



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Date: 11th February 2022

# Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely the last couple of weeks getting back to 'normal', with most staff and pupils back in after Covid. Thank you to parents for your understanding whilst things were a little tricky. We are very much looking forward to a solid term in school next term, where we can focus on learning and supporting the children to progress as much as possible.

Each year we have a School Development Plan which is written to ensure we plan for improvement to different areas of our school. Please find attached our SDP for this academic year. As we have mentioned we are looking into an improved phonics scheme which staff are being trained on next Friday (reminder—school will be closed for pupils). More information will be shared by our Literacy co-ordinators on these changes. **Please could we ask that all reading books are returned to school by Wednesday to be put into the new scheme.**

We are looking forward to a fun last week next week, with Storytelling Week, Reception Space Day, Y1 Superhero Day and Open House.

Have a good weekend!

Mrs Fraser—Headteacher

**Open House**—Thursday 2pm—3pm.

Parents can drop in during this time to share their child's books in their outdoor playground.

Children will also share their Talk4Writing storytelling with parents at YR at 2:15pm, Y1 at 2:30pm, Y2 at 2:45pm.

Nursery—children who are attending the morning session are also welcome to Open House with their parents.

**Children's Mental Health Week**

We have been thinking about our mental health this week during Mental Health Week. Please ask your children what they have discussed in class.

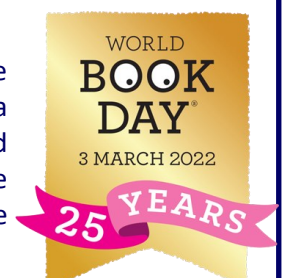
The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is **Growing Together** and is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. To help you support your child's mental health please see the Place 2 Be website:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>



**World Book Day—3rd March 2022**

We are looking forward to celebrating world book day on 3rd March 2022. We would like children and staff to come to school on World Book Day dressed as a character from a traditional fairytale—this doesn't have to be a shop bought outfit, homemade is great and some characters wear normal clothes. Every child will receive a £1 book token and there are some special books published just for world book day that only cost the value of the token, please take a look at the selection here <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>





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## Finances

There has been a huge amount of information in the news recently about energy and food bills increasing. If you are finding the increases difficult, please do speak to us, as there are ways school can support families such as Food Bank vouchers.

If your circumstances have changed and you think your child may be eligible for Pupil Premium, please speak to Mrs Fraser or Mrs Dixon. Parents are able to apply online.

<https://www.swindon.gov.uk/xfp/form/754>

## Dog Mess

We have received reports that there is a lot of dog mess on the walkway and verges between GWA and William Morris which gets on shoes, bikes and scooters and could be a health and hygiene hazard. Please can everyone walking their dog pick up after them. Our School Council are going to be working on producing signs that we can put up to encourage people to pick up their dog mess.



## Internet Safety

It was internet safety day this week. The children discussed keeping safe online and made posters to help them to remember.

**Top Tips for Parents and Carers:** Have a look at the tips and links below with some suggestions on how to get you started.

You and your family can #PlayYourPart in creating a better internet by:

- **Having conversations without judgement:** whether by playing games, watching videos, or doing things your child enjoys, spending time together online is a great way to start conversations about the online world and how they're finding being a part of it. It is important to ask questions and take an interest in what your child enjoys online. An essential part of having this open dialogue is to not judge, even if their behaviour or life online isn't what you wanted or expected. This ensures that your child feels they can come to you if ever they make a mistake or experience a problem online.
- **Knowing where you can learn more about their favourite apps and games:** websites like Common Sense Media or The Family Gaming Data-base can be invaluable sources of information. When your child starts talking about a new game or app, why not do some research into the reporting and blocking options available? Then you can help your child if they come to you with an issue.
- **Getting support if things go wrong:** there are lots of organisations who are there to support you and your family if something has gone wrong. The Report Harmful Content website can help you with issues such as cyberbullying, impersonation and threats. You can report worrying behaviour towards children to CEOP. Find out more on Childnet's Get Help page.
- **Reassuring your child that whatever happens online, you are there to support them:** let your child know that the best way to address any problem they have online, is to tell a trusted adult immediately. For example, this might include someone sending them a friend request; an online message; telling them to visit a specific website, or app; or asking them for their personal information. Reassure them that if anything happens online that online that they are unsure about, or makes them feel worried or upset, they can come to you for help.



