



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Date: 22nd September 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy couple of weeks. Thank you to everyone who attended the 'Meet the Teacher' meetings this week. We hope you found them a useful way of knowing how to support your child with their learning over this academic year.

The Year 3 children had an amazing trip and enjoyed first hand stone-age experiences at Oxonwood Outdoor Education Centre. You will see from the photos that they made some exciting memories which are already enhancing the standard of work that they are completing back in the classroom.

On Wednesday the whole school were also on their feet for National Fitness Day to burn lots of energy and learn about living a healthy lifestyle. Mr O'Brien declared it a no chair morning!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Fraser, Headteacher



Nursery and Reception After School Club

We are really pleased that our Early Years children have settled in well and have been enjoying our after school club. If you are collecting your child after 5:00pm please walk around to the KS2 gate to collect them. Collections between 3:00 and 5:00pm for Nursery & Reception children is from the Reception class gate. Please note that because of the higher staff-pupil ratios required, we are unable to take ad-hoc bookings for after school club for children who are in nursery or reception classes.



Nut Free School—Pesto

We would like to remind you that we are a nut free school as we have children and staff with nut allergies. Please be mindful of the ingredients of products you put in your child's lunch box and refer to our lunch box guidance on our website. Please note that pesto can contain nuts so please check the ingredient list carefully if including this in your child's lunchbox.





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Knowledge Organisers

Please see the updated class pages on our website to view the maths and topic knowledge organisers to support your children's learning this term.

Blue Badge Spaces

If you are using a blue badge space in our carpark, please ensure your badge is displayed. We need to ensure the spaces are reserved and used by the members of our community who are entitled to use them. Thank you



TD Day

An additional TD Day has been planned for **Friday 9th February 2024**. All TD Days for this academic year can be found on the school diary page of each newsletter and the 'Term Dates' page of our school website.

Macmillan Cancer Coffee morning hosted by Y3

We are really looking forward to our Y3 event next week—please come along to our coffee morning on Friday 29th September in the hall. Please bring change to buy cakes and tea/coffee. Toddlers welcome. Cake donations very welcome on Thursday or Friday! 9-10am for Y3 families 2-3pm for all other families. Please note that only Y3 children will be attending the event.



Class Reps

We will hold our first Class Reps meeting on **Friday 13th October at 2pm**.

We ask for 2 Class Reps per class, who meet with Mrs Fraser each term to discuss ideas and share any general concerns. If you would like to volunteer to be a class rep, please email the school office to express your interest. We welcome new class reps or those who have attended previously.

National Fitness Day

Children throughout the school enjoyed a variety of fitness activities on Wednesday this week. They began the day with an assembly which focussed on different ways to keep ourselves fit and healthy. They then enjoyed exercising in a range of ways. All chairs were removed from classrooms so that the children were up on their feet for the morning. We hope you enjoy looking at the photos on the pages below.



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Parent Support Advisor Sessions

The Lighthouse Team from the BKAT will be offering 1-1 drop in sessions for parents on the first Thursday of every month at our school. These will run from 8:45—9:45am. Please contact the school office if you want to attend the next upcoming sessions.



EYP advert

We are currently advertising for a Early Years Practitioner, please see eteach for the advert.

Thank you to Governors

Thank you to our parent governor Carl Evans and teacher governor Lisa Clark who will now be stepping down from our governing body. Thank you for all of the time you have given over the past 4 years. We really appreciate all of the work you have done to make a difference to our school.

**Thank
You!**

School Council

Congratulations to our new school councillors who have been voted for by their peers.

Mr Boothroyd will meet with the school council every few weeks to discuss ideas to make our school even better :)



Gold Book

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



Parent/Carer Workshop



Promoting
Wellbeing-
Understanding and
Supporting Anxiety

With
The Lighthouse Team



**NO BOOKING
NEEDED**

Thursday
September 28th 2023
9am-10am
William Morris Primary School

Join us for a session focusing on understanding anxiety and equipping yourself with strategies to support your child/ren and boost their wellbeing
Presentation followed by a Q&A session and 1:1 chats with the team

It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.

