

Date: 21st March 2025

# Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fun few weeks. The Y4 residential was an amazing experience for every child—they were immersed in Viking life for 3 days. They learnt how to grind flour, make Viking jewelry, row a Viking long boat and fight a Viking battle! We were very proud of how well the year 4 children adapted to staying away for two nights at Ufton court. Thanks you to staff who gave up their time to attend and support the children.

We have also had a productive Science Week with lots of practical experiments taking place across the school. Everyone looked fantastic in their red clothing today for Red Nose Day—thank you to everyone who has made donations.



## Blue Kite Schools' Year 5 Debating Competition 2025

Last night, four of our Year 5 pupils represented our school at the Blue Kite Schools' Debating Competition at Ferndale School. They tackled the thought-provoking question: *"Can we help prevent deforestation by using technology instead of books to record our learning?"*

Our speakers, Victoria and Aleena, delivered their arguments with confidence and clarity, while Oliver, our chairperson, introduced both our topic and our opponents' with a strong, clear voice. Kian, our brilliant questioner, challenged the opposing team with passion and determination.

We are incredibly proud of their hard work—memorizing their lines, speaking in front of an audience of over 100 people, and delivering such a strong performance. Well done!

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Fraser, Headteacher





### Kitty Visits The Houses of Parliament

After learning about river pollution at school, Kitty wrote a letter to Will Stone, the North Swindon MP who then invited her to come and visit the Houses of Parliament for a tour. Kitty shared her adventures in assembly today. Well done Kitty—we hope you had a fantastic time.

### Lost Property Box

We have a new lost property box in our school foyer for any items that do not have a name. This will be emptied regularly, so if your child has lost something that does not have their name on, we ask that you check this box ASAP. Please label all items of clothing, water bottles and lunchboxes etc so that we can return items to their owners. Thank you.



### Autism Support Coffee Morning

Please see the information on the pages below for more information about an autism support coffee morning taking place on Monday for parents next week. No diagnosis is required to attend.

### Craft Fair

Please see the flyer on the pages below for information about a craft fair taking place this weekend, hosted by the Roxi Foundation: a local charity who support families with obtaining Autism and ADHD diagnoses.

### Family Foundations

Please see the flyer on the pages below for information about the upcoming Family Foundations course hosted by the Blue Kite Lighthouse team. The course focuses on strategies to support behaviour and relationships at home.

### Suncream

When we are lucky enough to enjoy some sunnier weather, we ask that children come to school wearing sun hats and sun cream. Children are permitted to apply their own additional cream through the day. We ask that parents please check the ingredients and ensure that children do not wear any cream that contains **nuts** or **nut oils** as this will significantly impact the safety of children and staff in our school who have nut allergies. Thank you.



### Dental Screening

A letter has been sent out previously about dental screenings that will be taking place at our school for children in Reception upwards. Please complete the online consent form by 26th March if you would like your child to take part. Thank you. <https://forms.office.com/e/sg4qQ0E9uv>

### Junior Voice Festival



We were incredibly proud of our Year 5 children who participated in the Junior Voice Festival at the Wyvern Theatre last week. They sang beautifully with clarity and confidence, truly showcasing their love of music. The theme, *For the Love of Music*, was brought to life through their heartfelt performance. Well done, Year 5!



# Gold Book

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



Golden Welly: Well done to Cohen, Ethan, Oscar & Rory for being awarded the golden welly award for making creative ideas at play-times this fortnight.



# Parents and Friends of William Morris Newsletter

## This week's news...

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 4th Bake Sale
- April 25th Crazy Hair Day
- April 29th-1st May Book Fair
- May 5th School Fete and Circus
- June 20th Sponsored Event
- June 20th Ice Cream Van
- July 22nd Summer Disco

*We had a great evening at the Brush Party everyone made some lovely paintings. Thank you to all those who came along we raised a total of £156.*



Don't forget to get  
your tickets  
for The Circus



### Fundraising Thermometer 2024/25

£2,610



Pre  
Loved Feb  
£15

Asda  
Cashpot  
for Schools  
£579

Brush  
Party  
£156

WE NEED  
YOUR HELP



Help to make our circus fete amazing by arranging a stall with your child's class. Hook'a'duck, human fruit machine, coconut shy anyone? The class to raise the most money through their stall/s will win a prize! Speak to your class PTA contact for support with your 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.