## William Morris Primary School Development Plan 2021-22

	Quality of Education	Leadership & Management	Behaviour & Attitudes	Personal Development	Premises & Finance
<b>T A R G E T S</b>	<b><i>Provide a creative curriculum aligned with our curriculum vision on levels of attainment and progress</i></b>	<b><i>Build strong leadership capacity &amp; develop the staff team</i></b>	<b><i>Ethos sets high expectations of behaviour for learning</i></b>	<b><i>Children's character &amp; SMSC is developed through Life Skills curriculum</i></b>	<b><i>Our premises &amp; budget supports teaching &amp; learning SDP successfully</i></b>
<b>O B J E C T I V E S</b>	<p>To develop our EY curriculum in line with new EYFS curriculum</p> <p>Embed KS1 curriculum – coordinators to develop their subject area</p> <p>To begin P4C</p> <p>To develop our tracking &amp; marking assessment system</p> <p>EYFS GLD, phonics, Year 2 SAT are in line National Average</p> <p>To ensure good progress for all children in writing (90%)</p> <p>To develop SEND &amp; intervention systems</p>	<p>To continue to build a growing staff team</p> <p>To plan CPD to develop staff &amp; curriculum</p> <p>To plan additional spend to best support groups of children – incl catch up, PP &amp; Sports Premium</p> <p>To share events &amp; learning with the school community</p> <p>To increase attendance of PP children</p> <p>To develop Safeguarding practise further</p> <p>To develop school meal offer</p> <p>Governors – recruit, induct and develop curriculum knowledge</p>	<p>To develop our behaviour policy &amp; ensure consistency</p> <p>To ensure parental understanding and support of behaviour policy</p>	<p>To embed Life skills in MTPs</p> <p>Develop weekly assembly plans</p>	<p>To develop our outdoor learning environment &amp; group spaces to support learning &amp; children's mental and physical development</p> <p>To ensure building complete for purpose</p> <p>To ensure H&amp;S risk assessments are up to date</p> <p>To ensure good financial planning &amp; liaison with BKT for the successful growth</p>
				<p><b>COVID</b></p> <p>To continue Covid procedures and support children, staff and parents</p> <p>Have blended learning ready when needed</p>	

## Gold Book

Well done to all of the children who were in the Gold Book last week and this week — we are very proud of you and your achievements!

YR	Y1	Y2
Harry	Gracie	Sammy
Aubrey	Grayson	Freddie
Florence	Alice	Adah
Diya	Tyler	Jacob
Emmi	William	Holly
Byron	George	Eden
Erik	Riyansh	Panashe
Raeon		Bella

### Governor Profile

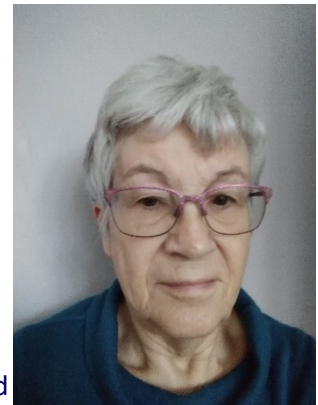
**Chair of Governors—Judith Randell-Sly**

**Chair of Governors for the joint governing body of William Morris and Badbury Park Primary Schools**

Prior to the opening of Badbury Park and William Morris primary schools, in 2019, I was asked to join the Governing Body as Chair. I had previously been Chair of the Blue Kite Trust and before that had been on the Governing Bodies of two other schools and was Chair of one for several years. As a member of the BKT I was involved in the setting up of the two schools from the earliest stage and so am familiar with their journeys from inception to opening and beyond.

In my career I spent almost forty years in the teaching profession, as a primary Teacher in Swindon schools. I eventually became a Deputy Headteacher and for my last few years a Headteacher. This experience has given me an insight into roles and responsibilities of managing a school, but it has highlighted that the needs of the individual children have to be at the heart of everything we do and all the decisions that we make.

Now that I am retired I am able to spend more time on my hobbies, especially country dancing, gardening, walking and making quilts. I am married with three grown-up sons and eight grandchildren.



### Covid and Illness Reminder

We are still having positive cases reported in many classes in the school.

The guidance remains that anyone with potential covid symptoms should stay off school and take a PCR test. Thank you to families taking regular lateral flow tests to identify any asymptomatic cases.



### Nursery—Poppy and Daisy Classes

Last week in Poppy and Daisy Class we had a very unusual visitor- a tiger came to tea, he made a lot of mess and ate all of our snack! This linked into our learning about Chinese New Year and the year of the Tiger. We enjoyed lots of tiger crafts, found out lots of facts about tigers and make our own yummy sandwiches. Thankfully the tiger didn't return and eat our jam sandwiches!