Place: William Morris Primary School hall

Date: Friday 29th September 2023

Time: Year 3 families 9-10am

Contact: All other families 2-3pm



Simply scan this QR code with your phone
to donate to your host's Coffee Morning.
It's easy, quick and secure. Thank you.



Headline Partners

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



COSTA
COFFEE





Parents and Friends of William Morris Newsletter

This week's news...

September 2023



**We will have a stall at the TGV market on
Sunday 8th October 10.30am - 1pm...
We will be running a bottle tombola!**



**If you would like to donate a bottled item, big or small...
Please bring them to the school office on Friday 6th October.
Please bring on this date only, thank you for your support.**



**Bottles you can donate
include;
Alcohol, soft drinks,
shampoo, shower gel,
beauty products, sauces**



Upcoming PTA Events



October 8th - TGV Market stall
October 10th PTA AGM meeting
(Please see poster)
October (date TBC) - Non-uniform
day for Wiltshire Air Ambulance
November 9th - Bags2School
December (date TBC) - Christmas
Market stall
December (date TBC) - Glamorose
cake van (Christmas theme)

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
JOIN OUR TEAM DON'T
HESITATE TO CONTACT
US TO HELP IN ANY
WAY YOU CAN!**



**YOU CAN EMAIL US:
PTA.AT.WILLIAMMORRIS@GMAIL.COM**

**IF YOU NEED UNIFORM
PLEASE SEE OUR
ATTACHED POSTER WITH
ALL THE DETAILS!**



As always, thank you so much for your support. All proceeds from our events go straight back to the school to provide equipment and resources.



Parents and Friends
of William Morris

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 10th October
From 6.30pm
In the School Hall



Refreshments will be provided.
Any new members are welcome to attend if
they have any questions or want to find out
more about what we have planned.



PRE-LOVED UNIFORM FOR SALE!



ITEMS INCLUDE:

GREY ITEMS: SHORTS, TROUSERS, SKIRTS, PINAFORES

BLUE ITEMS: CARDIGANS, JUMPERS, FLEECES

OTHER ITEMS: BOOK BAGS, PE PUMPS

EMAIL US YOUR REQUESTS AND WE'LL BAG THEM UP
FOR YOU TO BE COLLECTED FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE
(PTA.AT.WILLIAMMORRIS@GMAIL.COM)

WE ONLY ASK FOR A SMALL DONATION OF 50P PER
GREY ITEM AND £1 PER BLUE ITEM.



Registered charity no. 1203063

SIZES 2-9 YEARS



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School Diary

September

27th Y1 trip to Westonbirt
Thur 28th Sept 9:00am YR phonics session
28th Lighthouse parent talk—Anxiety
29th Macmillan Coffee morning hosted by Year 3 classes: 9-10am Y3&4, 2-3pm all other parents

October

Sun 8th PTA TGV Market stall
10th Parents Consultation Evening 2-8pm
10th PTA AGM meeting
17th Flu jabs
Thurs 19th Last day of term—OPEN HOUSE & Fab Finish Y2
Fri 20th TD Day—School closed to pupils
Mon 23rd Half term—school closed for week
Mon 30th First day back—term 2

November

9th Non-uniform for Wiltshire Air Ambulance
9th Bags2School
17th Children in need
23rd Governors meeting

December

5th Dec 2pm YR nativity
6th Dec 2pm YN nativity
7th 9:30am nativity
8th Christmas jumper day
8th 2pm Open House
11th 2pm KS2 Carol Concert
12th 2pm Y1&2 nativity
14th 9:30am Y1&2 nativity
15th Break up for Christmas

TD INSET Days 2023-24

- Friday 20th October 2023
- Wednesday 3rd January 2024
- Friday 9th February 2024
- Monday 1st July 2024

(1 more TD Day to be confirmed)

Please see 2023—2024 term dates on the school website. Please note that these are different to the SBC term dates.

[New dates in red]

Nursery—Daisy and Poppy Classes

What have we been learning in Nursery?



Wow! What a busy couple of weeks we have had. We have spent the last couple of weeks getting use to our classes and our routines, learning how to put our things in our drawers, on our pegs and are beginning to find some of our belongings independently.

Last week we learnt all about colours and talked about what our favourite colours are. We had a very messy week, mixing and exploring what different colours we can make with paint. We learnt about our artist, Kandinsky. We used paint, crayons and objects to try making our own artwork.

