

25th January 2019

Kandinsky: To launch our STEAM challenge, yesterday Kandinsky participated in a Science experiment to predict and measure our far our Superhero aeroplanes would fly in metres. We found out how forces and gravity affected the results.

In Literacy we have sequenced one of the dilemmas that Superkid has spotted with his x ray vision and are writing solutions as to how he will save the children from walking the plank and being fed to the sharks. We are working hard to become more independent to use our RWI phonics to write sentences using conjunctions and adjectives.

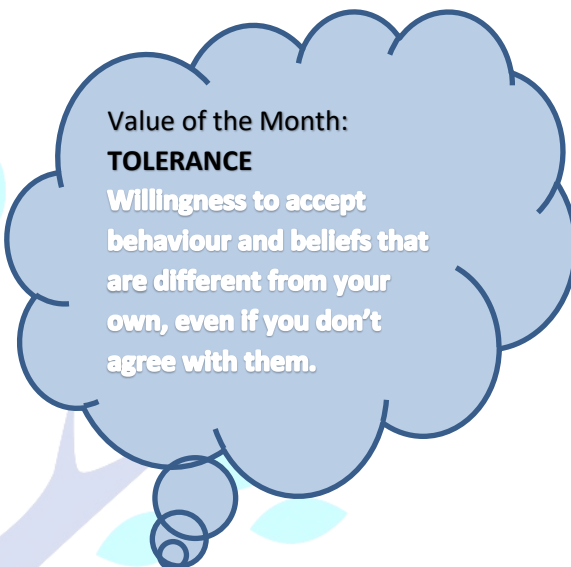
Solving subtraction calculations using resources and strategies such as identifying 'magic ten' with tens frames and counting back to check our answers using number lines. Identifying the whole and parts using bar and cherry models has been our learning focus in maths.

Darwin: This week we have started our new topic on 'Vets and Pets', which the children have been very enthusiastic about! We have looked through a number of items from a real Veterinary surgery and been using them in our new role play area- stethoscopes, gloves, masks and many books and leaflets. The children have been following our 'Value of the Month' and shown great Tolerance with each other when playing in the role play area. It has been a busy part of the classroom this week!

If your child has a toy pet that that they wouldn't mind contributing to the role play area, then we would love to include it in our work. Next week we will be creating questions to ask a real Vet on an email and we eagerly await a visit from a Vet over the next few weeks.

In Reception, our focus number for the week has been 15. We have all been using the Numicon and counting equipment to make a variety of numbers and patterns. We continue to practice our sounds every day and we ask that you work with your child on the sounds that have been learnt so far. Please don't forget to read with your child every night and enjoy the books that have been sent home!

Seacole: What a creative week Seacole class have had?! They have been perfecting their setting description and learning about how we revise and edit pieces of writing. We are excited to share these with you soon! In maths we are becoming more confident in adding two 2 digit numbers together by using a strategy that is more efficient than counting in ones. Seacole class have shown what fantastic artists they are and have produced some exceptional drawings of Captain James Cook's ship the Endeavour and have worked hard and showed great determination when they were challenged to create a basket out of paper!



Valentina: Valentina have spent a lot of time this week making sure their basic skills are tip-top for writing. We have been exploring related number facts in Maths, and noticing how the 4 times table can help us work out the 8 times table. We found out about the letters of Pliny the Younger, which helped us to learn about the eruption of Vesuvius in 79AD. We had a look at an earthquake model to help us understand how tectonic activity can cause natural disasters. We have been watching Newsround a few times a week to learn about current affairs, and we have discussed the ways in which people have encouraged tolerance, and some of the times in history people have failed to show tolerance and compassion to others.

DaVinci: The highlight of DaVinci's week was the drama performances and workshop put on by teachers and pupils from Tudor Hall School. We were treated to some excellent and thought provoking plays before the children were given a workshop coached by the girls from Tudor Hall, culminating in a performance from each small group. The children thoroughly enjoyed it. We have thought a lot about our value of the month - 'tolerance' this week, ahead of our class assembly next week. We thought particularly about Rosa Parks and the brave example she set in standing up to intolerance; the children were genuinely shocked to hear of the racist elements which existed in American society during that time.



Shakespeare: What a great week Shakespeare class have had. During our English lesson we have written diaries based around being evacuated. We have all worked hard to include powerful vocabulary and factual information. We have all worked with fractions, adding, subtracting and multiplying proper and improper ones. Our wizard challenges have included multiplying fractions by a whole number!!!!

During topic lessons, the children have been exploring propaganda and looked at examples of posters. Next week we are going to create our own versions using water colours and stencils. Tuesday saw us visit Tudor Hall art department where we spent the morning creating WW2 inspired clay tiles - I cannot wait to see the finished baked tiles.

