



**Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser**

William Morris Primary School  
William Morris Way  
Tadpole Garden Village  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN25 2PP

**Date: 5th September 2025**

# Newsletter

Dear Families,

We have had a very creative week learning about our class artists and today we found: Roman's on the field, a Day of the Dead dance in the hall and Banksy artists on the playground!



I hope you and your children have had a lovely summer break. It has been wonderful to have the children back in school. All classes throughout the school have returned with enthusiasm and a keenness to get to know their new teachers and TAs. It is also exciting that our school is now at full capacity with classes from nursery to year 6.

Over the holidays, we were pleased to have an outdoor cabin installed onto our playground near the hall. This extra room will be used in a variety of ways as well as an extra space for children who attend after school club.

**We look forward to working with you and your children this year and into the future as we develop our school. If you have any questions, ideas or concerns please do let us know.**

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Fraser, Headteacher

## Rolling Lunch Year 1 to 6



As part of our OPAL lunch programme, we have a rolling lunch for children in Y1-Y6 which builds their independence. This proved to be a very successful approach last year.



Rolling lunch gives the children more autonomy over choosing the time they eat lunch. At 12pm all children go onto the playground and can either line straight up for lunch if they are hungry, or go and play and come in for lunch a little later. At 12:40pm a bell is rung, as a reminder for any children who have not yet eaten.

As each child comes in to collect their lunch, their name is marked off so that we can ensure every child has eaten by the end of the lunch hour. Feedback from the children has been really positive and we have found this system much quicker and means the children have extended time to play.

Year 1 children have been great at joining in rolling lunch this week.

Reception and Nursery will have lunch together at 11:30am.

## Meet The Teacher Year 1 – 6



We have planned 'Meet the Teacher' sessions to enable parents to meet their child's new class teacher and hear a little about the learning planned this year. If parents are unable to attend we will send out the powerpoint afterwards. Topic **knowledge organisers** will also be available on the class pages of the school website.

Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> 2:30pm	Year 3
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> 2:30pm	Year 6
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Reception Phonics Meeting
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> 2:30pm	Year 5
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> 2:30pm	Year 1
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> 2:30pm	Year 2
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> 2:30pm	Year 4

## Communication

Our main communication method is via email which we use to ensure you are up-to-date with information and news. If you change your email address or your contact details change, please let the office know. All newsletters will be sent out on email and put on the school website—please read these carefully for information. Dates will be added to the diary dates page of the newsletter and updated each fortnight. In case of an emergency/school closure, we also use an emergency text message.

## Drop Off and Pick Up

Please let the staff member on duty know if your child is going home with someone else. If pick up arrangements change during the day, please ring the office so we are informed. We will not let your child go home with anyone we are not expecting to collect.

## Coats

Please can you make sure your child brings a named waterproof coat and jumper to school EVERY DAY as the weather is very changeable. A Pac-a-Mac can be kept in school if this helps.



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### **Absence**

Schools cannot authorise absences, including holidays, in term time. Any requests for pupil leave of absence during term time should be made in advance; please collect a form from the school office. If your child needs to be absent from school for a medical appointment, please let the office know. If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason you should call the school office before 9.00am on the first day of absence. You will need to either provide a return date for your child or contact the office on each morning of your child's absence. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must stay away from school for 48 hours after the last episode.

### **Attendance Legislation**

In line with the most recent legislation, *Working Together to Improve School Attendance*, requests for absence to attend a holiday during term time will not be authorised. If an absence is not authorised, you could be at risk of receiving a Penalty Notice.

A Penalty Notice is a fixed fine issued by Swindon Borough Council following the school's notification of a pupil's unauthorised absence. Please note that these fines increased on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024, the fine will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. A Penalty Notice will be issued to each parent for each child. There is no option to pay a reduced fee for a second offence. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice could result in prosecution through the magistrate's court.

Please find link to our attendance policy here: [School Attendance Policy](#)

### **Car Parking**

Our school car park has a limited number of spaces, which means we need families to walk, cycle or scoot to school where possible.



