the teacher.

Lateness

If your child arrives late to school, they will have to enter the building via the office, sign the late book and will be marked as 'Late'. We will be reporting on lateness and absence percentages this year in order to help make you aware of the impact on learning it has when your child is not in class.

Absence

We know that learning is at the heart of any route to success. We believe that all our children at William Morris have the potential to, and deserve to achieve anything they set their minds to. In order to do that it is so important that your child is in school as much as possible so that the teachers can do what they do best, educate and help children learn to reach to their full potential. It is a requirement that all children attend school for 95% or more of the available sessions in an academic year. Should attendance drop below this, you will be informed by the teacher and may be contacted directly by the headteacher. Should absence figures become a continual problem, you may be reported to the County Council Attendance Officer and you may be subject to a fine. There will be termly attendance awards for any child who maintains 100% attendance for the term as well as an extra play time at the end of the term.



FOWM

We are going to relaunch the Friends of William Morris group. This is a group of parents and staff members who meet regularly with the aim to raise funds for the school. Our main drive this year is to get some outdoor play equipment for our children. We would love to see some climbing frames and exciting and stimulating equipment outside for use during playtimes. This will cost a lot of money and so we need all your support to help raise funds. If you have a child who attends William Morris, we will be able to offer free childcare in Mrs Murray's classroom for the duration of the meeting. Please note this is only available for children who attend William Morris. The date of the first FOWM meeting will follow soon.

Homework

Thank you to all the parents who responded to the parent questionnaire last year. We were overwhelmed by all the positivity in your responses and we have taken on board your comments regarding homework. Homework is an important part of your child's education and it is a great opportunity for you to get involved in your child's learning at school. The new Homework Policy will go out on Friday along with your teacher's Curriculum Letter for Term 1.

Parent Involvement

Another positive end to last year was our enormously successful Family BBQ. It was wonderful to see so many faces and so much support from all the parents and family. We very much want to be a school that fully involves parents in day to day life because we believe that the only way to truly make a difference, is to work as closely as possible with children, teachers, teaching assistants and parents. There will be several events that happen throughout the year that you will be invited in for including: two parents evenings, three SEND (special educational needs) review meetings, termly Open Evenings/Class Assemblies, numerous FOWM events and numerous parent information evenings.

Mobile Phones

Please note that **no pupils can bring a mobile phone** or an electronic device onto school grounds unless specific permission has been obtained from the class teacher in writing. **A letter from the parents must be sent to the school office stating the reason why a mobile phone is necessary.** Mobile phones must be handed in to the school office before the start of the day.



Clubs

As part of our commitment to offering an outstanding curriculum for our pupils, we will offer a range of clubs throughout the year. Some clubs are chargeable if they are not run by William Morris staff, payments should be made to the office. Clubs will be run on a first come first serve basis so please note that no child will be able to attend a club without returning the slip below. Your child will receive a slip confirming a place in the club.

Clubs for the term (until 21st October) are as follows:

Mondays	No Clubs		
Tuesdays	Multi-skills Club, Homework Club	KS1 Yr5/6	Mrs Way Mrs Martin
Wednesdays	Drama Club Sway Dance Club	KS1, KS2 F, KS1,KS2	Mrs Murray & Mr Prestige Danielle (£19.50 per half term, £39 per term)
Thursdays	Art	KS1, KS2	Ms Badesha
Fridays	Soccer School UK Football	F, KS1, KS2	Arsenal (£18 per half term, £36 per term)

Notices

All children are required to have a navy blue book bag (not a back pack) from 5th September 2016. Book bags can be bought from the school office for £3.

PE Kits should be brought to school in a separate bag every Monday morning and kept in school until Friday.

Please ensure you have **read, signed and returned the new Home-School Agreement for 2016-2017.** All parents are required to sign.

Please look out for your **curriculum letter from your teacher on Friday.** You will receive one every term explaining all the upcoming events and procedures for the term ahead.

Dates for Next Week:

Wednesday 14th September	School Photos – more details to follow
Thursday 15th September	Swimming starts for Y3/4 – letters to follow

Have a great week everyone

Julie Hiddleston and the school team

Please note that no clubs will be running this week and will only begin on Monday 12th September 2016. The slip below needs to be filled in and returned by Friday 9th September. Places for all clubs are limited. Clubs will not take place if numbers are too low.

I _____, parent of _____ would like my child in

Oak/Wattle/Willow/Elm/Cherry/Red Wood Class to attend _____ club for Term 1.

My emergency contact number is _____