



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Date: 1st March 2024

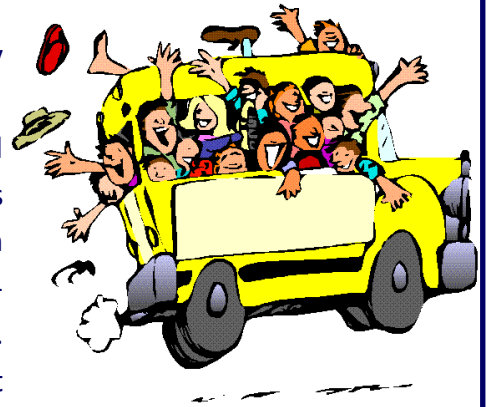
Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a particularly exciting and busy fortnight with nearly every year groups having a trip or visit this week.

I would like to express my gratitude to the staff who volunteered to support our very first residential with Y4 at Ufton Court this week. It was an amazing trip and really immersed the children in their Vikings topic. The children all rose to the challenge of staying away from home and taking part in the outdoor workshops. They did a fantastic job of demonstrating resilience and trying out new things, as part of our Life Skills curriculum. We are so proud of them all!

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Fraser, Headteacher



Fab Finish and Open House

On Thursday 28th March, 2:00pm Fab Finish will be taking place this term for **Year 3, Year 4 and Year 2** (this is a change for Y2, so they can share their Ukulele playing).

At 2:30pm Open House, will be taking place for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 classes.

Please consider that for whole school events, the carpark can become particularly busy and we do not have permission to use the surgery or other school car parks. We would appreciate it if families could walk, scoot or cycle to these events. Thank you.

Home-School Communication

When we receive messages from parents and carers we endeavour to reply within 24 hours. However, if this is not possible, all enquires will be replied to within 48 working day hours (excluding weekends and school holidays). Please consider that the teacher's main priority is to be teaching their classes through the school day and will therefore find it difficult to respond to messages within school hours.



Knowledge Organisers

Please see the knowledge organisers which have been added to the class pages of our school website for information about how you can support with your child's learning this term.



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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 run from 8:45—9:45am. Please contact the office to attend an upcoming session.



Tax Free Childcare Payments

If completing the tax free childcare payment form: <https://forms.office.com/e/kgMVha8JbM> please indicate specifically the amounts you would like to be applied to individual payment items e.g. £100 after school club, £50 breakfast club. When general responses are given such as 'clubs' or 'breakfast and after school club' it can be difficult for us to work out how the payment needs to be split. Thank you, The School Office.

Breakfast Club

Children who attend breakfast enjoy the offer of cereal, toast and a yoghurt. We will be asking children to have their breakfast before they go to play. We will stop serving breakfast at 8:20am, so that we can clear up by 8:30am when children go down to their classrooms. If you drop off your child from 8:20am, please make sure they have breakfast before they come to school.



School Lunch Ordering

When ordering school lunches, please speak to your children about what you are ordering for them to ensure that they like the options you are choosing. Sometimes children do not like the lunch ordered and we do not have spare lunches. Thank you.

Packed Lunches

From Monday, we will be asking children who have packed lunches not to use the bins to throw their rubbish away. This is because we want to avoid any food going into the bins, so that parents and carers can see any food that their children have not eaten.

After School Club—Light Tea

Children have a lovely time playing at after school club. At 4:10pm we provide a light tea, which consists of a ham/ cheese wrap, tube yoghurt and malt loaf. This is not a main evening meal and some of the children may need a little something to eat when they get home.



Message from Children's Services

As part of our preparations for the Wraparound Programme, the Local Authority needs to complete mapping of demand for places across Swindon Borough for school aged children from Reception to Year 6. This link will help to gain an understanding of possible demand for the September school intake into Reception classes. Please complete this survey by Sunday 10th March. The survey results will be used to inform the Local Authority delivery plan for the Wraparound Programme.

[Wraparound Parent/Carer Survey \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)

Swindon's Birthday Project

We have been approached by the community group Swindon's Birthday Project who provide small birthday gifts for children who otherwise may not receive or celebrate birthday due to financial challenges or family struggles. If you would like to be referred to this group, please speak to Mrs Fraser in confidence.

