

William Penn Newsletter – 20.9.24

Ofsted Report

The Ofsted report will be published on the Government website next week and a copy will be emailed to you today. You will notice that the report highlights a number of strengths at our school, but that over all, we need to improve. For those of you who attended the parent meetings last year, you will see the work we described then being referred to in this document as still ongoing. Staff feel that it is a very accurate description of where we are currently on our journey to further improve. I have shared with you a PowerPoint that explains the changes we have made since the inspection. I would like to invite you in to school on **Wednesday 25th September at 3:30pm** to explain the report further and answer any questions you have about the changes we have made as a result of the inspection findings.

Please note that this inspection was undertaken using a different criteria to the one used in Ofsted's 2019 visit and that it was undertaken before the changes the Labour party have since introduced. There are still single headline grades. Whilst we received 'Good' in Early years provision and Personal development, we were identified as 'Requires improvement' in three other areas: The quality of education, Behaviour and attitudes, Leadership and management. The latter is automatically 'Requires improvement' if either of the former are deemed to be.

However, if you read beyond the headlines, the report contains many positives about the school. Below is just one example of many:

What is it like to attend this school?

William Penn School provides a kind and caring environment in which pupils learn to get on well together. They feel safe at school and know that adults will support them if they have any worries. Pupils value the school's small size and like the way that pupils of different ages mix. They appreciate the range of enrichment activities in addition to their lessons, such as the music workshops going on during the inspection.

If you would like to send your questions to me, before the meeting, please feel free to email me on head@williampenn.co.uk. Your children will be able to spend time in Friends Club whilst this meeting takes place. We would love to see as many of you as possible.

PTA AGM

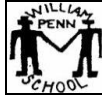
This year's PTA AGM took place at 3:30pm on Thursday 19th September. Thank you to all the parents who took the time to come along. More information about the PTA and how you can be involved is on the website under the Parent tab or use this link: http://www.williampenn.co.uk/web/_pta_welcome/89

Google Classroom

Google Classroom's are now up and running and can be accessed via the Google Classroom App at home. You will need to login using your child's login details. These can be found on the left at the top of your child's password sheets that have been sent home. Teachers will use these sites to post pictures and updates as well as any work to be completed at home. Here are the class codes for you to join. Please ask the class teacher if you are unable to log in to your child's classroom.

Class	Code
Whole school	5dwvmbx
Cadbury	bqr5aye
Fox	5ec2h2b
Fry	46ebi2j
JBB	ykwsehk





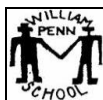
Forest School Launch

Forest School has begun, with all children experiencing their first lesson. The children have really enjoyed exploring the area and discovering which trees we have on site. The sessions will take place whether it is dry or wet. Please make sure you send your child in with a change of clothes to protect them against brambles and nettle stings and any inclement weather. **They will be changing at lunchtime in school, ready for the afternoon's activities.** For more information about Forest School and a recommended kit list please visit the Forest School page, in the 'About us' drop down menu on the William Penn website or follow this link: http://www.william penn.co.uk/web/forest_school/694202. Below is the fortnightly timetable. This will vary slightly because of staffing constraints, so please do check to see when your child will be having their Forest School afternoon this fortnight.

Forest School Fortnightly timetable: 23rd September to 4th October:


Monday 23.9.24	Year 1
Tuesday 24.9.24	Year 5
Monday 30.9.24	Year 6
Tuesday 1.10.24	Year 2
Wednesday 2.10.24	Year 3
Thursday 3.10.24	Year 4
Friday 4.10.24	Reception





Teracycle requests

Please continue to use the bins outside school to recycle those materials that cannot be collected with your general household waste. This raises lots of money each month for the PTA and also saves items being thrown into landfill. Here is a reminder of what can be recycled in the bins outside school:

