



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Date: 23rd September 2022

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great fortnight as the children have continued to settle into their new classes. I hope you read the PTA newsletter about the success of the Summer Festival and I would like to share



my gratitude again for all of the support and money raised over the course of the day. This will really help us with the purchase of reading books for the children.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Meet the Teacher sessions. We hope you found these useful and enjoyed hearing about what your child will be learning this year and meeting their lovely new teachers! The Y1, Y2 and Y3 powerpoints have now been emailed out to parents.

Fab Finishes

As in previous years we will continue our 'Open House' sessions each half term where parents come into school to have a look at children's learning and displays. During the year, Teachers will also chose two topics to arrange a 'Fab Finish' to share with parents. This will be a cumulation of children's learning during the topic and will be shared in a fun way - for example as an art gallery, performing songs, making speeches, sharing cooking etc.

Staffing updates

We are very excited to share that Mr O'Brien will be on paternity leave for 2 weeks from next week. We wish him and his partner well with the birth of their baby. Also Miss Cooke has a growing bump and is expecting a baby in January :)



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 30th 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 Y2 & Y3 parent

2-3pm for YN, YR & Y1 parents

We hope you enjoy the next couple of weeks now that the nights are drawing in and we can begin to enjoy the signs of Autumn.

Best Wishes, Mrs Fraser



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Parent Support Adviser Sessions

We are pleased to share that our Parent Support Advisers are leading sessions for parents on Sleep and Anxiety in our school hall. If you are interested in attending, please put these dates in your diary and a link will be sent to parents to sign up nearer the time:

2pm 8th November **Sleep**

2pm 17th November **Anxiety**

School Website

The school website is currently being updated, so please check the class pages over the coming weeks to see information about how to support your child's learning.

Useful Guides

Mrs Day has recently found a very useful website that contains a range of guides and ideas for neuro-divergent children, however, many of the ideas are applicable for all children. Please see one of the useful guides on the page below about getting ready for school in the morning.



Harvest Festival

We will be supporting the Swindon Food Collective (Swindon's Food Bank) for our harvest festival this year. We would be really grateful for any donations that are listed on the flyer below. Please can these be brought to school during the week commencing the 10th October. Thank you.

Absence

Please remember to contact the school on the first day of absence to provide the reason for the absence and to give an update on each subsequent day of absence. In the case of gastric illnesses, please keep your child away from school until they have been clear of sickness/ diarrhoea for a full 48 hours. If you are unsure about whether your child needs to be kept off school please refer to this NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

WM PTA Meeting

Friday 7th Oct 8:45am in the hall—anyone interested in finding out more

Our previous PTA committee have stepped down after an amazing 3 years. In order to ensure our PTA continues, we would like to invite any parents who are interesting in becoming part of the committee or finding out more about the PTA for a cup of tea/coffe on Friday 7th October at 8:45am in the school hall.

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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!



House Teams

As part of our behaviour policy, children will be awarded house point for amazing learning or showing Life Skills such as kindness or perseverance. Any adult in the school can award a child a house point. These will be collected each week and the winner announced in Gold Book Assembly. The half term winning house will be allowed to wear home clothes the first Friday back to school. Houses are named after animals on the William Morris designs—after a secret vote we have the following House Teams:

Foxes Swans Owls Lions

Our Mission: To reduce the impact of food poverty on people in crisis in the Swindon and district area.



HARVEST DONATIONS 2022 FLYER

Each year your organisation collects non-perishable, tinned and packet food which is then donated to the Swindon Food Collective (Swindon's food bank). We then distribute your donated items to those in need, helping individuals and families that are finding it hard to feed themselves because of low wages, family crisis, delayed payments, redundancy, bereavement and/or sickness and the current cost of living crisis.

HOWEVER THINGS HAVE CHANGED THIS YEAR.

Firstly, please note that we currently **have plentiful supplies of cereal, pasta, tinned soup and baked beans.**

Secondly, we continue to be fortunate in receiving great support from supermarkets through customer donations hence why this year, **we are asking for a mixture of food related items and household goods/toiletries to help keep families safe and well within their homes.** Many people have limited amounts of or are unable to afford cleaning products and toiletries on a regular basis.

Thank you as always for your support.