This week we have been learning about our families, we have loved talking about you! Thank you for all the family photos that have been sent in, if you haven't dropped one in yet, please send them in so we can talk about them and then display them in the class.

Reminders:

- Please ensure that you child only has water in their bottles.
- Name **all** belongings including shoes and hats.
- Please ensure all children have named wellies and waterproofs to stay in school and please bring a coat in everyday too.
- 30-hour afternoon snack needs to be fruit or vegetable – grapes must be cut in half (lengthways).
- Thank you for your continued support, we can't wait to see what else this term brings! The Nursery Team :)



Kandinsky
painting



Nursery—Daisy and Poppy Classes

What have we been learning in Nursery?



Nursery—Daisy and Poppy Classes

What have we been learning in Nursery?



Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?

Sunflower and Bellflower class children are settling into school brilliantly. We enjoy school lunches and are getting used to the routines of the day. We loved our tour of the whole school and getting to play on the big playground after we eat our lunch. We have started our Little Wandle Letters and Sounds lessons and will be sharing more information about phonics at our meeting next Thursday 28th September at 9am, letting you know how we teach and how you can support your child at home. Here is a link about how you can successfully share books with your child. <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



Thanks to all the parents who have sent in wellies and waterproofs, if you have not yet done so, please can you send some in as soon as possible. We want all children to access outside provision even when the weather turns wetter and colder. Separate waterproof trousers and tops are much easier for children to put on independently. This week we have had a couple of accidents when children have not been able to get out of their onesies in time to get to the toilet.

We know how much there is to think about when your child starts school, here are a few reminders from us.

Reading logs and school books need to be brought into school every day, books will be taken out on a Wednesday and a new book sent home on Thursday each week. We will not send a new book until the previous one has been returned.

We visit the school library on Friday and change reading for pleasure books then, children will bring home a new book to share each week as long as they have returned the previous one.

Please do not put your child's water bottle in their book bag as if it leaks it can ruin our reading books which are costly to replace.

Please send your child with a coat every day, we use the waterproofs and wellies for play in our outdoor area, they do not take the muddy/sandy ones to lunch and then out on the playground.

Thanks for your continued support, we look forward to seeing you all at the phonics meeting next week.

Mrs Clark, Miss Gosling and Mrs Cantillon





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Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?



Lovely lunches



PIC•COLLAGE



National fitness day!



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

What have we been learning in Year 1?

Wow, what a busy first two weeks we have had in Year one! To start off our time in Year one we have learnt about two different **artists** Matisse and Monet and created their beautiful artwork.

Matisse used scissors to create his pictures by cutting out a range of shapes. For Monet we used water colours to paint his bridge over a pond of water lilies.

In **English**, we started our talk for writing to retell the story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have acted the story out using actions and created our own story maps. This week we have using adjectives to describe the wolf and the forest.

In **Maths** we have been counting up to 30 and started using number lines. We have been practising estimating using a blank number line.

In our **topic** lessons we have been creating enchanted woodland maps, we have learnt about plant parts and where they live, we have also looked into seasons. In our **PE** lessons we have been doing dance. We have started to learn a woodland dance, where we pretended to move like different animals.

We have had a great first few weeks of school and look forward to next week for our trip to Westonbirt!

Reminders:

- Please read with your child at home little and often and write in their reading record.
- Please remember to put the reading books back in bookbags so we can change them toward the end of the week.
- Westonbirt trip – waterproof clothing, named water bottle and wellies.



Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

What have we been learning in Year 1?



Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

What have we been learning in Year 2?



Year 2 have had a great few weeks continuing to settle into our new classes and exploring our Muck, Mess and Mixtures topic. The children have really enjoyed producing different pieces of creative artwork which we can't wait to show you later this term.

In our lessons, we have been learning about:

English – Instruction writing. We have learned sets of instructions for how to make disgusting worm pies. We have been focussing on capital letters and full stops to punctuate our sentences, as well using our phonics to spell words correctly. In our instructions, we are including a 'What you need' section where we are using bullet points. In our 'What you do' sections we are including time connectives (eg. first, next, then, finally) and imperative verbs (eg. slice, place, sprinkle, leave).

