

Date: 1st December 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fun few weeks especially last week when we got the chance to show our school to Ofsted inspectors last week. The children and staff did an incredible job with showing our lovely learning at William Morris. The staff received a gold book award last week for all of their hard work!



We have a very busy couple of weeks ahead to look forward to. Please see the diary dates to keep up to date with the upcoming Christmas performances and events!

Mrs Fraser, Headteacher

Class Reps Notes

Please read the latest class reps notes that have are attached. Thank you to the reps who give their precious time to these important meetings.

Air Ambulance

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent fundraiser to raise money for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Amazon book wishlist

We are very appreciative to everyone who has already purchased or donated a book from our amazon wishlist. Parents have request the link again, please find below. All donations are very gratefully received.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3FU19QJCLF5KC?ref_=wl_share





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Parent Support Advisor Sessions

The Lighthouse Team from the BKAT are 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.



Be a Santa to a Senior Campaign

We have signed up to a campaign run by Home Instead Swindon, to invite our children to make or donate gifts that can fit into an A4 envelope. Donations can include pictures and drawings, puzzles, crosswords, cards, crafts, letters, and book-marks - small presents that will bring a smile to the face of an older person this Christmas. The gifts will be distributed to elderly people who may not otherwise receive a gift this Christmas. Gifts don't have to be festive, but certainly can be. If you would like to take part in this, please can children bring in their gifts to school on Thursday 7th December. Some Christmas elves will be visiting us during next week's golden assembly to collect our donations.



Car Park Safety and Environment

Please can we remind all adults who use our car park to drive safely—it has been reported that a number of adults have been seen texting and driving through our car park at the same time.

Also, please do not throw cigarette ends out of your window if smoking in your car. Thank you.



Smart Watches

Please do not allow your children to wear smart watches to school. This is part of our Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy. Thank you.



Tree Donation

Thank you to Mr Knight's parents, Mr and Mrs Knight who have generously donated and planted some samplings for our school grounds.



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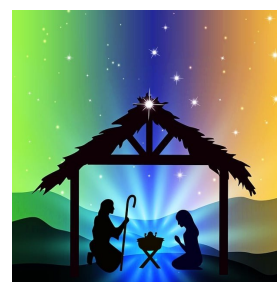
Parent Pay Wraparound Care Balance

Please can you ensure that balances owed for breakfast or after school club are cleared by the end of term. If paying through the tax free childcare scheme, please inform us of your payment using this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/kqMVha8JbM>. Thank you.

Christmas Performances

In agreement with class reps, we have decided that two parents or carers will attend per child for a specific Christmas performance. Performance times are as follows:

- Tue 5th Dec 2pm YR nativity—Sunflower parents
- Wed 6th Dec 2pm YN nativity—Nursery parents
- Thur 7th 2:00 YR nativity—Bellflower parents
- Mon 11th 2pm KS2 Carol Concert—Y3 parents
- Tue 12th 2pm KS1 nativity—Y1 parents
- Thur 14th 9:30am KS1 nativity—Y2 parents
- Thur 14th 2pm KS2 Carol Concert—Y4 parents



We have also agreed to video the performances for any parents/ carers who cannot attend and this will be available through our private Youtube channel.

Sickness and Diarrhoea

As you will be aware from yesterday's email, there are many children who have been off school this week with sickness and diarrhoea. Some parents have asked about the actions we have been taking to prevent the spread of germs and they are as follows:

- Ensure 48 hour exclusion rule
- Liquid soap and paper hand towels available at all hand wash basins
- Staff to check, encourage and supervise hand washing for children
- Both Reception classrooms have been deep cleaned—hard toys have been disinfected and soft toys have been removed and washed
- Appropriate waste disposal systems have been in place for infectious waste
- Staff have worn disposable, protective clothing when children have been unwell
- Soft toys, water and sand play and cookery activities have been suspended

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

SEND UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much to all the generous parents/carers and children who have donated games and resources for our Nurture Nest space. These have been very gratefully received by the staff and children!