This week we found lots of rubbish in our water tray with our sea animals. We talked about how we can look after our environments and what we should do with rubbish, including recycling. We have enjoyed sorting recycling, making junk models using our recycled materials and thinking about the different animals that live under the sea. Thank you to you all for sending in recycled materials for the children to use this week.

We are currently updating some of our outside areas and if you have any of the following at home it would be gratefully received.

- \* Saucepans, frying pans and kitchen utensils e.g. wooden spoons/spatulas.
- \* Plastic jugs with handles
- \* Smooth pebbles (large enough to paint on)
- \* Materials e.g. sheets
- \* Guttering, plastic tubing.



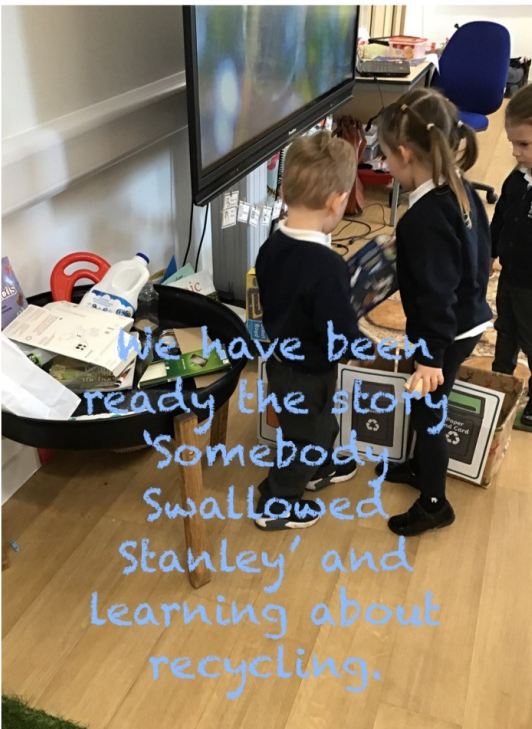
Finally, we would like to welcome Mrs Rees to our nursery team. Mrs Rees works full time and will be mainly based in Poppy Class.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Nursery Team



## Nursery—Poppy and Daisy Classes







## Nursery—Poppy and Daisy Classes

The Tiger Who Came to Tea and Chinese New Year.



Friday Favourites



PIC·COLLAGE



The Tiger Who Came to Tea and Chinese New Year.



PIC·COLLAGE



## Reception

Sunflowers and Bellflowers have been super busy the last two weeks with lots of learning! We read the story 'What the Ladybird heard' and the Ladybird came to visit us in our classroom! She brought us the book and lots of minibeast friends. We have learnt some interesting facts about minibeasts and why they are called minibeasts. To help the Ladybird from the story we drew a picture of our favourite minibeast and had ago at labelling it and some of us wrote a simple sentence.

We celebrated Chinese New Year on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. We enjoyed making our own lanterns, Chinese dragons and having ago at writing our numbers in Chinese writing. We enjoyed listening to the story of Chinese New Year and watching how it is celebrated. We talked about similarities and differences to how we celebrate our own New Year.

In Maths we have been exploring combining two groups together to find the total. We started the week by using two groups of objects and finding how many we had altogether. Once we had mastered this, we used numicon and dominos to combine two groups where the children also used their subitising skills.

Next week we are looking forward to our final week about 'Our World' and exploring space! Don't forget its **Space Day on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February (don't forget your space outfit)** and World storytelling week.

Have a restful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all ready for our last week of Term 3.