Maths – We have been looking at the place value of 2-digit numbers. We have talked about tens and ones (eg. 35 = 3 tens and 5 ones) and how to read and write numbers in digits and words. More recently, we have been identifying and estimating 2-digit numbers on number lines (0-100) as well as comparing numbers using symbols (< > =) and ordering numbers by their size.

Science – We are learning about the properties of everyday materials. We have been on a material hunt around the school and considered why objects are made out of different materials. This week, we have investigated how we can change the shape of materials by twisting, stretching, squashing and bending.

PE – We have been developing our teamwork skills by working in groups to achieve a goal. It has been lovely to see the children communicating well in such a respectful way. On Wednesday, we celebrated National Fitness Day by doing lots of exercise throughout the day. When we came into school all the chairs were gone so we had to keep moving and stay on our feet all morning! A little bit tiring, but lots of fun!

Thank you to the parents who were able to make it to the Meet the Teacher meeting on Monday, it was great to see so many of you there. If you were not able to attend and have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. We look forward to working together for the rest of this year!

The Year 2 Team :)

Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

What have we been learning in Year 2?

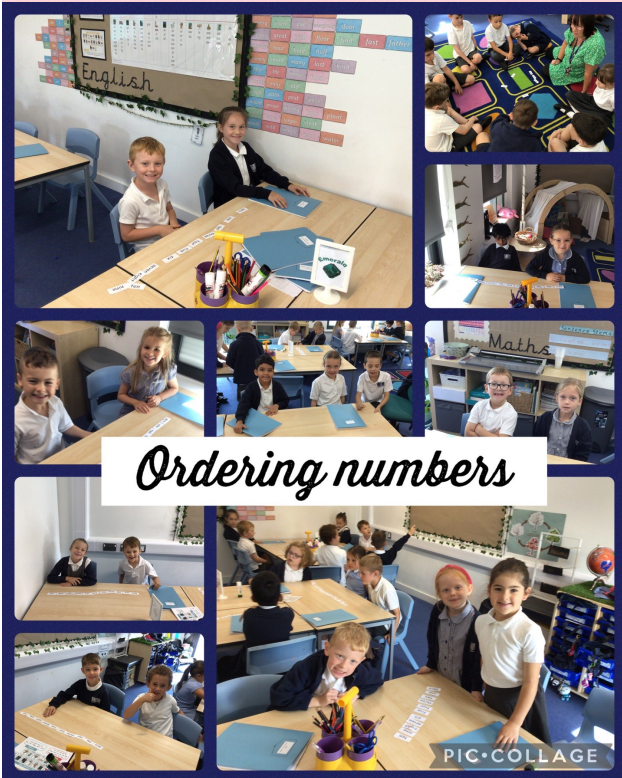
Retelling the story of The Good Samaritan!



We had lots of fun 😊



FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE TOAST



Ordering numbers



Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?



We have had a very busy time in Year 3 over the last two weeks.

We had the most fantastic time at Oxenwood Outdoor Education centre. Not only did we shoot a bull with a bow and arrow and build our own shelters, but we found a stone age man in the woods! As we explored in the woods, we came across a shelter and were all really curious with what we could see. Imagine our surprise when we then spotted a man foraging nearby, some of us were a little nervous but not as scared as the man seeing us. We were fascinated watching him make a fire and then prepare and cook a fish he had caught. We have to say all the staff on our trip were so proud of the whole of Year 3 for their fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm on the day.

In **science** we have been very interested in finding out about nutrition and diet. We have explored the changing diets of animals over the year, looking at how seasons impact food available to animals. All were very good at sorting foods into the healthy plate categories, and we all shared some lovely healthy meals we enjoy at home.

Maths has been a busy time looking at place value in 3-digit numbers. Unlike most of our maths lessons we have been doing lots of writing the last two weeks as we have been learning to write numerals in words. We are now moving on to looking more at number lines and counting in steps forward and backward with 50 and 100.

Next week, Year 3 are very excited to host our **MacMillan coffee morning**. Please do come along and watch us host our first event. We would gladly accept any cake donations to help us out next week.