Clubs

We are hoping to expand our after school clubs provision. We would like to appoint adults who would be interested in running after school clubs that do not require hall space, such as chess or computer coding on a weekly basis. This would be a paid position and we are looking for those with expertise in these areas. If you are interested, please contact the school office.



OPAL Donations

Thank you for all of the donations of small world toys that we have received. We were very grateful and the children's lunch times will really benefit from these resources. We are now focussing on collecting dress up clothes and old suitcases for children to play with. These do not necessarily

need to be costumes. We also welcome any old adult clothes that children may enjoy dressing up in e.g. old shirts and hats. If you have any clothes or suitcases that you no longer need, please leave them in the boxes in our school entrance. Thank you.

World Book Day-Thursday 7th March



On world book day we are inviting you to come to school dressed as an interesting word. You could wear a football kit and be athletic or sporty. You could dress as a school pupil and be studious. You could wear party clothes and be glamorous. Whatever your outfit, there will be a word to describe it. We will encourage the children to guess the wide range of vocabulary on display so try and make it a challenge to guess! We hope this theme will be something that suits all budgets and engages the children with the true meaning of World Book Day- celebrating the words that spark our imaginations!



Parents and Friends of William Morris Newsletter

This week's news...



TGV MARKET

COME AND SUPPORT OUR PTA AT THE TGV MARKET THIS
SUNDAY 10-1PM
PRELOVED WM UNIFORM, TOMBOLA, LUCKY DIP &
HOMEMADE CRAFTS.



CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT

Spaces available on our Curry & Quiz night

18th March at 8pm

£20 per person

Teams of 2-6 people, prizes to be won!

Please pay on the link

bit.ly/WMPPTA

Bengal
SQUARE

WORLD
BOOK
DAY
7 MARCH 2024



Biscuit Sale

Come and buy a biscuit or
two on Thursday 7th
March - monies towards
the school libraries!!



WORLD
BOOK
DAY
7 MARCH 2024

FUNDRAISING THERMOMETER!

(From Sep 2023)



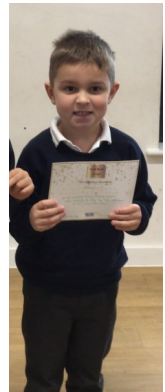
Upcoming Events

- Mar 3rd TGV market stall
- Mar 7th World Book day event
- Mar 8th Mother's Day gifts
- Mar 18th Adult curry and quiz night
- Apr 23rd- 26th Book Fair
- Apr 24th GlamoRose Cake van
- May 2nd Bag2School
- May 5th TGV market stall
- May 17th Sponsored " Walk your age "
- June 15th Summer Festival
- Jul 7th TGV market stall

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.

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

March

3rd TGV PTA Market stall
4th PTA secret Mother's day making
7th World book day
8th Sleep drop in at RLT school for parents
14th Governors meeting
14th Year 4 Junior Voice @ Wyvern
15th Class Reps
Week of 18th Parents Evening Consultations
18th Curry and quiz night
28th 2pm Fab Finish Y3, Y4 and Y2
2:30pm Open House for Nursery, Reception, Y1
Break up for Easter holidays

April

23rd Book Fair
24th GlamoRose Cake Van

May

2nd Bag2School
5th TGV Market stall
17th Sponsored 'Walk Your Age'

June

15th PTA School Fair

PARENT WORKSHOPS

dates for your diary

FRI
23
FEB

Eating Well
9am Brook Field Primary

MON
4
MARCH

Managing Anger
9am Ferndale

TUE
5
MARCH

Eating Well
9am Lethbridge

FRI
8
MARCH

Supporting Sleep
9am Robert Le Kyng

FRI
22
MARCH

Managing Screen Time
9am Ruskin

PARENTS FROM ANY TRUST SCHOOL
CAN ATTEND ANY SESSION-
NO NEED TO BOOK
ALL SESSIONS ARE A PRESENTATION
FOLLOWED BY Q&A LASTING AROUND
1 HOUR TOTAL



TD INSET Days 2023-24

- 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 an exciting first few weeks we have had of this term! Our topic this term is 'Once upon a time!'. We have enjoyed sharing the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes last week! We talked about different types of breakfast we enjoy and even tried pancakes and porridge for snack! We created a story map of the Three Bears and together re-told the story using actions.