Please could we ask:

- If you are waiting at the classroom gate, please stand to the side to enable kiss and drop children to walk independently from their car to the gate
- Please use kiss and drop at your allocated time: YR, Y1, Y2 from 8:30-8:40, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 8:40-8:50am
- Please do not come into the car park before 3pm to collect KS2 children (unless collecting siblings) - this will allow some YR and KS1 parents to vacate spaces for KS2 parents to use
- For whole school events, please walk, scoot or cycle to school to leave the spaces we have for blue badge holders.
- Under no circumstances, please do not use the Tadpole Surgery or neighbouring school's car parks. This can result in patients missing urgent appointments or members of school staff being unable to begin work on time.
- All drivers to drive at 5mph or slower to ensure the safety of our children

## Helpful Reminders for the Start of the New Academic Year

### Naming your child's property

We have a box for unnamed lost property in the school foyer. Items that are named are returned to the appropriate classes. To increase the chance of lost items being retrieved, please name everything including all clothing, lunch boxes, water bottles, shoes and even scooters – all of these have been mixed up in the past!



### School Uniform

The children are looking very smart in their William Morris school uniforms. Please could we request that children with long hair have their hair tied up and use small hairbands and bows. For PE lessons, please can you ensure the children have white t shirt, navy shorts, daps/trainers in a small bag. Please see further details on this page of our school website: [School Uniform | William Morris \(williammorrisprimary.co.uk\)](http://williammorrisprimary.co.uk)

### School Milk

If you would like your child to have school milk and have not already registered them, please go to [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) and you will be able to set them up. Children over the age of 5 in all year groups can also have milk if parents choose to pay for it.



### Birthdays

As a healthy school and due to allergies, please could we ask that children do not bring sweets or cakes in for their birthdays. We will celebrate the children's birthdays with them in school and sing to them as a class. Some parents have sent a book in for the child to give to the class, which can go in the class book corner to celebrate their child's birthday which the children have enjoyed, parents are welcome to do this if they wish to.



### Water and Snacks

Your child is only allowed plain tap water in school, not juice or flavoured water.

Reception and KS1 children are provided with a piece of fruit or veg every day.

**Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children can bring in their own healthy snack for break time. We prefer this to be fruit or vegetables but it must be a food that is healthy.**





## Packed Lunches

School lunches are funded by the Government for Reception, Y1 and Y2 and we encourage all children to book a school lunch. Children in Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 and Nursery are welcome to book and pay for a school lunch.

If they bring a home packed lunch, we have shared our suggested healthy pack lunch policy (please see page below). Please ensure packed lunches do not contain sweets or chocolate or products containing nuts. We ask that chocolate spread is not included in sandwiches as this requires staff to phone home to check it does not contain nuts. We also believe that healthier sandwich fillings are more suitable. Thank you for your support.

### Packed Lunches

We cook school dinners on site and the children love the variety of meals that are on offer. As a healthy school, we aim to provide the children with a well-balanced meal at lunch time, along with a healthy snack, which is provided by the school at break time.

As a school, we hope parents will encourage their children to try the school lunches. We provide a range of meals, including a main meat meal, vegetarian meal, jacket potatoes or sandwiches. These are all followed with a pudding. Hot dinners can be easily booked online using the parent pay app, where you can pick and choose what your child has for lunch each day.

As all parents and carers are aware, a healthy meal is important because it will help children to:

- Be fitter and healthier now and later in life;
- Learn quicker and show positive behaviours;
- Maintain a healthy mental health, leading to a happier life;
- Maintain good oral health.



Where lunch provided by the school is not possible, a child's pack lunch could include:

- One portion of pasta salad, sandwich, bread roll or pitta bread.
- Cooked meat, cheese or egg as a filling in a sandwich.
- One portion of fruit and vegetables e.g. carrot/cucumber sticks, apple, banana etc.
- One portion of yoghurt or cheese.