Year 3 & 4 coffee morning is 9-10am

Reception, Year 1 and 2 is 2-3pm

Many thanks, The Year 3 Team



Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?



Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

What have we been learning in Year 4?



We have had a fantastic two weeks in Year 4, getting stuck in with our new topics and cementing our routines. In **English**, we have been learning a text about a young boy from Roman Britain called Sulus. Children have now begun to innovate this story, making changes to put their own spin on it and some of their ideas have been amazing! We are really looking forward to next when they will complete their invention element of writing, where they will write a completely new story following the structure of Sulus' Warning.

In **Maths**, we have been laying the foundations for the year to come by looking at place value. The children have been extending their knowledge base from Year 3 by looking at 4-digit numbers. They have been investigating the value of different digits and learning how to write large numbers as words. Our biggest challenge this week has been placing 4-digit numbers on number lines and working out missing numbers based on the increments, but Year 4 has been awesome at tackling this challenge head on.

Our topic this term is based on the Romans and we have been doing plenty of activities around this. In **History**, children have learned about the different types of gladiator, who they were and the perilous fate that they suffered. In **Geography**, we have explored the terrain of Italy and discussed how that benefited the Roman Empire in its early formation. Finally, in **Art** we looked at the various designs of Roman coins before sketching out our own. The children then used clay to sculpt their designs.

Just a few reminders for this term:

- Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday for Apple class and Thursday and Friday for Blackberry class. PE kits can be kept in school for the duration of term.
- Both Apple and Blackberry class will dismiss from Blackberry classroom onto the playground

Thank you to all of those who joined us for the 'Meet the Teacher' this week, whether online or in person. If you weren't able to make it or still have further questions, please don't hesitate to grab a member of the Year 4 team.

Many thanks, Year 4 Team





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Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

What have we been learning in Year 4?



In Year 4 we made our own coins out of clay using Ancient Roman coins as a point of inspiration and reference.



Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks; playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

18
CENSORED

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary; emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 16 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipol.app/about/privacy.html>

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful; if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable; what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

Neurodiversity Home 101:

Promoting listening and sharing

Do-IT>

Re-voicing

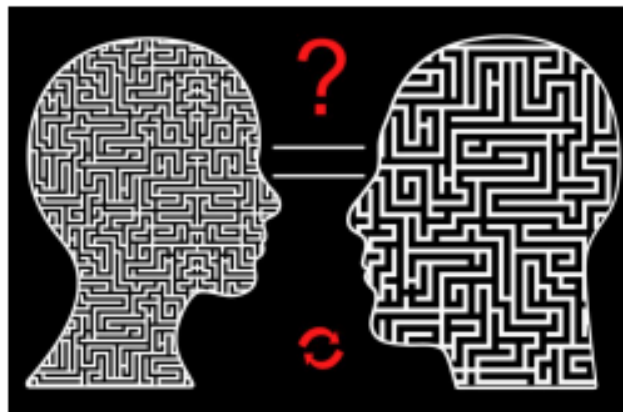
Repeat what has been said
Check your child is correct what they have heard.

Waiting

Allow extra time to respond. We sometimes jump into quickly

Re-framing

Repeat what has been said but reframe it
"I think you said xx; is that right?"



Shared working

Think of some creative projects
You can do together or with another child and discuss ideas and create a plan.

Reasoning

Ask your child why they came to a specific conclusion they have made to encourage reasoning skills.

Turn taking

Make some cards on different topics.
Use a timer and encourage your child to talk on a topic for 1 minute and then swap around.



Train to be a teacher

Transform your future and the lives of our pupils with our Teacher Training programme starting in September 2024.

We are partnering with Ambition Institute to provide teacher training across our schools. This programme will allow you to take the next step in your teaching career by training to become a qualified teacher.

Scan the QR code to find out more about shaping futures, including yours, today.

You can also email inspire@bluekitetrust.org to discuss this further and ask any questions you may have.

Qualify as a primary or secondary teacher in 12 months.

Benefit from evidence-based, flexible learning online and in-person.

Achieve qualified teacher status (QTS) with a postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE).





#THISGIRLCAN
#GIRLSRUGBY

GIRLS ONLY RUGBY TRAINING

Open to girls of all ages
Training every Friday @ 7pm
Swindon RFC