Swindon Food Collective Is In Most Need Of:

Cleaning cloths/Anti Bac wipes	Household Cleaners	Laundry pods / powder / liquid/conditioner
Wash & Go 2in1 Shampoo / Conditioner	Deodorant (male & female)	Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
Surface Cleaners	Toilet Rolls	Shower gel (male & female)
Biscuits	Tinned Fruit	Small Jars of Coffee
Tinned Meats	Tinned Potatoes	Small Bags of Sugar

Why is getting ready for school so stressful?

Why are mornings so stressful?

It's a funny thing that time in the morning always seems to go faster than the evening when we are getting kids sorted, packing bags and running in different directions!

- If you are feeling stressed, then often your children will feel this too.
- Your child may be feeling anxious because they are feeling unprepared for the day, or uncertain about what is going to happen and when.
- You find out your child needs something for school as you are walking out the door.



What can you do to make it better?

- ✓ Start preparing for the next day the night before.
- ✓ Pack school bags and place them by the back door.
- ✓ Lay out clothes for school the night before.
- ✓ Talk to your child about what is happening the evening before and check if there is anything that needs to be prepared.
- ✓ Get breakfast ready (bowls out etc.) so you are not rushing around- even creating a few extra minutes can make a difference to reduce morning stress
- ✓ Have a timetable in your child's room and in kitchen to remind you both of key activities such as sport etc.

Nursery—Poppy and Daisy Classes

What have we been learning in Nursery?

Daisy and Poppy Class have had a fabulous couple of weeks in nursery. We have started our topic, where we have explored colours and showed off our favourite colours by wearing them to school on Friday! We have enjoyed listening to lots of colour based stories- Elmer, Brown Bear Brown Bear and many more.

We learnt about our class artist, Kandinsky and made our own artwork which is now displayed in the corridor. We have looked at and learnt our shapes; square, circle, rectangle and triangle and explored different ways of representing them, through paint stamping, drawing around them and shape sorting.

We had our first PE lesson, where we took our shoes off and took part in some listening games and the children blew us away with their listening skills :) We then worked very hard to try and put our socks/ tights and shoes back on ourselves, some of us needed help but most of us were amazing and tried hard and did it independently!

Thank you for coming to our Stay and Plays this week and for your continued support.

The Nursery Team

Reminders-

- No backpacks – book bags only please.
- Wellies and coat need to be labelled and in school everyday
- Grapes must be cut up
- Please support us by letting your children get dressed independently



Exploring colours





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Nursery—Poppy and Daisy Classes



PIC•COLL

PIC•COLLAGE



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Nursery—Poppy and Daisy Classes



Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

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 today and getting to play on the trim trail.

We have started learning phonics and working on numbers to 5. We will be sharing more information about phonics at our meeting next Thursday 29th September at 2.30pm, sharing how we teach phonics and how you can support your child at home.

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 if the weather turns wetter and colder.

Reading for Pleasure Books

We will be sending home a reading for pleasure book today, this is a book your child has chosen to share with you. We do not expect children to read them! Please share the book and talk about what happens and what they think may happen next.

PLEASE, please do not put your child's water bottle in their book bag once we have sent reading books home, lots of books get damaged this way.

Thanks for your continued support,
EYFS team





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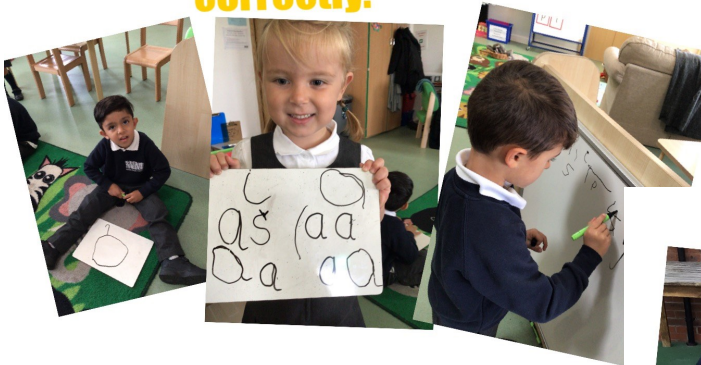
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Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower

Classes



We are working hard to form letters correctly.



PIC•COLL



We love playing together indoors and outside.