### Examples of a good packed lunch

#### Example 1-

Ham/cheese/egg/pasta/tuna sandwich  
Yoghurt  
Apple/banana/grapes (cut up)  
Rice cakes/moat loaf

#### Example 2-

Pasta pot  
Cheese squares  
Carrot sticks/Orange/grapes (cut up)  
Rice cakes/malt loaf



School kitchens must adhere to very strict nutritional guidelines about what can and cannot be included in school meals. This includes any salt, sugar and saturated fats. This means that although the children will have puddings or cakes for example, these are sourced and cooked in a healthier way and are presented as part of a balanced menu over the week.

Therefore, to clarify our rules for packed lunches, they cannot include any:

- Nuts (to safeguard those with allergies) this include; nutella, pesto, peanut butter and chocolate spread.
- Sweets and chocolate bars
- Cakes



### Reading Challenge

As a new year begins, so does our reading challenge for pupils from Reception upwards. Please log every day that your child reads at home in their reading record. The number of days your child has read will be counted and logged by their teachers weekly. The more days they read at home, the further through the challenge they will climb!



25 days = Bronze  
50 days = Silver  
100 days = Gold  
150 days = Platinum  
175 days = Diamond  
250 days = Ruby Reader

Their reading challenge progress will be celebrated in our Friday Gold Book Assembly and they will be presented with a bookmark for the level they have achieved.

### Some key points:

- 1 day = 1 point. They cannot get more than 1 point per day.
- Reading looks different: a book, an eBook, phonics cards, tricky word cards, a magazine or even a recipe! If your child has read out of school that day, please log it.
- We will begin counting all reads from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.
- In Key Stage 2, if your child logs their reading themselves, it must be signed by an adult to be counted.

### Reading update

- Reception and Year 1 will bring home a Little Wandle book each week matched to their phonic knowledge. They will also bring home a reading for pleasure book which they will go and choose from the library.
- Reception and Year 1 will continue to be sent home with their Little Wandle Phonics sheet with comments to help support your child at home and a recap of their learning in class. This sheet will provide information with their learning from the week to allow you to recap and revise to further embed their learning.
- Children who are not on the Little Wandle Scheme will have a teacher comment in their reading record once a week, noting how to support your child at home or what we have focussed on in guided reading sessions.



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# School Diary

## September

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm—Year 3 meet the teacher  
Mon 15<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm Year 6 meet the teacher  
Mon 15<sup>th</sup> & Tues 16<sup>th</sup> School photographer  
Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 9am Reception Phonics Meeting  
Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm Year 5 meet the teacher  
Wed 17<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm Year 1 meet the teacher  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Y4 Bikeability  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm Year 2 meet the teacher  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> Y6 Theatre trip  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> 17:30—19:30 GWA open evening  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm Year 4 meet the teacher  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> Nasal flu vaccinations  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Y3 Macmillan coffee morning

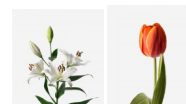
[New dates in red]

### INSET TD DAYS—school closed to children:

- Mon 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026
- Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026



## Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes



### **What have we been learning in Year 1?**

We have had a wonderful time in Year 1 this week, sharing our summer holiday memories and settling back into our learning routine. The children loved talking about their favourite moments from the summer and listening to each other's stories.

We also began exploring our new artist, Claude Monet. The children were fascinated by his beautiful Impressionist paintings, especially his use of light and colour. Inspired by Monet's style, we created our own stunning pieces of art using watercolours. We are so proud of the children and their amazing work!





## Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes



### **What have we been learning in Year 2?**

Year 2 have had a fantastic first week back! We've been exploring the work of Frida Kahlo and Vincent van Gogh, taking inspiration from their art to create our own colourful masterpieces. We have loved experimenting with different styles and techniques. We're especially excited for Messy Day next Monday—don't forget to wear clothes you don't mind getting a little messy! Have a lovely weekend!