In maths we have been making number collections for the number 5. We have learnt to recognise the numicon piece and together represent 5 on a 5 frame and on our fingers. We have played games using dominoes and practised our super subitising skills.

This term in PE we are exploring the apparatus and different ways of moving, jumping and rolling. The children have been working really hard to listen carefully and use the apparatus safely.

It was a visit from the Gingerbread Man that started our week this week! After sharing the story and joining in with the repeated refrains we have enjoyed lots of crafts linked to the story. A highlight of the week was making our own yummy gingerbreads.

Reminders:

- Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school (white t-shirt, navy shorts, and daps)
- Please ensure that all belongings are clearly marked with your child's name including hats, gloves, and shoes!
- Please ensure that if your child is bringing a packed lunch that it does not contain items with nuts e.g. cereal bars or spreads.
- Please avoid using plastic bags or cling-film for afternoon snack, we would prefer them in a named pot.
- Please ensure all children have spare clothes including pants/knickers, trousers, socks and t-shirt. Our nursery supplies are running very low!
- Have a lovely weekend! Nursery Team :)





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Nursery—Daisy and Poppy Classes: What have we been learning in Nursery?



Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?

What a busy fortnight we have had! The children have settled back into school beautifully, ready for their learning. Our topic 'Not a Box' started brilliantly with a workshop from the Wiltshire Scrapstore, the children had great fun creating many different things using just a box.



Literacy has been brilliant, the children are all working so hard to write independent sentences, using their phonic knowledge and sound cards. We are writing simple sentences most days when we come in and this is helping us to become independent writers. We have read the books 'Not a Box' and 'On Sudden Hill' ask your children to tell you about them!

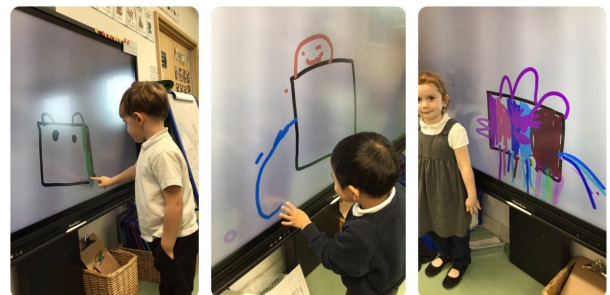
In Maths, we have looked at doubling and we are beginning to develop our understanding of numbers from 15 to 20. We will continue to focus on these until the end of the year. We are so proud of our amazing mathematicians! With thanks, The EYFS team



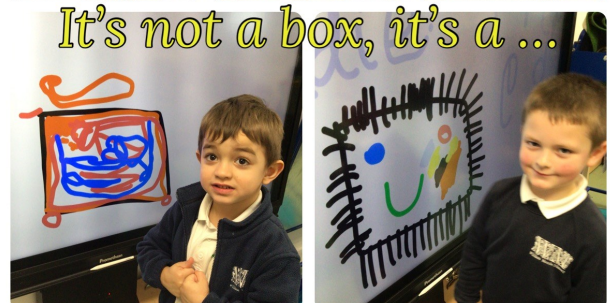
We love splashing in puddles!



PIC•COLLAGE



It's not a box, it's a ...



PIC•COLLAGE



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Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

What have we been learning in Reception?



PIC-COLLAGE

Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

What have we been learning in Year 1?

Welcome back to Term 4. This term our topic is 'Paws Claws and Whiskers'.

Our budding artists have been honing their watercolor skills, crafting magnificent big cat artworks, which we have created into a beautiful display from in the classroom.



We were thrilled to have an exciting space workshop with Astrocymru, where we delved into the mysteries of space, igniting our imaginations to create stunning planet artworks.

In Mathematics, we've been mastering addition and subtraction with numbers ranging from 11 to 16. Watch out for our little mathematicians as they dazzle you with their number bonds!