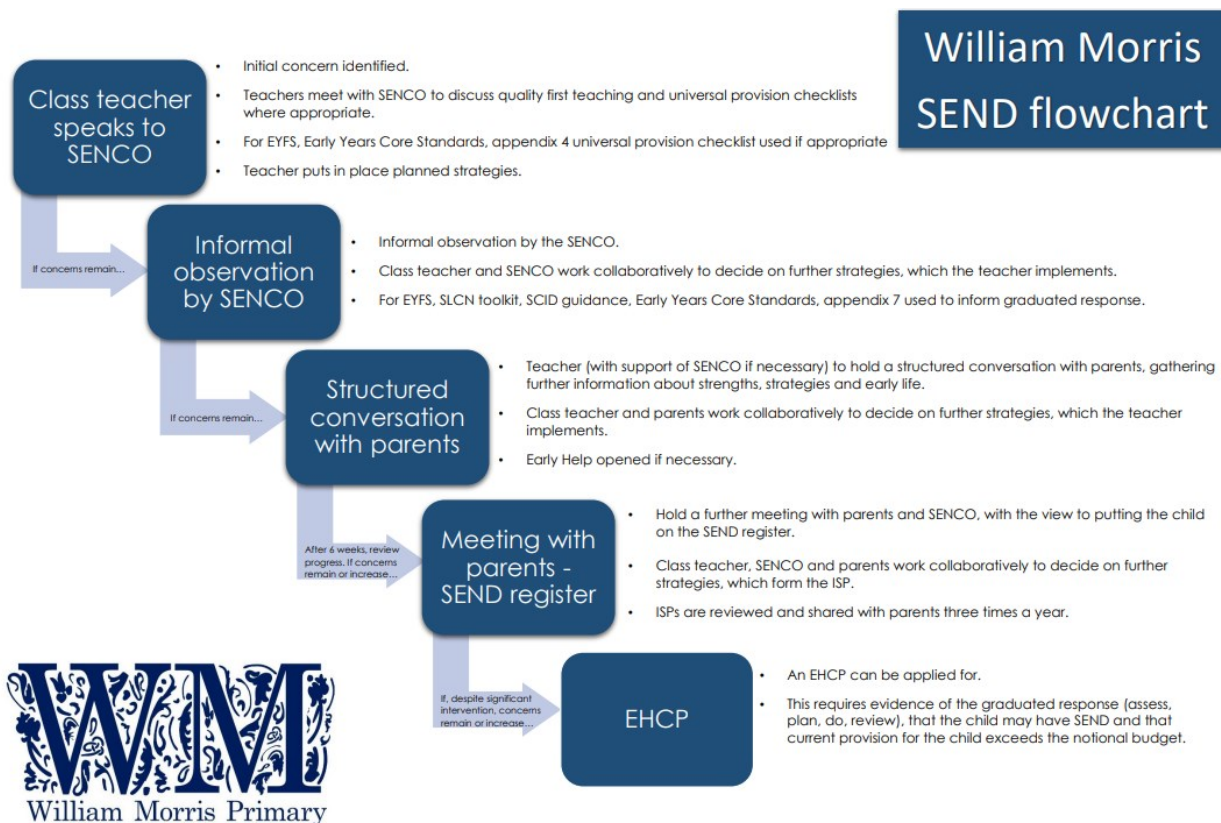
Thank you also to the wonderful parent who came to the working party on Wednesday after it was rearranged from last Thursday. As per our graduated response (see below), we meet with parents to discuss whether we all agree that their child should be placed on the SEND register. However, we wanted to create a guide for parents to take away with them after this meeting. This will explain what our graduated response is, what it means to be on the SEND register and also signpost to further resources.

Our next SEND working party will be taking place in January, on Thursday 18th January at 2pm. Our aim is to create another parent guide, explaining the process of applying for an EHCP and again signposting to resources and information for parents. If you would like to attend, please can you let me know via email at send@williammorris.bluekitetrust.org by Thursday 11th of January so that I know how much cake/tea/coffee to get!

Yours,

Mrs Day (SENDCo)

Our Graduated response:



Useful links:

Click [here](#) for access to Swindon's SEND families news splash.

Click [here](#) for more information about SIAS – Swindon's impartial and free SEND information, advice and support service.