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 1—Lily and Tulip Classes

What have we been learning in Year 1?

What a fantastic first week we have had in Year 1! We have spent lots of time playing, getting to know each other as well as getting used to our Year 1 routines and classrooms.

This week we have been learning about our class artists, Monet and Matisse and have created our very own masterpieces which will be displayed around the school. We have also been showing our teachers our fantastic writing and maths skills and we are ready to start our topic 'Enchanted Woodland' next week.

Throughout the year we will be using our outdoor area to enhance the children's learning. This may involve getting a little muddy, so we would appreciate if you could send in a pair of named wellies that your child can then keep in school and change into when necessary.

The Year 1 team are excited for the year ahead and are looking forward to getting to know you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask either Miss Morgan or Ms Karn.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 1 Team :)



Year 1—Lily and Tulip Classes



Year 1—Lily and Tulip Classes



Year 2 - Willow and Clover 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 mud pies, jam sandwiches and 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.

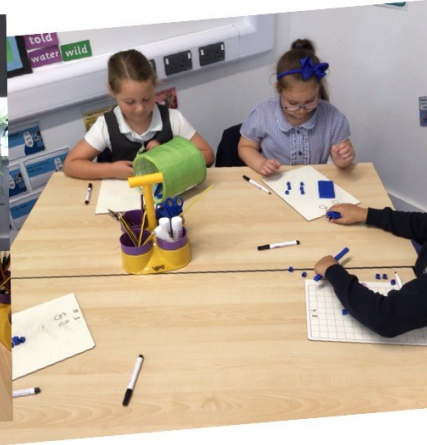
Art – Last week, we made thumb pots using clay and mixed watercolour paints to practise creating different colours. This week, we have used marbling inks to create swirling and whirling designs as well as painting using ice cubes!

Thank you to the parents who were able to make it to the Meet the Teacher meeting on Tuesday, 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 - Willow and Clover Classes



Year 3—Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?

We have had a super week in year 3.

We have been working so hard in our maths lessons with place value and had great fun making giant number lines together to look at 3-digit numbers.

In our writing, we have travelled back to the Stone Age and been very imaginative with our setting description of dark, spooky caves.

The best fun of all has been learning all about the artist Banksy and then becoming mini artists ourselves. We created huge chalk drawings on our playground and made them 3d by adding ourselves into the frame. There were so many creative ideas from everyone, flying with birds, jumping off a diving board and even swimming with mermaids. We wish we could share them all but here is just a small selection of the fabulous art we created.

Next week we are spending the week preparing and baking for our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30th September—we look forward to seeing you there!

Have a lovely weekend.

The Year Three Team :)





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Year 3—Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?





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School Diary

September

Sat 10th Sept 11-3 PTA Summer Festival
19th Sept 2:30pm Y2 Meet the Teacher
20th Sept 8:30-9am YN stay & play session
20th Sept 9am Y3 Meet the Teacher
22nd Sept 2:30pm Y1 Meet the Teacher
22nd Sept 2:30-3pm YN stay & play session
29th Sept 2:30pm YR parents phonics session
29th Sept Y1 trip to Westonbirt
29th Governors meeting 6pm
30th 9-10am for Y2 & 3 parents Macmillan Cancer Coffee morning hosted by Y3
30th 2-3pm for YN, Y1 & YR parents Macmillan Cancer Coffee afternoon hosted by Y3

November

7th Nov Road Safety week
7th Nov Flu vaccines
8th Nov 2pm Sleep PSA session
11th Nov Remembrance Day
14th Nov Anti-bully week
17th Nov 2pm Anxiety PSA session
18th Nov Children In Need—own clothes
24th Nov 6pm Governors meeting

October

10th Oct week Harvest Donations
11th Y3 trip to Stonehenge
13th Oct 2-8pm Parents Evening
18th Oct 2pm Open House
19th Oct TD INSET Day—closed to children
Half term holiday 19th Oct— 30th Oct
31st Oct Children return to school

TD INSET Days 2022-23

We have 6 school closure days for staff development each year. The ones which are already confirmed for this academic year are:

- Thursday 1st September 2022
- Friday 2nd September 2022
- Wednesday 19th October 2022
- Tuesday 3rd January 2023
- Wed 4th January 2023
- 3rd July 2023

[New dates in red]