

# William Morris Primary School



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5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Quote of the week:** "One of the strongest characteristics of genius, is the power of lighting its own fire"

## The learning that has been occurring this week:

### Sports Team News:

On Tuesday, seven of the Year 5/6 girls attended a football fixture against Bloxham Primary School with Oxford United. The girls won the fixture and everyone played wonderfully. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children, and they should be very proud of their determination and teamwork. Well done girls!



### Darwin:

Welcome back to school Darwin class, I hope you all had a lovely half term. Welcome also to our new children who have stated with us. In Darwin this week, we have been learning about Diwali, the festival of light, and the children have been making diva lamps from clay. We were a little unsure to begin with, as we did not like how the clay felt. It was cold and sticky. We have also been looking at henna patterns and the children drew around their own hands and then created a pattern. In maths this week, we have been learning about patterns; we enjoyed reading the story Beep Beep Vroom Vroom, the children then created their own patterns using cars and dots. Finally, we have been talking about light and dark and the children have been exploring glow sticks in the water tray, we played with them with the lights on then with the lights off. The children noticed the difference, "they are colourful". I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

**Star of the week :** AM Harry for showing confidence when talking to his partner in group time.  
PM Amelia for showing kindness to our new children.

### Cartwright:

This week the children have had a fun and busy week back. Their roleplay area has been transformed into a super witch's house which they are loving! We have started thinking about night and day / dark and light and listing words associated with each. We have also been creating fireworks pictures with different mediums. If you have any night-time or fireworks pictures you would like to share, please send them in a Dojo message. Have a lovely weekend and stay safe!

**Star of the Week** - Maevys- she has found it difficult coming in to school this week but really involves herself once she gets here!

**Star Writer** - Isaac W he has been really trying hard with his letter formation in daily phonics sessions.

**Star Reader** - Kaio for his participation in phonics.

## Is your child 3 or 4 years old?

### Primary school place - you must apply now

If your child was born on or between **1 September 2017** and **31 August 2018**, you need to apply for a primary school place now.

You must still apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school.

Deadline for applications is **15 January 2022**.

### Apply online at

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

- it's quick, easy and secure.

You can get free access to the internet at many of our libraries and children's centres - ask for details at your local facility.



**Deadline for applications is 15 January 2022**

### For help and information:

Web: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Email: [admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Tel: 0345 241 2487



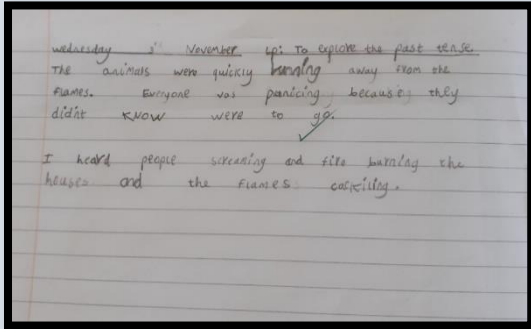
## Kandinsky:

This week, in Kandinsky class, we have had an excellent week. In English, we have been investigating how syllables and rhyme can be used to create rhythm. We found out how many syllables are in our names and identified where rhyme appeared in a selection of poems. In Maths, we have been learning about the range of ways that numbers can be partitioned and represented. In STEAM, we began our new topic investigating structures. We learnt all about where Banbury is and its key physical features. We were also very lucky to be visited by the Cherwell Theatre Company who delivered the play 'Pete Stays Home'. The play was excellent, and the children thoroughly enjoyed it.

**Star of the Week** – Aariz for an excellent week exploring the senses.

**Star Writer** – Lena for excellent handwriting within phonics sessions.

**Star Reader** - Reuben for consistently reading in school and at home.



## Seacole:

In Seacole class this week we have been identifying features of a recount and discussing what the word chronological means. In STEAM this term we are researching and finding out about the Great Fire of London. We have been reflecting on how London has changed from 1666 to present day and discussing how this historical event had such an impact on the housing today. In Maths we have been adding three addends in our fluency lessons and have been calculating differences between numbers as well as reading pictograms and bar charts. We have been developing our reading fluency as we have been share reading Grandad's Island by B. Davies. A great start to the term Seacole.

**Star of the week** – Evie for increased concentration and her contributions to our class discussions.

**Star Reader** - Philip for increased fluency.

**Star Writer** - Ava for her improved letter formation and increased stamina for writing.

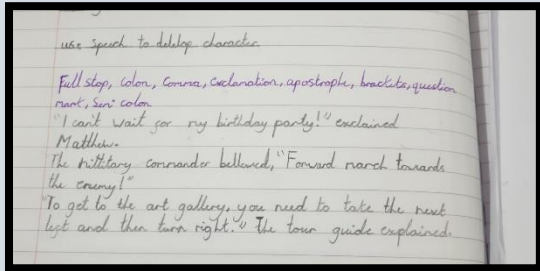
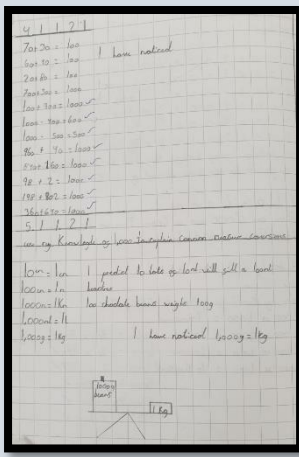
## Valentina:

