

William Morris Primary School



Call us : 01295 258224

Email us : info@williammorrisschool.org



1st October 2021

Quote of the week: “ If the plan doesn’t work, change the plan. But never the goal ”

Opportunities to get involved in at William Morris

Friends of William Morris

This is the parent teacher association, which due to Covid, hasn’t met for over 18 months. The group organises events which raises money for the school. In the past it has included, discos, Christmas events, summer fairs and many other fund-raising initiatives. We are keen to get this up and running again, if you are interested in becoming a part of this group then please speak to the office.

Parent Forum

This is a forum during which operational items to do with the running of the school are discussed. It gives parents an opportunity to discuss elements of school life. It will meet once every half term for approximately 30 minutes at 9am. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact the school office.

Illness

As the weather draws in, more cold viruses are circulating – we know that children are especially susceptible to these. However, unless your child is very unwell please continue to send them in. It is really important that attendance is very strong this year, especially considering the lost time for learning during the last two years. Our expectation is that children have an attendance across of the year of 97% or above. We will be getting in touch with parents and carers whose attendance is dropping below this level to support with attendance.

Absence Procedures:

If your child is absent you must:

- Contact the school office as soon as possible on the first day of absence by email, telephone call or a voicemail left on the school absence line (please do NOT use Class Dojo or text messages to communicate about absence).

If your child is absent, we will:

- Telephone you on the first day of absence if we have not heard from you;
- If we are unable to contact you, we will regard this as a safeguarding issue and may carry out a welfare visit to your home.
- Invite you in for a meeting to discuss the situation with our Home School Link Worker or, if absences persist, with a member of the Senior Leadership Team i.e. Head of School or Assistant Head.
- Review whether the latest absence means your child has reached the Persistent Absence threshold and further action is necessary

Lateness

Research has shown that being late has a significant negative effect on children’s performance in school, even a few minutes every day adds up.

Your child's best learning is a the beginning of the day...

Check the time your school starts...don't be late!



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

When your misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Reception to Year 12 that is...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year of school
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
30 minutes a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1½ years of learning
1 hour a day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year	Over 2½ years of learning



The learning that has been occurring this week:

Darwin:

This week we have been learning about The Enormous Turnip, the children have enjoyed painting an enormous turnip which we used to retell parts of the story where they pulled the turnip out of the ground. We have been enjoying our role play tuff tray. The enormous marrow where the children have been comparing different size marrows. The children have been making their very own zig zag books of the enormous turnip, ordering the picture and recalling what happened next. The children all took Autumn bag home to collect objects over the weekend, we have been sharing their finding with their friends. We have been looking closely at a bird's nest and egg shell that one of the children found on a walk. The children have been making pictures using pine cones, leaves and conkers they collect in their autumn bags and using the iPad to take a picture.

Star of the week : Logan for helping to tidy up and Aaliyah for showing kindness.



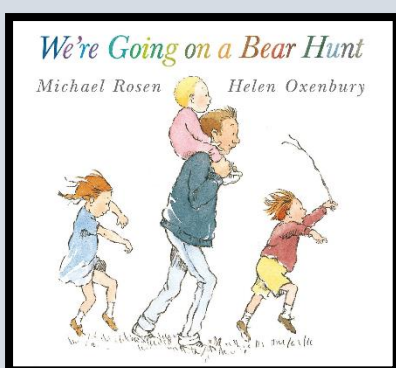
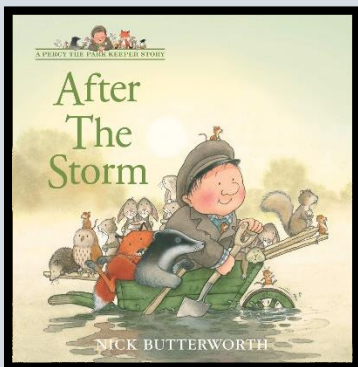
Cartwright:

This week the children have been thinking about how bread is made. They have had a go at grinding wheat with a pestal and mortar and made bread! They also looked at other vegetables that grow in crop fields such as marrows, sweetcorn and carrots. The white boards have been very popular this week, with lots of children having a go at mark making on our large whiteboard. The joy is that they can rub it off so are not afraid to have a go! We have been moving the classroom around a little bit and hope to soon have a bakery role play area! Have a wonderful weekend!

Star of the Week – Alice for modelling great behaviour on the carpet

Star Writer – Laura, she has been practicing her writing on the white board a lot!

Star Reader - Mervyn, he is picking up words around the room amazingly!



Kandinsky:

Well done for an excellent week Kandinsky class. In English, we have been learning about the story After the Storm: (A Percy the Park Keeper Story) by Nick Butterworth. The children have described the different settings using colourful semantics. In Maths, the children have been learning about different shapes and prepositions. We acted out the story We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen. In STEAM, we have investigated light intensity using a data logger and recorded that information in block graphs.

Star of the Week – Jacob for transitioning excellently into Year 1 and for being a superstar.

Star Writer – Lamisa for working hard on her letter formation.

Star Reader - Muhammad for wonderful phonics work.

Seacole:

In Maths this week we have been representing 2 digit numbers using dienes and identifying their value. As well as unitising when counting a large group of objects by grouping tens and ones. We have been counting in 2's, 5's and 10s and learning actions to consolidate our times tables. In Literacy we have been discussing the key language from poems. Then identifying the who and what doing when comparing poems. In STEAM we have been gathering and representing data using tally charts identifying the cold climates and identifying cool areas of the world.

Star of the week – Clara for always being kind and helpful to others.

