## WILLIAM MORRIS NEWS

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20th September 2019

A big thank you to all the parents who joined us on Tuesday night for my Headteacher's Address. It was great to share current educational research and theory with you and to be able to show you what this looks like and means for your children in classes. The powerpoint will be loaded onto the school website soon for those who missed it. A good book for you to read is 'Closing the Vocabulary Gap' - Alex Quigley and you can find out more about the Cognitive Load Theory all over the internet.



As we mentioned on Tuesday night, we are full steam ahead this year! Just this morning on the radio they released a statistic saying that ¼ of all jobs in Oxfordshire are from the tech industry alone! That's a huge statistic, 1 in every 4 children will be needed to fulfil tech jobs, of which Oxfordshire has been named the leading area in the UK! HOW EXCITING IS THAT! With that said, we are very excited to announce that our first ever STEAM event of the year will be held on Tuesday 22nd October. The school hall will be converted into our **Statistical Showcase** where the question of the term 'Can I create, carry out an experiment and present my data in a variety of ways?' will be on show. Reception and nursery parents are invited to the school hall at 2:20pm - 2:40pm and Year 1 and 2 parents are invited to the hall at 2:45pm - 3:00pm. The bell will ring in the hall at the end of each session and children will be taken back to their classes. Parents then need to go around to the outside of the classes to collect as normal. You may take your child home early when they have returned to the classroom if you are not staying for round 2 with an older sibling.

**First Aid Changes:** You may have noticed that we are no longer sending home first aid forms for minor injuries, these are instead being recorded in a class accident book. Your child's teacher will still speak to you at the end of the day if they had an accident which needed first aid. **Head injuries will still be dealt with by sending home an accident form.** 

The only other time an accident form will be used is if staff notice an injury the child has which occurred outside of school, this will still be recorded and signed for in the usual way.

**Mrs Obinna's update:** We wanted to share with you how brilliantly the reception children have settled in. In order to continue this, we wanting to increase their independence by letting them come into the classroom

themselves from Monday. This would allow those children that have managed to be brave, not to be daunted by parents in the room and be clear about who the teachers and support staff are. We thank you and the children for quickly learning the morning routines, of where to put book bags, water bottles and lunch boxes, this quickly enables the staff to focus on the children and their morning learning activities.



**Darwin:** Darwin have been very interested in watching the builders this week in the garden digging the new pathway, so we decided to go for a walk round the field to hear what other sounds we could hear. The children were very excited when they could hear planes and cars, birds and the diggers. We collected lots of leaves, sticks and acorns for a Little Red Hen role-play tuff tray which was enormous fun. The children have had fun exploring all the different textures and such as conkers, flour, seeds and oats. They have enjoyed using the props to retail the story of the Little Red Hen.

**Cartwright:** This week in Cartwright class the children have been learning the story of the Little Red Hen in time for Harvest. We are learning the story using Makaton actions and symbols. On Wednesday we followed instructions about how to make salt dough. We mixed, poured, kneaded and rolled out the mixture into farmyard cutters. By Thursday we had painted them and they'll be ready for our display.



**Kandinsky:** This week in Kandinsky we have been learning about instruction writing. We chose to look at a recipe for making gingerbread, as this links to our class story 'Hansel and Gretel'. We wrote out our ingredients list then made our own delicious gingerbread men following the recipe instructions. We then made a story map of how to make gingerbread men, acting out each step. We used our story map to help us write up our own instructions, orally rehearsing each line as we wrote it. Watch out Bake Off!!



**Seacole:** In Seacole this week, based on our shared reading of Rapunzel, we have developed our comprehension skills by finding evidence from the text to answer questions such as True or False. In Literacy we have been using adjectives to write expanded noun phrases describing the Enchantress to create a poem and character description. We have been focussing on improving our handwriting and letter formation. In Maths we have used dienes to show the number of tens and ones in a two-digit number and thinking how we would represent this in money. Our fluency has focussed on recalling the ten- and two-times tables for quick recall linked to our Times Table Rock Stars. Creating

a waterproof shelter is our STEAM challenge and we have conducted a Science investigation this week to see which materials are waterproof and created mind maps. Please, if you have any polystyrene and plastic sheets that you are willing to donate to help us build our shelter, all offers would be gratefully received!