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

# School Diary

## March

Tue 25th —Y5 Sports, Stripes and Scales workshop

Fri 21st —Red Nose Day

Fri 21st —Class reps meeting

Mon 24th —Reception Infant Voice Festival

Thurs 27th—Parent's consultation meetings

## April

Fri 4th —PTA bake sale

Fri 25th —PTA Crazy hair day

Tue 29th— 1st May—PTA Book fair

## May

Mon 5th PTA School fete and circus

(it would be great if a few more classes were able to run a stall at the circus event—see PTA page)

## June

Mon 9th Y1 Phonics screening check

Mon 2nd June Y4 Multiplication tables check

Fri 20th PTA sponsored event

Fri 20th PTA ice cream van

## **INSET TD DAYS—school closed to children:**

23rd May 2025

4th July 2025

1st September 2025

2nd September 2025

Don't forget our online **social media accounts:**

Facebook—William Morris Primary School

Instagram—williammorrisprimary



## Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes

### What have we been learning in Nursery?



Over the last two weeks our learning has been based on Mr Wolf's Pancakes and Jasper's beanstalk. We loved making pancake batter and making our own yummy pancakes for our snack. This linked into our science week too, the children learnt that pancake batter starts liquid and then is solid when its cooked.

Jasper's Beanstalk is linked to growing plants, and we are very pleased with how well our sunflowers are growing! The children can talk about roots, stems and leaves and all the conditions that plants need to grow and thrive. They drew some amazing story maps and are able to explain about what the seed does when it grows.

The children are learning about numbers to 6 in maths and we are working hard to represent numbers in lots of different ways, counting carefully, looking at domino and dice patterns to help our understanding.

Have an awesome weekend and we will see you ready to go again on Monday :)

The Nursery Team

#### Reminders -

- Please label all items of clothing that children bring to school, we have a pile of lost property that is slowly growing due to unlabelled items.
- Please apply sunscreen at home as the weather improves.







William Morris Primary

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes







William Morris Primary

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes







William Morris Primary

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Nursery - Poppy and Daisy Classes



PIC•COLLAGE

## Reception - Sunflower and Bellflower Classes

### What have we been learning in Reception?



We've had an incredible two weeks in Reception, full of excitement and discovery! Our exploration of the topic '*Not a Box*' has continued to spark creativity, and Science Week brought even more opportunities for hands-on learning and investigation.

#### English

In English, we wrapped up our learning on *Whatever Next*, where the children innovated parts of the story—changing the main character and selecting new items for the journey. Their creativity shone through, and we were so proud of their budding author skills!

This week, we introduced *Mrs Armitage on Wheels*, which inspired the children to design their own imaginative bikes for Mrs Armitage. They carefully labelled their designs, showcasing their fantastic phonics knowledge.

#### Maths

In maths, we've been deepening our understanding of teen numbers. Using tens frames, counters, and Numicon, the children explored numbers from 10-20, strengthening their number sense. We also had fun developing our understanding of doubles with an exciting *Numberblocks* doubling game.

#### Science Week

Science Week was a blast! The children explored their senses, conducted large-scale colour-mixing experiments outdoors, and even built rockets that launched into the sky. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm for scientific discovery.

#### Looking Ahead to Next Week

You should have received an email about **Tuesday, 25th March**, when we will be turning into designers! Just like Mrs. Armitage, we will be improving either a scooter or a bike. If possible, please send your child to school with their scooter or bike. If this isn't possible, don't worry—we have plenty for the children to borrow.

#### Reminders

- ✓ Please ensure all clothing and belongings are clearly named.
- ✓ Return any completed tricky word sheets so we can check and display them on your child's square.
- ✓ Record all reading sessions in your child's reading record.
- ✓ Bring in any junk modelling materials by **Monday, 24th March**.

Thank you for your continued support! We can't wait for another exciting week ahead and look forward to seeing you on parents evening.





William Morris Primary

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Reception—Bellflower and Sunflower Classes





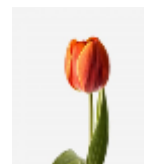
Reception—Bellflower and Sunflower Classes





## Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes

### **What have we been learning in Year 1?**



Wow what a busy two weeks we have had in Year 1! We have continued with our 'Paws, claws and whiskers' topic and enjoyed taking part in science week and exploring lots of practical experiments!

In English, we have been innovating our text 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' by changing parts of the story. We have changed our animal from a tigers to hedgehogs, leopards or other weird and wonderful animals. We also put ourselves into the story. We have enjoyed planning our writing and choosing the best adjectives to use to describe our animals as well as other ways we can innovate our story. We have then written up our full innovated story in our books showing an understanding of adjectives and adverbs.