Star Reader - Kyra for her excellent timed reading fluency.

Star Writer - Ramiya for her excellent handwriting and presentation.



Valentina:

This week in Valentina Class we have finally begun applying our knowledge of forces to learning about magnets. We have become historians and learned about the past and history of magnets, including how long humans have been aware of magnets. For our writing, we have now started a new unit: poetry. We have been reflecting upon the feelings and emotions we experience when we are reading these poems, focusing on the authors word-choice to impact us as a reader. In computing we have been evaluating the usefulness of electronic devices for a variety of tasks. We attempted to recreate 'A Starry Night' by Van Gogh. We found this really tricky, particularly trying to recreate the painting using the mousepad of the Chromebook.

Star of the Week – Lillie, for always showing kindness to all children and being a supportive friend.

Star Writer - Olivia, for taking extra care with her handwriting and joining her letters.

Star Reader - Noah for his excellent engagement with his home reading, including comprehension questions.

Ramanujan:

In maths we have been looking at choosing the most efficient way to add two and three digit numbers. In English we have been looking at poetic devices and the effect it has on the reader. In steam we have started our class experiment looking at evaporation. The children have ended the week by making wonderful internet safety posters as part of their HRE. The children have also become much more confident with their 4 times table which is great to see!

Star of the Week - Stas for persevering so hard in his first week at school.

Star Writer - Milana for her great handwriting presentation.

Star Reader - Freya for her excellent contributions in class reading lessons



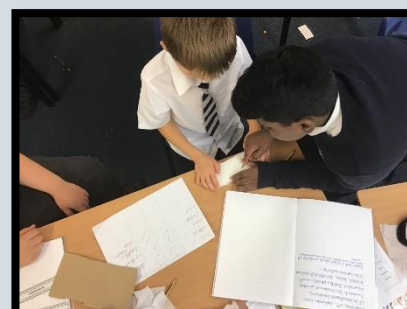
Davinci:

This week in English, we have finally finished our narratives and have begun to look at formal letters. We will be thinking about how we can use language to persuade and write in a formal manner. In reading we became very excited when Mrs. Shepherd and Mrs. Chaplin read the commentary of an Egyptian chariot race, it was then great fun having a go at reading this ourselves, the speed was tricky but well worth the effort as it had a huge impact upon the audience. In STEAM we investigated the hardness of a range of materials, we enjoyed getting stuck into a practical fair test and are looking forward to completing more experiments in the coming weeks. In computing, we have continued to think about systems and discovered that all computers have an IP address enabling them to send messages to each other in 'packets'. In the classroom, we became a system and had a go at sending messages to each other in perfect silence! Music continues to be challenging but fun. Yesterday we learned the notes C and D; where notes sit on a staff; what a crotchet, minim and semi-breve are and played our first piece of music together!

Star of the week – Tehya for being a helpful and enthusiastic member of the class

Star Reader – Aimee for her enthusiastic reading of the chariot race

Star Writer - Elsie-Lou for working so hard this week on content and presentation



Shakespeare:

This week, we've worked hard to get our first-person stories with a moral drafted and edited, ready for publishing on Monday. In PE, we've been developing our tag rugby skills in preparation for a year 5/6 tournament in the coming weeks. We were lucky to have a specialist rugby coach visit us on Wednesday to help us understand all the tag rugby rules! We've been exploring how to present our data in different ways in STEAM. Next week, we'll start to work towards our final STEAM showcases.

Star of the Week - Jakotay, for his positive contributions to class discussions

Star Writer - Sarah, for considering how to balance description, action and dialogue in her writing

Star Reader - Aidan, for working hard in my Thursday reading group

School Dates 2021 - 2022

	School Ends	School Starts	School Closed
October Half Term	22 nd of October	1 st of November	
Christmas Holidays	17 th December	4 th of January	
February Half Term	18 th of February	28 th of February	
Easter Holidays	8 th of April	25 th of April	
Bank Holiday			2 nd of May
May Half Term	27 th of May	6 th of June	
INSET Day			24 th of June
Summer Holidays	18 th of July		
INSET Day			19 th , 20 th , 21 st of July

Notices

Parking Outside School

Dear Parents,

Please can we make a conscious effort to avoid traffic congestion around the school gates at drop off and pick up.

There have been reports of cars parked across residents drive ways blocking them in, cars being left in the main road causing blockages and cars parking too close to the chicanes meaning others can not get past.

We understand that the road outside William Morris is abnormally busy at them moment due to the building work being carried out at the school, but we still need to keep the safety of our pupils and local residents at the fore front of our actions.

Please consider parking a little further away from school and walking the last few minutes or walking the whole way where possible.

Thank you.

Key Dates

October 7th – Individual and Sibling Photographs

October 20th – Non-Uniform Blue and Yellow Day

November 9th – Open Event for prospective Reception and Nursery Applicants.

November 18th – Flu Immunisations for YR to Y6

February 7th – Year 5 Bikeability

June 20th to June 22nd - Year 6 Residential

June 27th to June 29th – Year 4 Residential



An invitation to prospective nursery and reception parents to join us at our

OPEN EVENT

Tuesday 9th November at 3:30pm

'Meet' the Senior Leadership Team and hear all about our innovative curriculum

William Morris GLF



Helpful Links

- <https://youngminds.org.uk/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/>
- <https://banbury.foodbank.org.uk/>
- <https://sunshinecentre.org/>
- <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk>
- <https://www.mind.org.uk/>
- <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools>

Have a great weekend!



Ally Johns and the school team.