UPCOMING PARENTING PROGRAMMES

(open to all parents but they must book a place – please contact us to add to list)

Family Links @ Brook Field 02/11/2023 1pm – 3pm (fully booked)

Happy Homes @ Ferndale 14/11/2023 1pm – 3pm

Family Links @ Abbey Meads February 2024 time TBC

UPCOMING PARENT SESSIONS

(open to all parents – parents can just attend – no need to book)

**Anxiety/Wellbeing @ Brook Field with Becky
03/11/23 9am**

**Eating Well @ Greenmeadow with Jacqui
15/11/23 9:15am**

**Sleep @ Ruskin with Jacqui and Gayle
21/11/23 9:15am**

**Anxiety/Wellbeing @ Lethbridge with Torz and Becky
16/01/24 at 9am**

**Eating Well @ William Morris with Jacqui and Torz
18/01/24 9am**

**Eating Well @ Abbey Meads with Jacqui and Torz
25/01/24 9am**



Parents and Friends of William Morris Newsletter

This week's news...

We have a stall at The Strawberry Thief Christmas Market on 17th December!

Please could you help us to raise money by donating "Christmas Party items" (I.e. chocolate, drinks alcoholic/soft, sweets, crackers, biscuits, gifts etc)

Please bring donations to the school office on Friday 8th December. Thank you.

Raising money for the
OPAL scheme outdoor
play equipment



November 2023

Upcoming
Christmas event
details on the
posters below...

**CHECK THEM
OUT!!**

Upcoming PTA Events



Dec 1st - Pantomime

Dec 8th - Christmas jumper
day/ tombola donations

Dec 13th - Christmas Grotto

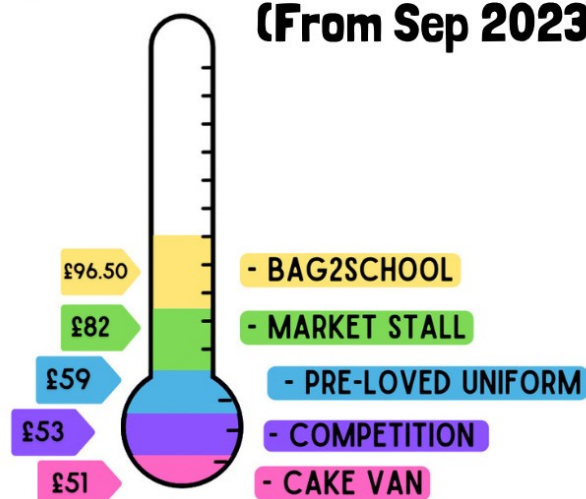
Dec 13th - Glamorose cake
van (Christmas theme)

Dec 14th - Christmas Disco

Dec 17th - Christmas
Market Stall

FUNDRAISING THERMOMETER!

(From Sep 2023)



TOTAL SO FAR: £341.50

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.

Wednesday 13th December

Dear Children of William Morris

I will be popping in soon and would like to invite you to join me in my Christmas grotto on Wednesday 13th December.

We will have a magical time I'm sure, with a story, a present for you and some food to take home and leave out for my reindeer on Christmas Eve.

We can also take a group photo to show all the parents and carers what a lovely time we have had.

See you soon,
Father Christmas



Registered charity no. 1203063

£2 per child donation payable using the QR code, sum up link or cash in a sealed, named envelope.

Please note: Nursery children will be able to visit Father Christmas in his grotto in both the morning and afternoon



You are invited to...

£2
ENTRY*

Working together to develop every child
WM Parents & Friends of William Morris
Registered charity no. 1203063

CHRISTMAS DISCO!

THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER

RECEPTION AND YEAR 1: 3.15PM - 4.15PM

(Disco clothes to be brought to school in a named bag. Children will get changed into disco clothes at school and then taken down to the hall. Please collect children at 4:15pm from their classrooms.)

YEAR 2, YEAR 3 & YEAR 4: 4.30PM - 5.30PM

(Children to be dropped off at school office in disco clothes at 4.30pm. Please collect children at 5.30pm from the school office.)

*Ticket price: £2 per child to be paid and parental consent given by Parent Pay by 8th December. (Ticket price includes a drink, sweets, glow gift and glitter tattoo) Additional drinks will be provided.

You are invited to...

£1
ENTRY*



Registered charity no. 1203063

NURSERY CHRISTMAS DISCO!

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

POPPY & DAISY CLASSES: IN SCHOOL DAY

(Disco clothes to be brought to school in a named bag. Children will get changed into disco clothes before the disco session)

*Ticket price: £1 per child to be paid and parental consent/allergies given by Parent Pay by 8th December. (Ticket price includes a special drink, sweets and a snack) Additional drinks will be provided.

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!