In Maths, we have started to explore fractions and finding fractions of amounts. We started off by finding halves of amounts by first recognising what halves are visually by using counters and bar models. We then moved on to finding quarters of amounts again by recognising what quarters are and using counters and bar models to visualise this. We really enjoyed using the counters to see how fractions of amounts are made, and we learned the words 'equal parts' when describing how to recognise a half and a quarter.

In Science, we have been having loads of fun and doing lots of experiments during our Science week! Some of our favourite experiments we looked at were how rainfall happens, and we even made our own raincloud as a class and watched how rainfall happens using blue dye. Another experiment we enjoyed was our 'Rocket Reach' experiment where we made our own rockets out of paper and practiced blowing them from earth to the moon using straws! We have also been learning about sun safety with the weather getting a bit warmer and what we can do to protect ourselves in the sun.

In Art, we have been looking at different animal prints and discussing the word 'camouflage' and what it means for something to be camouflaged. We have enjoyed making collages of different animal prints and produced some amazing animal prints with different coloured papers and materials.

PE- in PE we have been continuing learning our target games and we have been focusing on overarm and underarm throwing. We enjoyed looking at how we can adapt different sports for people who are disabled using special equipment and looking at examples of Paralympians taking part in these adapted sports.

There has been a noticeable improvement in the children's reading recently, particularly with their reading of tricky words. Thank you for your help at home with this. Recognising tricky words by sight is a very important skill and you can use the resources that we went sent home with every child at the end of last term to help with this. Please do let us know if you need any support.

Thank you!



William Morris Primary

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

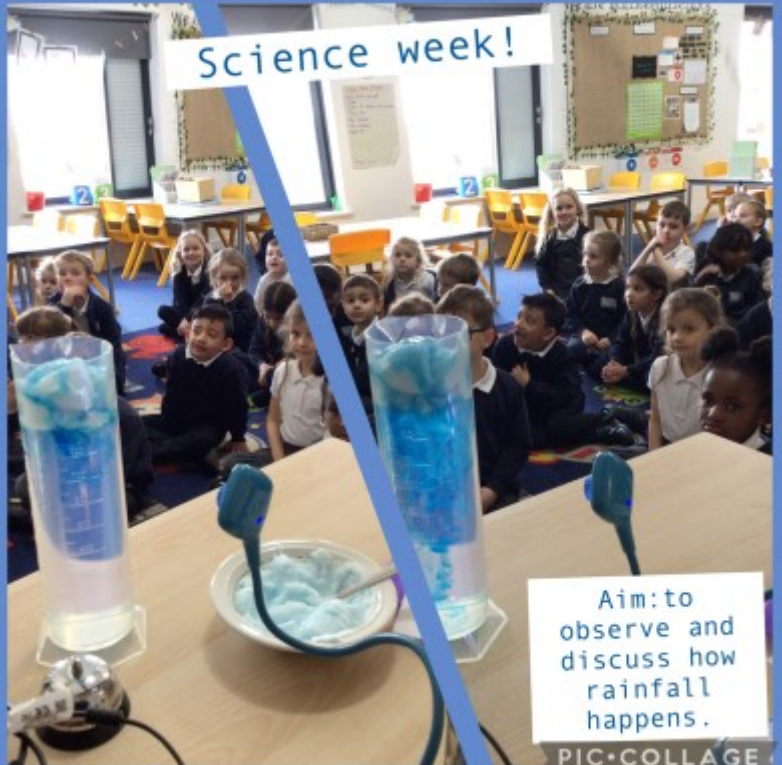
William Morris Primary School  
William Morris Way  
Tadpole Garden Village  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN25 2PP

Year 1 - Lily and Tulip Classes



Science Week

Rocket launch



Science week!

Aim: to observe and discuss how rainfall happens.

PIC•COLLAGE



## Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes

### What have we been learning in Year 2?



Dear Year 2 Parents,

We've had a busy and exciting term, and we're pleased to share some of the wonderful learning we have been doing recently!

In English, we have been working on an innovative version of the classic story *Jack and the Beanstalk*. They've had a fantastic time adding their own creative twists to the story while focusing on key grammar skills. We've been concentrating on speech marks to correctly show when characters are speaking. We also looked at apostrophes for possession, to show ownership, and expanded noun phrases to make our descriptions more detailed.

In Maths, the children have shown great understanding in their recent assessments, with many demonstrating confidence in key areas like addition, subtraction, and place value. We've now started exploring fractions, where we are learning to identify thirds. We are working hard on understanding how to split shapes and objects into equal parts, and we'll continue to build on this knowledge in the coming weeks.

