

### WILLIAM MORRIS NEWS

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#### 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020



**Darwin:** Welcome back Darwin class, we hope you all had a great half term. Darwin have been exploring their new outside area, they have been making sandcastles and using diggers in the giant

sandpit. Our story for the next two weeks is *The Dot*, the children are turning into artists we have been painting dots and circles. The children have been trying pancakes with different topping such as honey, jam and bananas.

**Cartwright:** Cartwright class have made a brilliant start to this half term. As it was Shrove Tuesday the children tasted some pancakes and learned how to make them. The book of the week was 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'. The children discussed the importance of helping others and showing kindness. In maths, the children have been investigating place value and sequencing numbers. We have also had our class trip where the children had the opportunity to learn about Australia and the cultures and traditions of the Aboriginal people using virtual reality headsets. As well as this, the children have been accessing the new outdoor provision area. It has been a busy week thank you for all your support. Please remember to pay your contribution to the VR activity through parent pay.



**Kandinsky:** Kandinsky have had a very positive first week back and have produced some excellent writing in English. They have written some fantastic predictions on what they think the story 'Lily and the Snowman' is going to be about and designed some wonderful front covers.

**Seacole**: Seacole have had a very productive start to the term and settled back quickly after the half term break. We have been predicting and making inferences based on the exquisitely illustrated, wordless picture book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. A girl draws a magic door on her bedroom wall and escapes on an extraordinary journey of magic and adventure. We have been drawing and writing our own predictions based on the front cover about how she arrived at the castle in a boat on a river.



In maths we have been identifying unequal and equal groups using mathematical equipment in our new maths topic of multiplication and division. We have been recalling addition calculations in our Fast Five Fluency lessons and working hard to improve how quickly we can solve them in a given time.

Mr Stead has been teaching how to create pattern and texture on our clay

tiles based on our sketch book designs in our pottery lesson this week and we were very pleased with how effective the glaze colours fired on our ceramic fired leaves.

In science we have been discussing what factors would affect growth as we planted our daffodil bulbs and will be observing and monitoring over the forthcoming weeks.

**Valentina**: This week Valentina have been working on their new STEAM topic: the Tudors. We have explored a range of different portraits and used them to infer information about different monarchs. We were amazed to discover that Henry VIII had 6 wives and learnt about what happened to them. During our English lessons, we have begun reading the mystery novel - Spy Master. Using a story map to support us, we have been developing our oracy by retelling the story to our peers. As an extra challenge this week, see if your child can retell the story to you at home. During Maths this week we have continued to explore 'rounding' using a number line.



**Da Vinci:** This week in Da Vinci class we have had fun learning the bus stop method for short division using numicon. In English we have been learning all about the

present perfect tense and have finished writing our newspaper reports based on Jimmy's escape from the workhouse. We are looking forward to starting our new book - Viking boy next week! In PE we have started our new sport this term which is netball and in STEAM we have been discussing the importance of art and have begun to find out what happened after the Romans left Britain and who the Anglo Saxons were.



**Shakespeare:** Shakespeare class have had a fantastic start to the new half term. In STEAM, we are researching the Ancient Greeks in order to find out more about them to support our art project for the term. We have been finding out about their legacy and the inventions that we still use today. In our writing, we have been looking at Greek myths to prepare us for devising our own mythical tales full of exciting adventures with a whole host of terrible monsters!



#### Cycling Proficiency: We are looking for volunteers

to help run Cycling Training for the children at our school (formally known as cycling proficiency). You need to be able to ride a bike own your own and feel confident riding it on roads. All volunteers would be fully trained by Oxfordshire County Council to deliver the cycling training to the children. We are looking to run this in the next few months, it would involve 7 sessions with a small group of children from year 6, each session lasting 1 hour 30mins. If you are interested in being part of this or would like to find out more please contact the office.



**World Book Day:** It is World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The children are welcome to come dressed as a character from one of their favourite books, they are also welcome to stay for our Bedtime and Biscuits Event until 4pm after school, please complete the consent form on the separate letter to confirm if they are staying. We would also like to invite you to a drop in session at 3.45 to 4pm in the school hall where there will be tables set up with resources and ideas you can use to encourage reading at home.

**Dropping off in the morning:** Please remember that the morning drop-off at school is a very busy time. Teachers are on the door to receive messages or talk briefly about anything which concerns parents. However, please bear in mind that several parents may want to speak to the teacher, so if you would like to speak at greater length with your child's teacher then please arrange a separate time to do this.

**Miss O'Connor is moving on:** We will sadly be saying a farewell to Miss O'Connor next week as Friday will be her last day with us. We thank her for all that she's done for the children at William Morris. We wish her the very best in her exciting new role.

**FAST sessions:** We are excited to be running FAST sessions with Cherwell District Council this term! The FAST activators will be running after school sessions for children and their parents/carers from Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January where they will be delivering fun activities for the whole family to enjoy. The sessions are FREE and there is no need to book, but for numbers it does help to know who is coming. You can <u>click here</u> to sign up, then simply come along and take part in some brilliant sports activities with your child. We hope to see you there! <u>Please click here to see the FAST newsletter for more information</u>

### Key Dates for your Diary:

- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, World Book Day
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, end of term, finish at 1:00pm
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, start of Summer Term

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

Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
Drama	Choir	Football
Cherwell Theatre Company	Miss Jones	Mr Ryan Jones
Rec - Yr6	Yr 2 - Yr 6	Reception - Yr 6
£3.00 per session		£3.00 per session
		Starts 10/01/20
FAST Activator Family Sessions – all		
years FREE		

## **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.comvices@aol.com** 

# **Tennis Coaching**

APRIL 22nd – We have a very exciting opportunity coming soon. Tennis coaching is to begin at the bargain price of £3 per session (usually £10 per hour)

Banbury Tennis Academy, Horton View is providing us with a coach and all the equipment including rackets and nets.

We will provide more details as they become available.