CLOVER CLASS

PIC•COLLAGE



WILLOW CLASS

PIC•COLLAGE



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### **Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes**

#### **What have we been learning in Year 3?**



Year 3 have had an excellent first few days back at school. This week we have focused on welcoming the children back to school after the summer holidays; it has been wonderful to see the children settling in and getting familiar with their new teachers, classes and year group.

In Art, we found out all about our artist of the term, William Morris. After finding out that he often incorporates nature within his designs, we went on our own nature walk around the school grounds to hunt for inspiration for our own artwork - just as he did! Then, we used techniques such as sketching and watercolours to create our own William Morris style paintings, using repeated patterns and colours.

In PSHE, we have created our class charters, thinking carefully about how we can make sure our classrooms are positive and happy places to be! The children shared lovely ideas such as 'being respectful', 'looking after our equipment' and 'trying your best even when it is tricky'. We were very impressed with their maturity!

In English, we collaboratively planned a recount all about our summer holidays. We thought about the fun and exciting activities we got up to over the summer and used a combination of pictures and words to map out our writing for next week. We had fun sharing ideas and thinking all the way back to the start of summer!

From the Year 3 Team,

Miss Saldanha, Mr O'Brien, Miss Pass, Miss Nelson





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**Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes**







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### **Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes**



#### **What have we been learning in Year 4?**

Welcome to Year 4!

We have had a fantastic start to the year and have really enjoyed getting to know the children. We have spent time learning our new classroom routines and expectations and have decided together how we should create a positive classroom environment.

We have launched our new topic, I am warrior, with a fantastic dress-up day and invasion games to replicate how the Romans and Celts fought over land. We enjoyed making Roman shields – thank you for the cardboard donations!

We have also really enjoyed researching our class artists, Georges Seurat and Gustav Klimt. On Wednesday, we created some wonderful pointillism inspired by Seurat. We also replicated the tree of life artwork inspired by Klimt.

Some useful information about Year 4:

- P.E. is on a Monday and Thursday – please ensure your child always has their PE kit in school (indoor and outdoor).
- Please can reading books and reading records be in school every day. We will begin counting reads from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

We are very excited about the year ahead and we look forward to working with you. If you ever have any questions or need any information from us, please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Knight, Mr Paget or Mrs Fisher.

Many thanks,

The Year 4 Team.

## Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes





## Year 5 - Thistle and Acorn Classes

### **What have we been learning in Year 5?**



In the first few days of year 5 we've been diving into the exciting world of Pop Art, exploring the work of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. The children learned how Warhol used bold colours and repeated images of everyday objects and celebrities, while Lichtenstein was famous for his comic book-style art filled with dots, speech bubbles, and dramatic expressions. Inspired by their unique styles, the children created their own vibrant Pop Art masterpieces — a wonderful way to begin Year 5!





## Year 6 - Meadow and Brook Classes

### **What have we been learning in Year 6?**

A huge welcome back to our brand new Year 6!



We've had a fantastic start to the new and it has been wonderful to see the children return full of enthusiasm as they settle in. Over the past few days, we have enjoyed exploring the work of two very different artists, Leonardo da Vinci and L.S. Lowry, sparking some great discussions and creativity in the classroom.

We have also introduced our exciting new topic, *¡Hola México!*, which will take us on a journey through the country's rich culture, traditions, and history. The children are already curious and eager to find out more.

This term, our P.E. days are on a Monday (inside gymnastics) and on a Friday, (outside netball). However please ensure kit is in every day.

Many thanks and we look forward to an excellent year! Miss Deakin and Mr Hire



## Attention – all parents

If your child is born between **1st September 2021 – 31st August 2022** they are due to start **Reception in September 2026**.

If your child is currently in **Year 6** – you need to apply for a **Secondary School place for September 2026**.

### School Admissions Drop in sessions

We are holding the following drop in sessions for you to come along and ask any questions you may have on any part of the application process

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
Town Centre Library  
10am-4pm

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October  
North Swindon Library  
10am-2pm

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January  
Town Centre Library  
10am-4pm