

10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## Welcome to 2020!

Wishing you a very happy and prosperous 2020! The start of a new year is always peppered with excitement and good intentions, schools are no different. We continue our ambitious drive to create a love of learning in your children through a highly engaging and bespoke curriculum offer. The STEAM events have been a huge success and the knowledge and skills your children have acquired is truly impressive.

A key focus for our school for the rest of this year is oracy and vocabulary. Oracy is the range of speaking and listening skills, behaviours and language necessary for effective communication and team work - skills that we know future employers will value highly. We are working very hard in a targeted way to improve the level of vocabulary and confidence in speaking in our children. Please continue to support us by talking to your children as much as possible and encouraging them and showing them how to use stronger words whenever appropriate. Part of this approach includes an additional element around speaking/presentation skills to begin this term. Children will be taught how to prepare for presentations and will present on the progress of their STEAM projects throughout the term to their classmates. There will be a celebration assembly where some children will be chosen to present their projects to the whole school and their parents/carers will also be invited. This element will be included as part of the homework menu as children may need support at home as well as the time allocated at school, especially for any children who wish to make a PowerPoint presentations, video logs, diagrams etc.

We don't only welcome a new year this week but we also welcome two new members of staff. We welcome Mrs Tiyra Bibi from Longford Park who will be covering the Spring Term of Mrs Smith's maternity leave. We are also very pleased to welcome Mrs Mandy Duffy who will be joining Mrs Duckett in the office. Mrs Duffy has a wealth of knowledge from years of working in primary education in and around Banbury. Welcome to the William Morris family.

We also say a huge congratulations to Mrs Smith, our reception teacher, who gave birth to baby Edison over the Christmas holidays. We wish her and her family a very happy start



**Darwin:** Welcome back after our Christmas break, the children have been sharing their news with us. The children have shared their news using the chatty chair It's been really nice to hear all about their holidays.

Welcome to our new children who have started with us, we look forward to helping you on your journey.

This week we have been looking at the story *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, the children have enjoyed retelling the story in their play. We have been busy making trolls and billy goats for a display in our class.

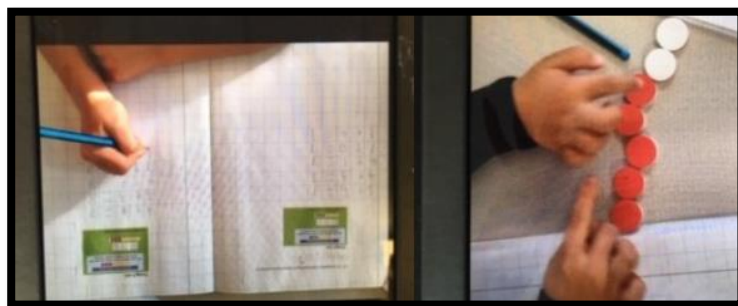
Darwin have started to learn some new sounds, this week's sound is M Maisie mountain. We have been working really hard on our names, practicing our letters.

**Cartwright:** Cartwright class have made a brilliant start this half term. This week they have been reading the story, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. They have been learning the actions for the story and have explored the text.

The number of the week was 11 and the children have investigated the different ways they can make it using two numbers. In maths, they have also been learning about measures with a focus on length and the language related to it. The children have been ordering objects by size and discussing what they noticed. Thank you for all your continued support.



**Kandinsky:** What a fantastic first week back! Kandinsky have been super mature this week and settled straight back into the school routine, working their socks off. In maths we have been working with concrete apparatus to help us work systematically. Children were able to use counters to show all the different ways to make number bonds within 10. They then recorded their answers in their books written as a number sentence. We were all super mathematicians this week!



**Seacole:** Seacole have settled very quickly back into our class routines and have had a fantastic first week back!

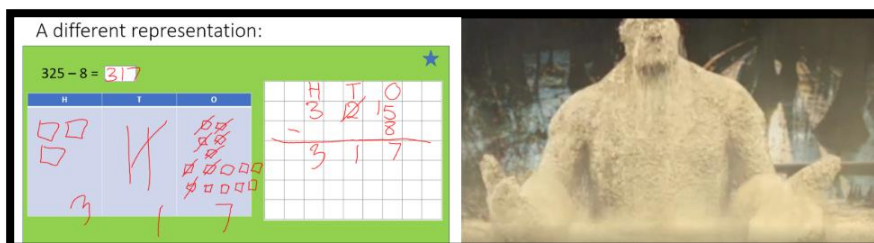


We thoroughly enjoyed our pottery workshop with Mr Stead from Tudor Hall on Thursday. Mr Stead taught us how to create fish, plants and pebbles to our Goldfish Bowl Slabs using slip and we are looking forward to using different glazes to our ceramic work in the forthcoming weeks.