We have had a great start to the term in Valentina Class. We have begun our new STEAM topic, where our focus is on history. We are learning about the prehistoric era, starting with the iron age and working all the way through to the iron age. We used our research skills to find information about the each of the eras and presented these to our classmates. We have also started writing our descriptions of characters for our narratives. The children have made an excellent start at using expanded noun phrases to add more detail to their writing. Valentina class have had a lot of fun learning new phrases in French – we are now even following many instructions in French, rather than English.

**Star of the Week** – Malaikha: for her use contributions to class discussions, especially during maths.

**Star Writer** - Natalia: for her expanded noun phrases describing characters.

**Star Reader** - Heidi – for her excellent inferences in her reading.



## Ramanujan:

Year 4 have made a great start back from half term. In maths, we have been looking at 1000 and using our number bond knowledge to work out number sentences to make. In English we are looking at adventure stories, the key features and how writers build to an exciting climax. The children have been learning about how the mighty Roman army managed to conquer Britain. In music we got first use of some brand-new glockenspiels. In computing we have started looking at digital audio and will be building towards making our own podcast. It has been a great week back for the year 4s!

**Star of the Week** - Hayem for settling in really well to his new class in year 4 and showing our school's values.

**Star Writer** - Niamh for her great effort when writing direct speech while empathising with a character.

**Star Reader** - Mikayla for her for her positive contributions to discussions about the class book.

## Davinci:

It has been wonderful to be back at school. In English we have begun a unit on balanced arguments, considering whether historical artefacts should be kept in museums in wealthy countries or returned to their homeland. We have been learning to support our arguments with evidence and using emotive language to evoke intense feelings in our readers. In mathematics, we have been looking at tenths and have learnt that when the whole is divided into ten equal parts then one of those parts is a tenth. Our STEAM this term focusses on Ancient Egyptians. To kick off the topic we went into the playground to experience how hard it would be to transport water with no equipment. This helped us to appreciate that the Ancient Egyptians, who relied so heavily on the Nile, would have needed to create something to easily move water. We are looking forward to finding out more about this ancient civilisation in the coming weeks.

**Star of the week** – Max for an excellent start to life at William Morris. Your enthusiasm is wonderful!

**Star Reader** – Kacper for consistently reading at home and excellent contributions in our reading lessons.

**Star Writer** - Lachlan for making huge improvements in his speed whilst keeping presentation beautiful.



## Shakespeare:

We're happy to be back in school and to have started a new topic in STEAM that has captured our imaginations and interests already. We're learning about the Blitz during WW2 and as part of this, we will be designing and building WW2 bomb shelters. Our writing is also linked to this topic, as we work towards writing Blitz setting descriptions using figurative language, cohesive devices and a range of punctuation. In maths, we are exploring whole-part relationships and in Reading we continue to practice our retrieval and inference skills using a range of texts. Our focus for PE this term is netball and we will also adding Music lessons into our busy timetable. In Music, we are using a website called Charanga to explore Jazz.

**Star of the Week** - Thomas, for his continued engagement in whole-class discussions

**Star Writer** - Ruby, for exploring advanced vocabulary in her writing

**Star Reader** - Tommy, for making impressive progress in his reading

## Forest School

This week group B finally joined Forest School and they were all excited and keen to participate on a sunny, autumnal morning. They chose 'Team Trees' as their group name, and, after going through all the boundaries and safety procedures, we had a good run around playing 'Fox and Rabbit'. After this, we crushed a pumpkin, that was otherwise destined for the bin, broke it into smaller pieces and placed them in strategic places to feed our permanent residents: the badgers! Some went on to get some more food for them, while others went on a scavenger hunt and built our shelter to get ready for when the weather turns into rain. We also had a good go at climbing trees, before finishing off our session with some hot chocolate and biscuits!



## School Dates 2021 - 2022

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

## Notices

### New Parents Open Afternoon

All prospective reception parents for September 2022 and all prospective Nursery parents for January 2022, are invited to attend our school open afternoon, on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30pm. There is no need to book, but we do ask that groups are limited to two adults per family to help keep numbers at an appropriate level.

### Key Dates

**November 9<sup>th</sup>** – Open Afternoon (Reception 2022 & Nursery)

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** – Flu Immunisations for YR to Y6

**February 7<sup>th</sup>** – Year 5 Bikeability

**June 20<sup>th</sup> to June 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Year 6 Residential

**June 27<sup>th</sup> to June 29<sup>th</sup>** – Year 4 Residential

### Parent Teacher Meetings

REMINDER – Please book your Parent Teacher Meetings as soon as possible. They can be booked through School Cloud, following this link:

<https://williammorris.schoolcloud.co.uk>

Have a lovely half term!

Kind regards, Ally Johns and the School Team