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School Diary

December

5th Dec 2pm YR nativity—Sunflower parents
6th Dec 2pm YN nativity—Nursery parents
7th 2:00 YR nativity—Bellflower parents
8th Christmas jumper day—tombola donations
8th 2pm Open House
11th 2pm KS2 Carol Concert—Y3 parents
12th 2pm KS1 nativity—Y1 parents
13th PTA Xmas grotto
13th Glamorose cake van
14th 9:30am KS1 nativity—Y2 parents
14th 2pm KS2 Carol Concert—Y4 parents
14th Xmas disco
15th Break up for Christmas
17th Glamorose cake van
17th PTA Xmas market stall

January

3rd TD Day
4th First day of term 3

TD INSET Days 2023-24

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

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?

What a busy few weeks we have had in Poppy and Daisy Class. We have explored many different celebrations such as Diwali, Birthdays and have now we have begun talking about Christmas.



Diwali- The children learnt about how some people prepare for and celebrate Diwali. We have enjoyed making playdough diva lamps, lanterns, Rangoli patterns and paper garland necklaces.

Birthdays- Last week the children were so excited to plan and prepare a party for our class bear, Nala. They made hats, bunting, cards, wrapped presents and even made their own sandwiches. We celebrated with a pyjama party and yummy cake on Friday.

This week we have been busy practising our Nativity songs and learning about the traditional Nativity story. In Maths we have been noticing and making patterns using a variety of objects.

We are really looking forward to enjoying some Christmas fun in the final two weeks of term!

Reminders:

- Please ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat in school every day and that it is clearly named.
- As the weather gets colder, please send your child with a hat and pair of gloves. These can be left at school in their drawer or brought to school daily.
- Please ensure your child has adequate sets of spare clothing, we are running very low on our Nursery supplies. If your child is sent home school clothing, please wash, and return as soon as possible.

The Nursery Team :)



Nursery—Daisy and Poppy Classes

What have we been learning in Nursery?



Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?



We have been loving our Julia Donaldson topic :) Last week we based all our activities on The Gruffalo, the children were completely brilliant and showed off all our amazing learning to the best effect!

The children have loved reading the Gruffalo and joining in with the story. We made Gruffalo crumble and the children showed super cooking skills, cutting apples, mixing the butter into the flour and topping the crumbles with a blackberry!

We used the photos from our baking and wrote simple instructions for making crumbles, the children are working so hard on their letter formation and using their phonics skills so well.

This week we have been working hard rehearsing for our Nativity performance, learning the words to the songs and the Talk 4 writing words and actions. We are looking forward to sharing our performances with parents and carers :)

The EYFS team!



PJ day!



PIC•COLLAGE

Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?



We love playing
outside!



PIC•COLLAGE



Gruffalo crumble



PIC•COLLAGE



We loved eating
gruffalo crumble!



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

What have we been learning in Year 1?

Wow, what a crazy few weeks we have had in school. Tulip and Lily class have been super busy with their learning and practising our Nativity with Year 2, we can't wait to share it with you.



In Maths we have been exploring part, part whole with the number 5 seeing which different ways we can make it. We then had a go at writing number calculations using the symbols $+$ $=$ using our number fact of 5. This week we have been finding and representing all subtraction number fact of 5 using the symbols $=$ $-$. The children have come up with some great ways of representing these using the Numicon. Finally, we finished our week with portioning 6 using our part, part whole model that we used last week.

In English we have been busy innovating our story 'The Queen's hat' changing the character, object and setting. The children had to think of a new character and an object that blew off in the wind and decide where it was going to land. They used their amazing adjectives to describe these and have finished off the week with writing their own innovated story. Great work Lily and Tulip class!

In Topic we were Geographers, looking at London City, it's Landmarks and exploring them on Google Earth. The children had some lovely knowledge of London and were able to talk about their own experiences of visiting London and many landmarks. Finally, this week we have begun to look into the Great Fire of London. The children have enjoyed learning about the Great Fire and recording it's timeline. We have made our own houses from 1666 and discussed the similarities and differences between houses then and houses now.