In our topic work, we've been learning about plants and comparing those in the UK with plants found in other parts of the world. The children have been excited to explore the diversity of plant life, including tropical and desert plants, and how different climates affect plant growth. We've been looking closely at features like leaves, flowers, and how plants are adapted to their environments.

In Science, we're continuing with our cress seed investigation. We have planted our own cress seeds and are carefully observing their growth over time. We are recording changes and making predictions about what might happen next. We can't wait to watch our cress grow!

Finally, in Forest School, the children have been building dens! We have been learning how to work together as a team to gather materials and construct shelters. It's a wonderful way for them to practice teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience, all while being outdoors and enjoying nature.

Thank you for your continued support at home, we hope you have a lovely weekend! The Year 2 Team :)







William Morris Primary

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Year 2 - Clover and Willow Classes



FINDING ONE THIRD



PIC•COLLAGE

PIC•COLLAGE



FINDING ONE THIRD

PIC•COLLAGE

PIC•COLLAGE



## Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes

### **What have we been learning in Year 3?**



We kicked off this fortnight with our science week. We had a fantastic time during the week carrying out 2 experiments which linked to our topic and also having an exploration of the electrical equipment. The first of our topic experiments was called 'Should I flush it', we explored what we should and shouldn't put down our toilet by testing the items themselves in water. We had so much fun, shaking the bottles vigorously before analyzing if the item had dissolved at all. We were quite surprised the only one we should flush is toilet roll itself! Our time with the electrical equipment was also very fun, we were given no instructions and had challenges to progress through such as light the lightbulb, sound the buzzer and work out what a 'switch' was. It took a lot of resilience and to start the session there was a lot of doubt that the lightbulbs were even working but it was a great show of team work and perseverance which ended in a very fun session.

In English we have now finished our diary entry unit. We are so proud of the way the children's writing is developing this year and we had some really fantastic pieces of descriptive writing on the children's imaginative day at one of 4 settings. The children have really seemed to enjoy the diary writing and would encourage anyone who wants to continue it, particularly over the half term if you have any events planned. We would love to see these after half term if the children have any.

Maths lessons are now focusing on money, particularly coins. We have spent some time exploring coins and their value, adding amounts together and calculating change. The children are enjoying the unit and have grown in confidence really quickly. I am sure they would love to be involved with helping to buy or calculate small purchases at shops.

This term we have some lovely art pieces we work on with the children, they have been showing some great focus and attention to detail in the pattern work we have completed so far. We look forward to showing you these at open house at the end of term.

Year 3 Team



## Year 3 - Honeysuckle and Rose Classes





## Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes

### What have we been learning in Year 4?



Dear Parents and Carers,

After a sleepy start after our residential, we've had another incredible fortnight filled with exciting learning and hands-on activities across all subjects!

In English, we have been having lots of fun writing imaginative and detailed instructions on 'How to Turn Your Teacher into an Toad (or an animal of their choice)!' The children have explored the key features of instructional writing, including imperative verbs, time conjunctions, and imaginative ingredients. Their creativity has shone through as they have concocted mischievous (but completely fictional!) spells and transformations—watch out, teachers!

In maths, we have been developing our division skills using different methods. The children have been learning to divide using known multiplication facts, which has helped them solve calculations efficiently. We have also explored how to divide by 10 and 100, understanding place value and how numbers shift when divided by these amounts. The children have enjoyed using practical methods to reinforce their understanding and gain confidence in their calculations.

Our science lessons have been full of exciting experiments as we investigate how water changes state at different temperatures. The children have observed melting, freezing, and evaporating in action, making careful predictions and recording their observations. They have also learned how to plot their results on a line graph, developing their data-handling skills and understanding of scientific enquiry.

We were also very lucky to have our **Spots and Stripes Workshop this week**, where we explored different animal habitats and the amazing creatures that live in them. The children had a fantastic time learning about different animals and habitats. They then put their knowledge into action by designing and creating their own 3D habitats!

On Thursday, we were very proud of some of our pupils who lead our class assembly to teach us about their cultures. We looked at traditional outfits and dances, learnt how to count in different language and discussed what it was like to visit different countries. Thank you to those children to were very brave in sharing their experiences!

Finally, a reminder to please ensure your child has a full P.E. kit with them in school every day.