**Valentina:** This week Valentina have been developing their understanding of solids, liquids and gases by sorting a range of materials. We conducted a fair experiment to test whether viscous materials take longer to pour. In English we have been sequencing events using fronted adverbials and in maths we have used practical resources to explore the place value of four-digit numbers.



**DaVinci:** This week in Da Vinci class we have been planning the introduction for our non-chronological reports all about Egyptian tombs. We have been focusing on writing in the past tense, using bullet points effectively and rhetorical questions. We have also learnt the meaning of many new words such as elaborate, deceased, scared, and nobles. In maths we have been writing and reading Roman numerals up to 1000 and in science we have been making predictions about which substances dissolve in water. We also conducted an experiment to see whether our predictions were correct. In PE we have been improving our football skills with various activities focusing on fast

footwork, dribbling and passing. On Thursday we had our very first dance and drama lesson. We had a lot of fun using our bodies and voices in creative ways and improving our listening and teamwork skills.



**Shakespeare:** Shakespeare class have had a fantastic week! It was our turn to lead the whole school assembly all about creativity so we decided to perform a poem we have been learning in class - Macavity! The children are really

growing in confidence when speaking in front of the school and I definitely think we have some budding actors in our midst. Our diary entries are coming on brilliantly and we are looking forward to writing these up into our Golden Write books. In maths, we have begun our place value topic and we are really gaining confidence when looking at the value of digits all the way up to 10 000 000. It's all about electricity in the afternoon at the moment. We can now confidently create a simple circuit and even create a circuit diagram in our books using the correct scientific symbols.



**ALDI Stickers:** If you are not already aware, Aldi are giving away 'stickers for schools' for every £30 spent in store. These stickers are giving

all schools the chance of winning £20,000. We need your help in filling a poster full of 300 stickers by November 2019! Please bring these in if you do collect them, Thank you.

**Young Minds**: On Thursday 10th October William Morris School will be saying #HelloYellow in aid of Young Minds for World Mental Health Day 2019. We invite all children to wear a yellow item of clothing to show young people they're not alone with their mental health and ask for a small 50p donation to be made to Young Minds.

1 in 10 children and young people aged 5-16 suffer from a diagnosable mental health problem such as depression, anxiety and eating disorders, with 3 quarters of long-lasting mental ill-health starting before age 18. The important work that Young Mind carry out includes providing support to families, empowering children, campaigning for change and helping professionals to best support young people who are experiencing challenges relating to mental health.

By taking part in #HelloYellow we aim to help spread the word that, whatever you're going through, you can always talk to someone if you're struggling to cope and promote positive mental health for everyone. <u>https://youngminds.org.uk/</u>

**Friends of William Morris School:** Firstly, a big thank you to the outgoing Friends of William Morris School (FOWM), your contribution to the school over the last few years has been invaluable, and the money raised has transformed different areas of the school.

We are now looking for new volunteers to be part of FOWM, you will have a key role in organising fundraising events for our school. FOWM meets once every 4- 6 week for an hour straight after school, sometime if events are upcoming there may be an extra meeting. Below are some of the events the FOWM have organised in the past, but we welcome new ideas and fresh thinking.

- FOWM have organised:Summer Fete
  - Christ Fair
  - School Discos
  - Quiz Evening

If you would like to express an interest in joining FOWM, please speak to the office or Mr Johns.





## Key Dates for your Diary:

- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October (time TBC) STEAM Event
- Thursday 24th October, 3:05pm term ends
- Friday 25th October INSET day, no children in school

Have a lovely weekend!

Hiddleston

Julie Hiddleston and the school team





All clubs for this term run from 3:15-4:15pm unless otherwise stated

Monday	Thursday
Netball	Tag Rugby Club
(from 16/9)	(from 16/9)
Yrs 3-6 (girls and boys) 3:15-4:00pm	Yrs 4-6 (girls and boys)
Dance (from 23/9)	Gardening Club – creating a sensory garden 3:15-4:00pm *now full*

## **Free Trial Piano Tuition**

Studies show that time spent at the keyboard improves mental health: people who make music experience less anxiety, loneliness, and depression. Playing piano has also been shown to be a great source of stress relief and provides ample opportunity to bolster self-esteem. It is also a widely used form of therapy for Attention Deficit Disorder. Not sure if your child will take to it? Why not try a month's tuition FREE of charge?

All tuition books and diaries are also supplied free of charge by the service. To obtain an application form, please email **MJmusicservices@aol.com**