In maths we have been focusing on addition and exchanging ones using dienes when adding a one-digit number to a two-digit number. We have drawn the number of tens and ones in our addition calculations and using bar models to prove our reasoning. In Fluency we have been recalling doubles and identifying patterns using dienes and numbers. In Literacy we have been identifying time adverbials in instruction texts and identifying the features of this genre in 'How to trap a troll'. The children have discussed narratives which contain trolls as well as illustrating their own.

**Valentina:** Valentina have settled back extremely well after the Christmas holidays. They have enjoyed starting their new book, the Iron Woman, and watching the special effects videos to go with it. They have learnt about Benjamin Franklin in STEAM and are excited to learn more about scientific discoveries and electricity.

In Maths, Valentina have been learning how to regroup when subtracting 2 and 3 digit numbers. They have shown real resilience adapting to a range of different methods. We have learnt a range of new words during our Word Aware lessons including 'pollution' and 'generate'.



**DaVinci:** Da Vinci have had a fantastic start to the new year and have been working hard this week. In English, we have started looking at our new class text 'Street Boy' which is set in Victorian London and tells the story of a young boy Jimmy who is sent to work in the workhouse. We read the first few chapters of the book and have been exploring the use of powerful verbs in order to make our writing more exciting. In our whole class reading lessons we have also learnt a little bit about Oliver Twist and read part of chapter 2 where he famously asks for more food.

In maths, we have been solving problems using remainders and have been working on our times table facts. We enjoyed coming up with our own problems for others to solve.



In STEAM we have been looking at electricity and electrical devices. We enjoyed acting as an electrical circuit using our arms as wires, paper balls as electrons, Miss Jones's arms as the switch with Codie acting as the light bulb and Olivia as the battery. This helped us learn how an electrical current works and passes through a circuit.

In PE we have started hockey and have been looking at various dribbling skills and how to control the ball. We also enjoyed chess club, which started back up again on Thursday lunchtime - some of us will even be playing in a tournament coming up soon.

**Shakespeare:** Shakespeare class have made a fantastic start to the new decade! In our writing, we have been looking at balanced reports, thinking carefully about arguments for and against wearing a uniform to school. We are excellent at using a wide range of ambitious punctuation in every piece we complete now. In maths, we have started looking at fractions: finding equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and comparing them. Our reasoning skills have really improved and we are thinking carefully about our mathematical talk. We have started our STEAM project all about light. This week, we have been discussing what an engineer is, how engineering is useful within our society and the steps we will need to take in the next few weeks to complete our project.



**Year 1 Phonics Meeting:** Year One parents we would like to invite you to a Phonic meeting on Thursday 23rd January from 3.10 to 3.40 led by Mrs Way. This will be held in Kandinsky classroom, refreshments and a creche will be available. Information about the Phonic Screening Check will be discussed as well as how you can help support your child with their reading. Phonic resource packs will be given out. If you cannot attend this important meeting please could you let Ms Marriott know.

**Power Outage:** We have been informed by Western Power Distribution that there will be a power outage on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January for 2 hours. School will be open as normal and we have exciting activities planned to make the most of this unusual situation. School lunches that day will be sandwiches and baguettes. We may also experience interruption to our phone system during this time so may not be able to receive calls to the school.



## Key Dates for your Diary:

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January between 10am-12noon, power outage
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 3:10-3:40 – Year 1 parents Phonics meeting (Kandinsky Class) led by Mrs Way
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, STEAM Event
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, last day of term (3:05pm finish)
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February, Parents Evening
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, Parents Evening

Have a lovely weekend!

*Hiddleston*

*Julie Hiddleston and the school team*

**STARS OF THE WEEK**

Darwin: Lukmaan	Cartwright: Frankie
Kandinsky: Oliver P	Seacole: Jacob C
Valentina: Zakariya	DaVinci: Noemi G
Shakespeare: Charlie	

**Star Writers**

Cartwright: Leon
Kandinsky: Kelsey C
Seacole: Sapphire B
Valentina: Loui E
DaVinci: Jakotay H-K
Shakespeare: Xavier

**READERS OF THE WEEK**

Cartwright: Clara
Kandinsky: Anna G
Seacole: Noah J
Valentina: Arthur G
DaVinci: Leo B
Shakespeare: Mason



# CLUBS

at William Morris  
Primary School

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
<p><b>Dance</b> Miss O'Connor Nursery to Yr 6</p> <p><b>Hockey</b> Mrs Pemble Yr 2 - Yr 6</p>	<p><b>Drama</b> Cherwell Theatre Company Rec - Yr6 £3.00 per session</p>	<p><b>Choir</b> Miss Jones Yr 2 - Yr 6</p>	<p><b>Football</b> Mr Ryan Jones Nursery - Yr 6 £3.00 per session Starts 10/01/20</p>

## 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 [MJmusicervices@aol.com](mailto:MJmusicervices@aol.com) or [vices@aol.com](mailto:vices@aol.com)