Have a wonderful weekend,

The Year 4 team

## Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes







Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Fraser

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

Year 4 - Apple and Blackberry Classes





## Year 5 - Thistle and Acorn Classes

### What have we been learning in Year 5?



#### Our Year 5 Debate!

#### Should have Anne Boleyn been beheaded?

In English, Year 5 participated in a debate, showcasing all the features they have learned this term. The topic was *Should Anne Boleyn have been beheaded?* Everyone presented well-researched arguments, using persuasive language, rhetorical questions, modal verbs, discourse markers, emotive language and evidence to support their viewpoints. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop their critical thinking and public speaking skills!





## Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

### Hot Seating! King Henry VII came to visit!

We had an exciting visitor in Year 5 to help us learn more about King Henry VIII and kickstart our next text type – biographies! Through a fun hot-seating activity, we had the chance to ask King Henry VIII (Miss Naylor and Mrs Lambert) as many questions as we could and note down his responses. Some of us were even "beheaded" in the process!

We discovered fascinating facts, like how he weighed nearly 400 pounds and had a waist measuring 54 inches. We also learned that he had six wives, two of whom were executed, and that he founded the Church of England after breaking away from the Catholic Church. Henry was also known for his love of jousting, feasting, and extravagant clothing. In his youth, he was athletic and handsome, but as he aged, health problems made him less active. Despite his harsh reputation, he was a highly educated king who spoke several languages and wrote music and poetry. It was a fantastic way to bring history to life and learn more about one of England's most famous monarchs!



## Year 5 Thistle and Acorn Classes

### Tudor Crimes and Punishments!

We have also been exploring the crimes and punishments of the Tudor era, examining everything from theft and treason to the brutal punishments, such as public executions, imprisonment, and even gruesome torture. Building on this, pupils worked together to role-play various Tudor crimes and their corresponding punishments, while the rest of the class tried to guess both the crime and its appropriate punishment.







**THE ROXI**  
FOUNDATION



spring

# craft fair

23/03/2025

from 10am to 2pm

at Even Swindon Community  
Centre, Jennings Street, Swindon,  
SN2 2BG

Crafts • Jewelries • Clothing  
Fine Art • Housewares  
Plush Items • Sweet Treats

[www.theroxifoundation.co.uk](http://www.theroxifoundation.co.uk)



# FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

With Lighthouse



A FIVE WEEK COURSE  
HELPING FAMILIES TO  
CREATE A MORE  
HARMONIOUS HOME

**WHERE:** COLEBROOK INFANTS ACADEMY, SN3 4AS

**WHEN:** TUESDAYS, 5-7PM, 22ND APRIL- 20TH MAY

**WHAT:** PRACTICAL IDEAS AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT  
BEHAVIOUR, RELATIONSHIPS AND HAPPINESS AT HOME

TO BOOK A SPACE OR FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT [JCOOK@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG](mailto:jcook@bluekitetrust.org) OR  
[GWOLLEN@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG](mailto:gwollen@bluekitetrust.org)

Follow our Instagram page for dates of other courses and  
general family life tips on [@lighthouse\\_bluekitetrust](https://www.instagram.com/lighthouse_bluekitetrust)



# UPCOMING EVENT DATES



## SWINDON COFFEE MORNING

### Support for Parents and Carers of Autistic Children - No Diagnosis Required

Our drop in group for parents and carers of autistic children (no diagnosis required). Come along and meet our Peer Educators and others who are there to listen, support, share experiences and offer signposting if needed.

No need to book, just turn up!

Goddard Arms, Old Town  
Swindon, SN1 3EG

Located in the semi-private area to the right as you walk in the main front door.

**Monday  
24th March  
10:30-12:30**



# UPCOMING EVENT DATES



## SWINDON COFFEE MORNING

### Who are we and what to expect?

Bristol Autism Support is the south west regional hub for Autism Central. One of our main aims is to connect parents and carers of autistic people with each other. We want to create supportive safe spaces where we can share information with no judgement. Our in person coffee mornings are casual opportunities to meet other parents and carers along with our team of Peer Educators. We also share information about the free support and resources that Autism Central provide.

This month we are pleased to be joined by Swindon SEND Families Voice, who are the parent/carer forum for Swindon. They represent the views of local parents/carers, and provide much needed services within the SEND community.



If you are looking to share experiences, make new friends, or maybe need some advice and support, please drop in for a drink (on us) and a chat. For more information please email [kam.deller@bristolautismsupport.org](mailto:kam.deller@bristolautismsupport.org)



Our Swindon meet up is hosted by Kam, who is a Peer Educator for Bristol Autism Support/ Autism Central