Times Table Rock Stars for Year 2 to 6: William Morris Primary School has recently joined the Times Tables Rock Stars programme to support your child with their multiplication and division facts. The curriculum states that all children should be able to recall accurately their multiplication and division facts up to 12x12 by the end of



year 4. Therefore daily times table practice is crucial. When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more fluent they are with their facts the easier they will access other aspects of the curriculum.

Times Table Rock Stars is an online fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils master the times tables! It lets them create and

build a cool avatar, join a battle of bands against other classes and compete in times tables festivals against children around the world!

You can download this app on any mobile or tablet device just search Times Table Rock Stars in your app store. Also your child can play it on a computer or a laptop at <https://trockstars.com/login>

Children from Year 2 to 6 have been given their usernames and passwords and are ready to rock! Please encourage your child to go on this fantastic online resources as often as possible. We advise that your child does a little bit of times table practice at least four times a week. In our experience, short bursts of daily practise are more effective than spending hours once a week.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to see your class teacher.

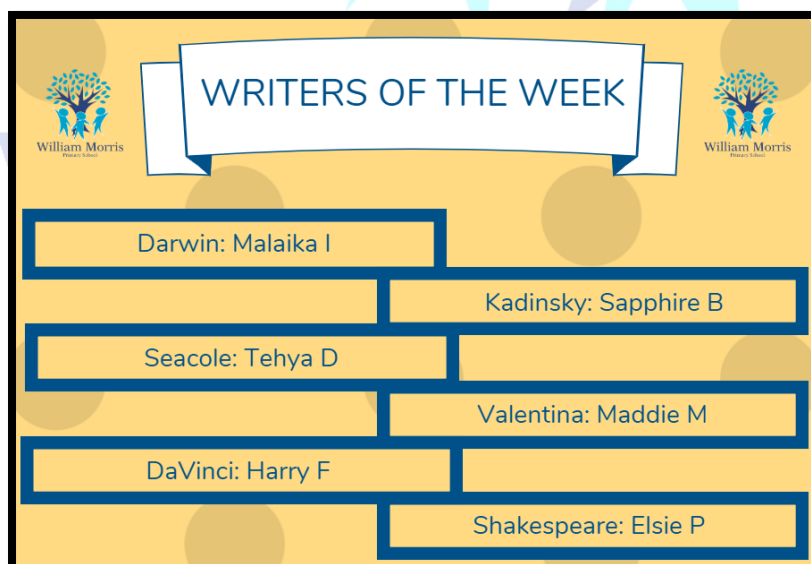
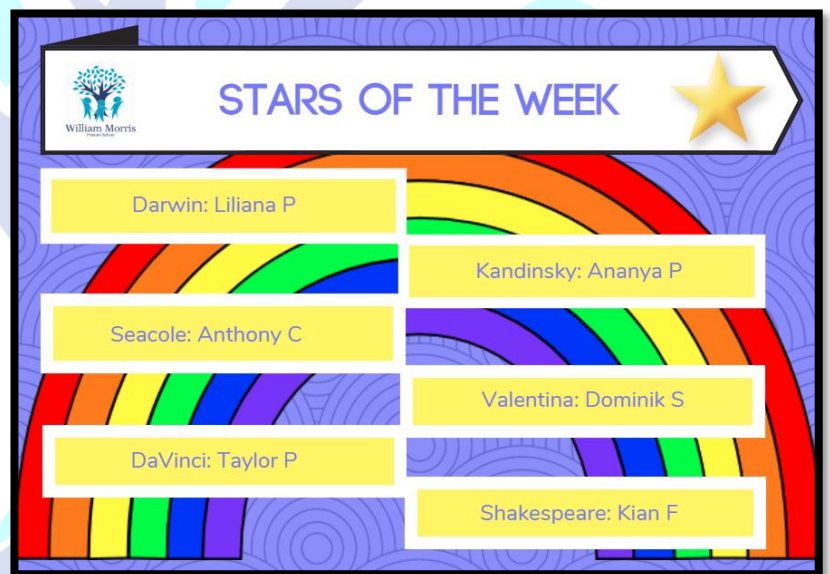
Key Dates for your Diary:

- Wednesday 6th February, 3:20pm – Y1 Phonics National Test, Parent Meeting (Crèche provided)
- Friday 15th February, last day of Spring Term 1
- Monday 25th February, first day Spring Term 2

Have a lovely weekend!

Hiddleston

Julie Hiddleston and the school team





CLUBS

at William Morris
Primary School

All clubs for this term, from now until December run from 3:15-4:15pm

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Choir Yrs 3-6 Free of charge	Football £3 per session Netball	Oxford United Football Ladies Invitation only, date to be advised	Dance Club £3 per session

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 MJmusicsservices@aol.com

William Morris
Primary School