In English, we've embarked on a delightful journey with "The Tiger Who Came to Tea," weaving tales and adventures through Talk for Writing. Building our writing toolkits and stamina for writing ready for our innovation next week.

Please check your emails for the phonics homework sheet. The children are very excited to be moving up with bookmark in the reading challenges. So please continue to read at home and record this in the reading records.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 1 Team





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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?

We've had a very busy few weeks in Year 2! We had a fantastic visit to The Living Rainforest where we learned lots of facts about animals and plants from the tropical parts of the world and how they adapt to live there. The children were very well behaved, and we were very proud of how they represented our school in public. In our lessons, we have been learning about:

English – We have spent some time learning about recounts, and everyone has now written their own recount about the trip to the Living Rainforest. In our writing, we have included skills such time connectives, expanded noun phrases and conjunctions. Over the next few weeks we will be doing our Talk4Writing unit for the term where we will learn, innovate and then invent our own stories based on Jack and the Beanstalk.

Maths – Recently we have been learning to measure mass and length. We have used scales which are counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s and familiarised ourselves with measures such as grams, kilograms, centimetres and metres. We have compared masses and length using the symbols $<$ $>$ $&$ $=$ and then order them from lightest/shortest to heaviest/longest. Over the next few weeks we will start to look at using fractions particularly thirds and quarters.

Science – We have continued to set up a range of different experiments which have helped us to understand what plants need to survive. Our plants continue to grow outside our windows alongside some bulbs on the school field!

Forest School – We have embraced the weather and continued our sessions with Mr O'Brien and Ms Karn outside on the school field.

PE – We have some very tranquil lessons over the last few weeks where we have been practising yoga. We've practised holding poses using a strong body posture and slow breathing. We have used poses which represent animals from different places such as the arctic and under the sea.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at parents' evening in a few weeks' time and we also hope that you will be able to join us for our Fab Finish on the last day of term. The Year 2 Team :)



Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

What have we been learning in Year 2?



Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?

Year 3 have had a brilliant start to Term 4, jumping straight into our topic with an amazing visit from The Explorer Dome!



During the visit, we learnt all about different food chains and food webs and sadly, how deforestation and other damages to the environment are impacting these food chains, leading to animals becoming extinct! We loved looking at the different climate zones and biomes, learning about how different animals have adapted over time to survive in these places. The children were so excited by the immersive experience in the Explorer Dome.

Continuing our topic lessons, we have also been learning about Fair Trade. We looked at how Fair-Trade supports farmers and workers to ensure they receive fair pay and have improved working conditions. We loved taking on the role of banana farmers in the Caribbean, growing our own bananas and having to navigate the difficulties farmers can face without the support of Fair Trade.

In Maths, we have been working on column addition and subtraction methods. We are experts at this now and have worked hard to exchange and regroup across both the tens and hundreds column. We will be moving on to multiplication next week as our new unit.

In English we have been focusing on the story, "Taking Flight". There is an online short of the story if you would like to watch together. It is a fantastic adventure story and we have had great fun exploring the various settings and developing our own. We can not wait to see the ideas the children come up with themselves for the next adventure chapter for Toni and Grandpa.

Don't forget we have World Book Day next Thursday. Children can come dressed as a word and in the morning Year 3 will be having a 'Guess my word' game for us all to decide what word we are representing. We can not wait to see your costumes.





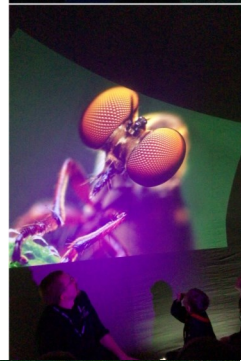
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Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

What have we been learning in Year 3?



Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

What have we been learning in Year 4?



We kickstarted Term 4 with a collection of new topics, with our history, science and writing largely centred around the theme of 'Potions'. The children got their first taste of this last week when they came back from break to find Mr B had been turned into a frog! After some speedy work from Mr O'Brien on an antidote, the children then looked at the set of instructions that were followed to make the potion. Throughout the next few weeks, the children will learn about the different features that make up a set of instructions and write their own set.