The Reception Team





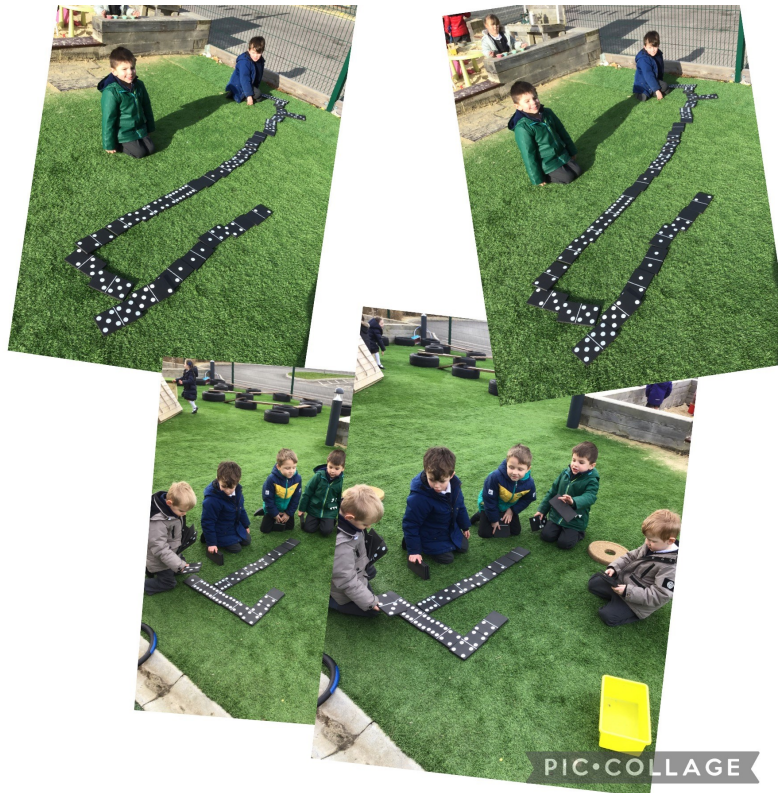
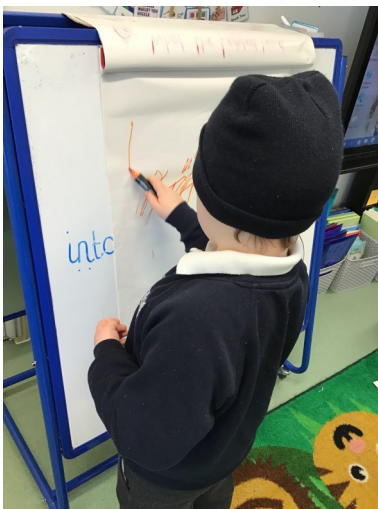
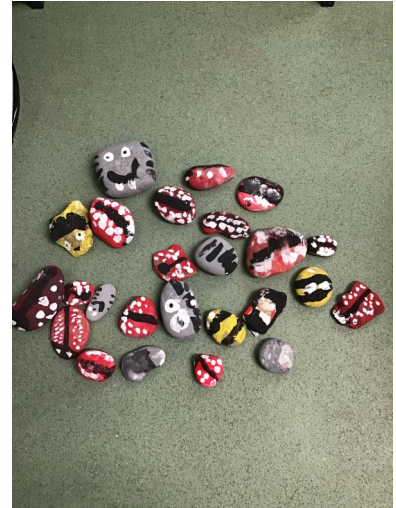


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Reception



PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE



Minibeasts!

PIC•COLLAGE



## Year 1

What a busy couple of weeks we have had in Year 1. After lots of people being away, it has been lovely to all come back together and really get stuck into our topic—Superheroes.

In English we have been learning the story Charlie's Superhero Underpants. We have learnt actions to the story and the children are absolutely amazing at retelling it. In the last week we have begun creating our own stories based on this and we are now going to begin to write these.

In Maths we have been thinking about ordering numbers from biggest to smallest and smallest to biggest. We have also been comparing numbers by recognising which number is less or more than another number. We have continued with our focus on measuring and have been thinking about taller or shorter.

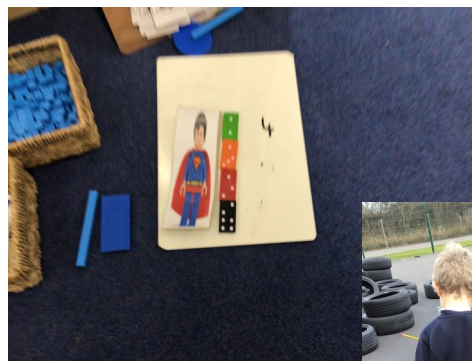
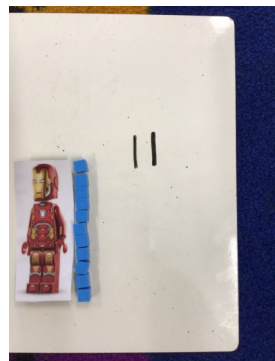
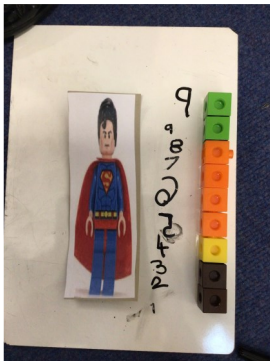
We have been having lots of fun in our topic lessons, we have been discovering which super powers we have inside ourselves! We have been investigating our senses and seeing how much we can rely on one sense at a time. The children absolutely loved it when we had to use the sense of taste to figure out what was on the spoon :)

Have a lovely weekend—the Y1 team





## Year 1





## Year 2

This week has been a busy week in Year 2 – we've looked at Encanto and the songs in the context of mental health and how the characters are feeling. We've also discussed in-app payments and passwords for 'Safer Internet Day.'