Reminders:

- Please ensure your child wears a winter coat to school. The children do go outside to play and need a warm coat.
- Library books – these are changed each week, but the day may vary. The children are given the option if they would like to change their book if they have finished reading it at home. Please make sure the book is kept in their book bags to ensure if they are given the opportunity to change it they have it with them.
- Nativity costumes – please ensure you have brought your nativity costumes in by Monday 4th December in a named bag.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year One Team

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 been working so hard over the last 3 weeks. We would like to say a huge well done to all the children for their excellent behaviour last week whilst our visitors were in school. They made us very proud, and as a result we celebrated them all in Gold book assembly last week.

English- We are almost at the end of our talk for writing unit! We just have the final paragraph to write and some edits to make. The children have worked so hard and have done a brilliant job, their stories are full of expanded noun phrases, commas in a list and '-ly' openers. We can't wait to show you at open house next week.

Maths – Over the last few weeks we have been learning how to subtract using a variety of methods. We have been separating 2 digit numbers into tens and ones as well as rounding and compensating. We are continuing to develop our fluency and reasoning skills each day, lots of the children are becoming more independent which is fantastic to see.

Topic – The children have loved our mini cardboard box project! First the children had to design their guitar before creating and most importantly playing them. The next stage is to evaluate our product, to see if we would need to make any changes if we were to make them again. We hope you have enjoyed the guitars at home as much as we have!

Nativity- Practice is well under way and the children are working hard to perfect their lines, dances and songs. We are looking forward to performing very soon! In the meantime, please continue to practice at home and ensure your child has brought their costumes in, in a named bag.

PJ DAY IN YEAR 2!



Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

What have we been learning in Year 2?

29.11.23

AIM: TO SUBTRACT TWO 2
NUMBERS BY COUNTING BACK IN
TENS THEN ONES



Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

What have we been learning in Year 2?



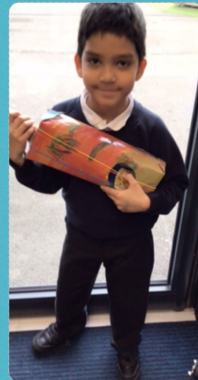
*Making music
using 2sequence*



Ukuleles



PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?



Over the last few weeks, we have been focusing on the book 'Escape from Pompeii' in English lessons. We have worked hard on writing our own setting descriptions using the book as a model. We started the week by writing the setting description of Pompeii before the deadly eruption, before moving on to writing a description of Pompeii during the eruption. In our descriptions we used onomatopoeia, similes and personification!

In Maths, we have worked our socks off on our multiplications, 3,4 and 8s. We learnt lots of multiplication facts to help us with recalling our times tables! We have also used our multiplication facts to learn the corresponding division facts too. Come and ask us to tell you a fact as we love to share these!

In our RE lessons this term we have been discussing what Christmas means to not only us, but the world around us. It has been really interesting listening to each other's family traditions for the festive period and learning about how Christians celebrate it within their communities. We were very proud of how respectful everyone was whilst listening to people's different stories. Take a look at some of our freeze frames showing our favourite family traditions.

We are very much looking forward to showing off our beautiful singing at the Carol service. Please remember our performance for Year 3 families to attend is Monday 11th December, 2pm. 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 already had an action-packed term between our new learning, preparing for our Christmas Carol Concert and our special visitors. The children have been working hard to learn the songs and their lines for the Carol Concert. They are sure to put on a great show for you all.

In English lessons, the children wrote some fantastic recounts and were able to apply many of the newly taught skills. We have now moved on to writing non-chronological reports. We are currently learning about the different features that make a good non-chronological report such as headings and sub-headings, paragraphs, topic language and present tense verbs. They will then use all of these features to write a non-chronological report about a mountain that they have learned about in Geography.

In Maths, the children have learned a number of new times tables as well as some of the rules around multiplication. Please continue the times table practice with children at home as they are becoming more and more fluent with them. We are now looking at addition and subtraction, expanding on what they learned in Year 3 to 4-digit numbers.

In Science, the children have continued their work on circuits and have been conducting different investigations. First, children investigated how changing different elements in the circuit, such as the amount of batteries, would then effect the bulb. After this, children then investigated what materials make good conductors by adding them into their circuits and seeing whether it would still work.

In Geography, children have been learning about different mountains and mountain ranges. They have also learned how mountains are displayed on a map through the use of contour lines and how this shows height and steepness. They are going to take this learning forward next week when they work as a group to construct a model of a chosen mountain range.

Thank you for the continued support from you all, please don't forget to come and see us if you have any queries or questions.

Year 4 Team

Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

What have we been learning in Year 4?