In Maths, the children have continued working on their formal written methods of column addition and subtraction. They have worked incredibly hard with this and made fantastic progress. Next week, we will be moving on to look at multiplication and division, working towards using column methods for these operations as well.

The focal point of this week has been our residential. The children were amazing and really got stuck in with all of the activities. Both the coach driver and the staff at Ufton Court commented on how fantastic the children's behaviour was. All the staff that attended were incredibly proud of how many children stepped out of their comfort zones and challenged themselves with the different activities. We will share more photos in the coming weeks and at our fab finish later in the term. Those that did not attend the residential also did some fantastic work making Viking shields and were really responsible when helping out in other classes.

Year 4 Team.





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Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

What have we been learning in Year 4?



Neurodiversity Home 101:

Help with organisational skills

Why do some children have difficulties with organising themselves and their possessions?

Some children find planning and managing their time and possessions harder to do. Some people call this *executive functioning* skills. This is an umbrella of skills.

- ❖ Poor time concepts- not being time aware
- ❖ Hyper-focusing on other tasks and finding it harder to switch tasks
- ❖ Difficulties forward planning
- ❖ Difficulties dividing tasks into parts
- ❖ Difficulties deciding on priorities
- ❖ Not placing things in a regular place so spending a lot of time looking for items
- ❖ Not using a diary, to do list or external prompts as reminders
- ❖ Not being sure what 'tidy' looks like
- ❖ Not learning from past mistakes
- ❖ Some children may have other ADHD traits that may need to be considered
- ❖ Some children may have other DCD/Dyspraxia traits that may need to be considered.
- ✓ Use colour coding to separate items and subjects such as timetables and to help to find books in a bag.
- ✓ Use visual and audio reminders depending on age and setting e.g. alarms on phones/computers/ timers/clocks. watch alarms as prompts and reminders
- ✓ Use visual reminders as prompts such as 'Post It notes.
- ✓ Encourage your child to get into a habit of placing items they need always in the same place when going home e.g. school bag by the front door so they put their bags back into it when finished.
- ✓ Talk about packing bags etc. the night before.
- ✓ Show what 'good' looks like so your child can see what organised is e.g. what does a tidy locker or desk look like or an assignment
- ✓ Show how to use a to-do list and practice this



Ideas to Help:

- ✓ Discuss what are the specific challenges for your child.
- ✓ Set up and show how to use a diary and or use a to- do list.

10 Top Tips on Supporting Children with SELF-REGULATION

Children need to learn to understand and recognise their emotions, while finding healthy ways to process them. Emotional self-regulation, however, depends heavily on age and development. While very young ones or children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may find it particularly challenging to self-regulate, nurturing these important skills can be hugely beneficial. Here are ten top tips for supporting children with their self-regulation.

1. DESIGNATE A TRUSTED ADULT



It's vital that children feel safe and know that there's someone they can always go to for help if they need it. Schedule consistent times for the child to develop a relationship with this person – ideally through play and games – allowing trust to grow and ensuring that the child is more likely to come forward if anything is wrong, rather than hiding their emotions.

2. MEET CHILDREN HALFWAY

Unless you know where a child is developmentally and tailor your approach to their needs, you're less likely to have an impact. In particular, younger ones and children with SEND can struggle to self-regulate and instead rely on others to help them. We call this 'co-regulation'. Rather than offering strategies for self-regulation, it could be better to start co-regulating with a trusted adult first.

3. FACTOR IN THEIR BASIC NEEDS



Remember that for a child to develop emotional regulation skills, their basic needs must be met first. Children who are hungry, tired, cold and so on – as well as those who have experienced adverse childhood experiences – may struggle to self-regulate. Before you develop strategies with any child, make sure they feel safe, secure and comfortable in themselves.

4. REMAIN PATIENT



If a child is struggling with their emotions, it can often become difficult to stay calm. Remember that dysregulation is beyond their control, so a display of frustration or anger could negatively impact the situation. Instead, children need to be met with comfort and understanding to help them manage these problematic feelings.