In class we have been learning about:

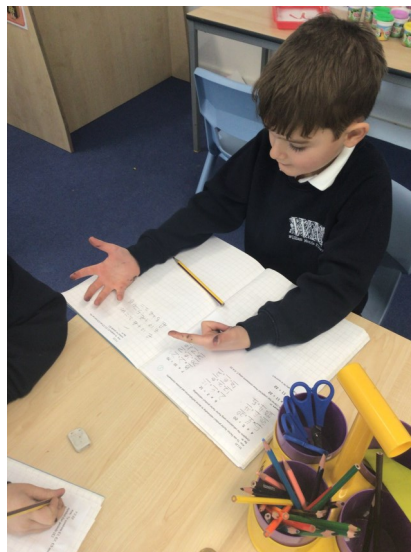
English – We've finished writing the instructions to make our marvellous dishes and have now begun to look at poetry! Our wow lesson, making elephant toothpaste, didn't go off with the bang we were expecting, but we loved watching videos of explosive experiments. We've then looked at the rhyme George chants whilst making his marvellous medicine and thinking about rhyming and nonsense words.

Maths – We have been looking at money and practising drawing the £ symbols. We've been learning to find the sums of different amounts of pounds and pence including notes and coins and used this as an opportunity to practise our addition skills from earlier in the year.

Reading – In reading, we are learning a variety of poems off by heart and thinking about how we perform poetry with expression and eye-contact.

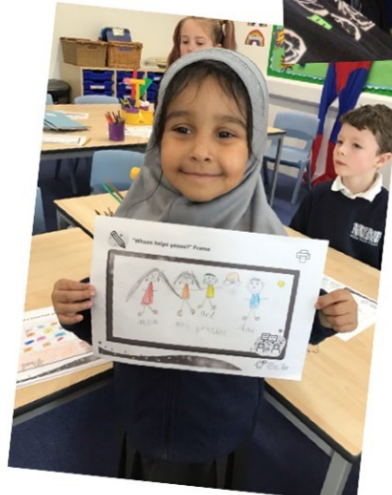
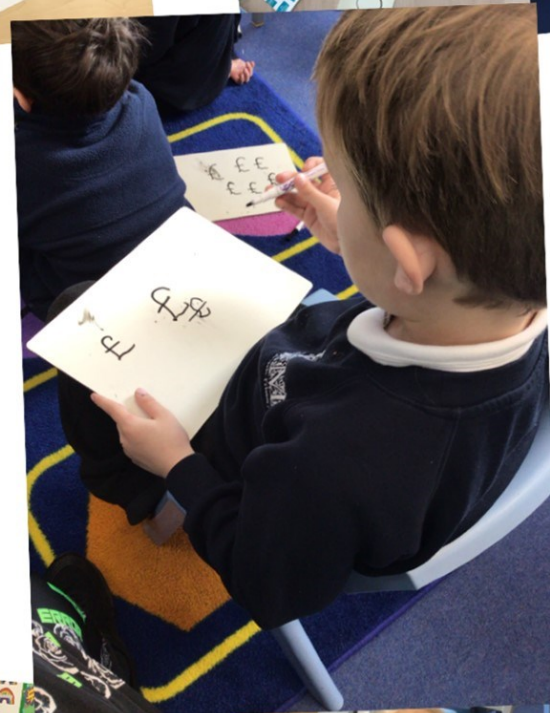
We are looking forward to writing and performing our own poems next week to finish off our Muck, Mess and Mixtures topic.

The Year 2 Team





## Year 2





Year 2





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# School Diary

## February

7th Feb Mental Health week  
8th Safer Internet Day  
14th Storytelling Week  
14th YR space day  
17th Nursery 'Jonathan's Jungle' Visit  
17th Y1 superhero day  
17th 2-3pm Open House  
18th Feb TD day 21st—25th half term  
28th Children back to school

## March

2nd Reception Trip to Fairytale Farm  
3rd World Book Day—dress up theme  
traditional tales  
9th Parent Support Adviser drop ins  
16th Science Day  
18th March—Red Nose day  
24th Governing Body meeting  
25th Make a Noise—info to follow

## April

1st Open House  
5th School photos  
6th Parents Evening  
7th Parents Evening  
8th Easter Egg Hunt  
8th Break up for Easter

### TD INSET Days:

- 18th Feb 22
- 4th July 22
- 25th July 22

[New dates in red]