

William Gilpin Church of England VA Primary School September Newsletter



"The greatest oak was once an acorn that held its ground"

<http://www.williamgilpin.hants.sch.uk/>

Welcome back!

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer with lots of fun and possibly some time for relaxation. I am so excited to be starting this academic year as the Headteacher, surrounded by such an excellent team. I am determined to make this the best year yet for William Gilpin and look forward to working with the children, yourselves, and the staff to achieve this.

Over the holidays you will see we have been very busy! The school library has moved and is now a really lovely spot to find and enjoy a book. We have new toilets, with Dyson hand-dryers and automatic toilet flushing—very fancy! There is also a new entrance, which looks fantastic. We now have a superb Reception and Key Stage 1 area, which will allow the year groups to be taught separately at times throughout the week.

As in any school, the first half term will very much focus on settling the children into their new classes, establishing routines, and setting behaviour expectations. It is very important that we all have high expectations of pupil behaviour to make sure that the learning environment is effective. If you have any questions about our behaviour management, please check the Behaviour Management policy or arrange a time to speak to your child's class teacher.

In preparation for the year ahead I have made a few changes, which I have outlined in this newsletter. I will be really keen to hear your feedback on these at the Parents' Forum this half term.

Mrs Kennedy

As part of the service at St. Johns, Boldre on Sunday the 11th September (10:30am) I will be officially commissioned as the Headteacher. If you can come along it would be great to see you there.

Core Christian Values



- ◇ Forgiveness
- ◇ Kindness
- ◇ Belief

This term our focus will be **Forgiveness.**

Learning Behaviour



- ⇒ Nori Ninja
- ⇒ Oshumi Ninja
- ⇒ Reflective Ninja aka Twinja
- ⇒ Creative Ninja

This term our focus will be **Nori Ninja.**

British Values



- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance

This term our focus will be **The Rule of Law.**

For more information on the above please see the Values and Vision section of our website (About us).



A few changes...

This year I have decided to send a **half termly newsletter** instead of a newsletter each week. I am hoping to make it more of a magazine with all the events that have happened in school, news, and information relevant to the coming term. Important dates and the information can always be found on the school website.

Children's reports will now be sent at the **end of the school year**. Parents' evenings will be held in November and March. This will give you an opportunity to ask questions at a time when you have the greatest opportunity to have an impact on your child's progress. It is so important we work as a team to give your child the best opportunity to achieve their potential. Open classrooms will still be held termly.

I am sure you had all noticed that Celebration Worships were becoming a bit squeezed for time. Children receiving hard earned praise is not something that should be rushed, so I am therefore changing the format. This year I will **alternate** between a Celebration Worship focused on **Headteacher awards** and a Celebration Worship celebrating achievements earned **out of school**. This will ensure that the children are given an adequate amount of time to celebrate their achievements. We will continue to let you know if your child is receiving a Headteacher award. This will begin with a worship celebrating out of school achievements on Wednesday 7th September. Just a reminder that out of school achievements need not be a certificate, they could be fundraising, finishing a difficult book, or helping out a family member. Please let us know!

We have **new class names**. The teachers were keen to have new class names this year and as we are a school in the heart of the New Forest we have gone for trees!

Class 1—Willow Class 2—Maple
Class 3—Beech Class 4—Oak

Volunteers needed! We are running a Forest School during this term, we need lots of help to set up the site this Saturday 10th September between 10am and 12am. If you could be there to help please do let FROWGs or school know. Also, donations of wood, logs, sticks, ropes, tyres and wood for whittling would be greatly appreciated.

Dates for the diary

September:

Wed 7th Sept: Celebration Worship (Out of school achievements)

Fri 9th Sept 2:00pm: Meeting for those who would like to volunteer at the school

Mon 12th Sept—Fri 16th Sept: Oak class at PGL

Mon 12th Sept—Fri 16th Sept: New Reception in for morning sessions

Wed 14th Sept: Family Worship.

Mon 19th Sept: Reception children start fulltime

Mon 19th Sept: Beech class trip to Blackwater Arboretum

Tues 20th Sept 2:00pm: Meeting for those who would like to volunteer at the school

Wed 21st Sept: Celebration Worship (Headteacher awards)

Thurs 22nd Sept: Y6 visit to Priestlands.

Fri 23rd Sept PM: Forest school for Year 1 and Year 2

Fri 23rd Sept PM: KS2 cluster sports 1-3 at Our Lady

Mon 26th Sept: INSET day

Tues 27th Sept 7:00pm: Cheese and wine evening for parents and opportunity to hear the Headteacher's vision

Wed 28th Sept: Family Worship

Fri 30th Sept PM: Forest school for Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

October:

Tues 4th Oct: Priestlands Open Morning

Tues 4th Oct: Parents' Forum 1.00pm

Wed 5th Oct: Celebration Worship (Out of school achievements)

Thurs 6th Oct: Beech class trip

Fri 7th Oct: Priestlands open morning

Wed 12th Oct: Family Worship

Fri 14th Oct: School Photographer including Family Groups

Wed 19th Oct: Celebration Worship (Headteacher awards)

Wed 19th Oct: Open Classrooms

Fri 21st Oct: INSET day

Mon 24th Oct—Fri 28th Oct: Half term

November:

Wed 2nd Nov: Willow and Maple trip to Palace house

Tues 29th Nov: Parents' evening 3:30pm—6:00pm

Wed 30th Nov: Parents' evening 4:00pm—7:30pm

December:

Mon 5th Dec: Nativity (evening 6:00pm)

Tues 6th Dec: Nativity (afternoon 2:00pm)

Wed 14th Dec Listen2Me concert 1.15pm

Fri 16th Dec: Last day of Autumn term and Church service at 1:45pm.

The code to link to the school calendar through your phone will be emailed electronically.