5. BE 'A DYSREGULATION DETECTIVE'



While some children can tell you why they become dysregulated, many others can't. You could investigate potential triggers by observing the child and talking to their family. When the child becomes dysregulated, note down details like the time, what they're doing and who they're with – the trigger may be someone they sit near, an unmet sensory need or something else entirely. Once we identify some triggers, we can help to avoid or overcome them.

6. USE SUITABLE LITERATURE



There are some wonderful books that can help you teach self-regulation to children. Reading these with a child can be especially powerful. Take time to discuss the content: ask questions about what feelings the characters had, why they felt that way and what strategies helped them. It can also be useful to refer back to snippets of these books at appropriate moments.

7. TRY SENSORY RESOURCES



An overlap between sensory needs and emotional regulation is possible. Children may struggle to self-regulate if they're experiencing sensory overload (a noisy classroom, for example). Positive sensory input can help calm them down. Use resources such as weighted blankets and fibre-optic lights. Of course, what works for one child might not work for another – so it's important to offer a choice of resources to discover which they prefer.

8. NURTURE INDEPENDENCE



If you feel it's appropriate, let children try out these strategies alone. Always offer them a choice: they could listen to music when they're feeling stressed, for example, or they could write down their worries or draw something to represent how they feel. This may take time for the child to get used to, so be patient. Encourage them to share any helpful strategies with a trusted adult.

9. MODEL GENUINE FEELINGS



Children learn a lot just from watching grown-ups. Don't be afraid to show your own emotions and self-regulation strategies. While you'll obviously want to avoid sharing anything too personal with children, they should still see us experiencing and handling our own feelings. Tell them how you are feeling, then show them how to respond in a healthy manner.

10. FORMULATE A PLAN



As much as we try to prevent children from experiencing dysregulation, it's always wise to have an appropriate plan for when it does happen. Discuss this strategy with the child (if appropriate) and their family. The best approach for an individual child is often a bespoke one; it's hugely important to know in advance what might help and what could worsen the situation.

Meet Our Expert

Georgia Durrant is an author, former teacher, Special Educational Needs Coordinator and the founder of the award-winning SEN Resources Blog, where she shares activities, advice and recommendations for parents and teachers of children with SEND.



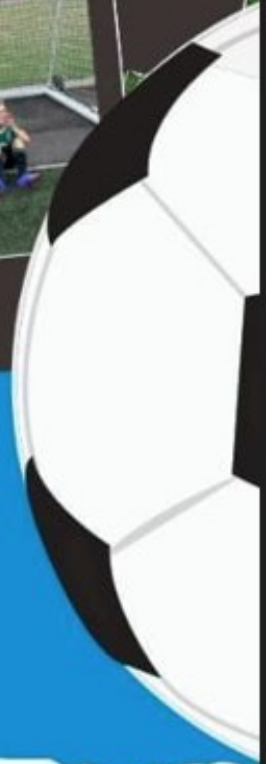
#WakeUpWednesday

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4 & 5

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THREAD & ROOTS 'EASTER WORKSHOPS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					23rd March Kimono (PART 1)* (Adults/Teens) 10-1pm - £38
25th March	26th March	27th March Kimono (PART 1)* (Children/Teens) 9am-12 - £36	28th March Kimono (PART 2)* (Children/Teens) 9am-12 - £36	29th March Summer Shorts (Boys only!) 9-12.30 - £43	30th March Kimono (PART 2)* (Adults/Teens) 10-1pm - £38
1st April	2nd April	3rd April Beach Bag (Children/Teens) 9-12.30 - £43	4th April Summer Shorts (Boys only!) 9-12.30 - £43	5th April Summer Shorts (Children/Teens) 9am-12.30 - £43	6th April Beach Bag (Adults) 10-1pm - £38
8th April	9th April	10th April Kimono (PART 1)* (Children/Teens) 9am-12 - £36	11th April Kimono (PART 2)* (Children/Teens) 9am-12 - £36	12th April	13th April Summer trousers (Adults/Teens) 10-1pm - £38

* **Please note:** the Kimono workshop runs over 2 consecutive days and cannot be separated. Day1: create bespoke sewing pattern, cut fabric and start sewing. Day2 :Finish sewing Kimono, measure, cut and sew the collar and cuffs. It's a busy but very exciting workshop!