 RECYCLE WITH US RAISING MONEY FOR OUR CHARITY & THE AIR AMBULANCE	
Your first choice should be to reduce the packaging you buy. Use refill services where feasible, buy loose fruit and vegetables, even better grow your own. If you have to buy products in packaging buy with the least amount of packaging and materials which can be composted at home or recycled by the council. Learn about local refill shops here https://www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/refill/ LAST UPDATED 08.12.23	
With any packaging you can't avoid, try to find the best way to recycle the materials so they can be used again - you can give us these waste resources:	
Sweet biscuit, savoury cracker & cake wrappers	
Crisp (small & multipack) and snack packets, nuts, pretzels, popcorn & pork scratching packets	
Babybel & other cheese wrapping	
Coffee pouches (instant, fresh or bean)	
Bread & bakery product bags	
Homecare flexible pouches & refill pouches	
Carex refill pouches	
Flexible plastic wrapping for laundry capsules & pods dishwasher tables & salt bags	
Ferrera Praline hard tray & plastic inner tray	
Ballpoint pens, felt tips, biros, markers, highlighters & correction fluid (noglug sticks please)	
Rubber kitchen gloves (Spontex and Marigold only)	
Plastic toothbrushes & toothbrush heads from electric/battery toothbrushes	
Toothpaste tubes, caps & outer carton	
Floss containers & outer packaging & interdental brushes	
Make-up - Mascara tubes & wands, lipsticks, lip glosses & lip balms, eye shadow compacts. Flexible plastic and metallic plastic tubes used for body creams, ointments or moisturisers	
Hard plastic water drinkers & sandwich boxes (broken / worn out)	
Milk bottle plastic lids - these are given to the Springboards Project in Horsham	
Inkjet printer cartridges Donate at any of our drop off locations or order freepost box https://www.recycle4charity.co.uk/Register/C73431	

Health and Safety

Jewellery: Please make sure your child **does not wear earrings on PE days**. We ask that if you are going to get your child's ears pierced, they do this at the beginning of the summer holiday. On days that children **do not have PE**, earrings may be worn and must be small gold or silver studs as per the school's uniform policy.

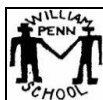
Parking: further complaints have been brought to our attention about parent parking. Certain parents have been consistently parking on the hatching outside of the school and driving up onto the pavement. This is a direct violation of the highway code. These markings are there to ensure the you and your children can cross safely. Driving onto the pavement is particularly hazardous for those with small children who are using it to cross the street. There has also been reports of driving too erratically for a busy road outside of school. This is now a 20 mile an hour speed limit which has also been introduced to further improve the safety of our children. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

Attendance

Last year saw the school reach **93.6% attendance rate, with 2% being unauthorised** which was below the national average for Primary Schools which was 96.5% with 1.6% unathorised. Our current situation places us with a concerning attendance rate. A child with 89% attendance at the end of an academic year will have missed 21 days of school (which is over four school weeks of learning missed).

See the table below that further explains the impact of poor attendance and the amount of lost learning it equates to. When a child does not attend school, they miss out on significant hours of learning opportunities (broadly calculated as 5 hours for every two sessions missed) which are unlikely to be covered again. Imagine missing week 1 of fractions or how to write a report for instance. That child will forever be on the back foot/playing catch up and places them at a significant risk of falling behind their peers.





While some of the absence may be due to illness, it is imperative that we all work together to improve the life chances of our children through school attendance. For those children whose attendance falls below 90% by half term, parents will be invited in to discuss their attendance and ways in which we can support them to improve this. We will obviously take into consideration pupils with long term diagnosed medical conditions/disabilities.

Fixed Penalty Notices

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) are generally issued where there have been at least 10 sessions of unauthorised absence from school within a 10 week period. However, there are some occasions where they are issued outside of these criteria. FPNs are issued per parent, per child and are an alternative to prosecution. This gives the parent an opportunity to discharge their criminal liability by paying a fine of £160, which must be paid within 28 days. If you pay the FPN within 21 days, the amount is reduced to £80.

The school would look on this as a last resort as we would much prefer to work together with families to ensure children maintain good attendance and benefit from the opportunities offered to them at school. We do understand the cost-of-living crisis is impacting families who are keen to get away on an affordable holiday, however, we cannot condone absences of this type.

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance	Whole days of absence	Learning Hours Lost
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10
Good	98%	186 days	4	20
	97%	184 days	6	30
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5
Cause for Concern	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5
	94%	179 days	11	55
	93%	177 days	13	65
	92%	175 days	15	75
	91%	173 days	17	85
Unsatisfactory	90%	171 days	19	95
	89%	169 days	21	105
	88%	167 days	23	115
	87%	165 days	25	125
Serious cause for concern	86%	163 days	27	135
Critical	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
	84%	159.5 days	30.5	152.5
	83%	158 days	32	160
	82%	156 days	34	170
	81%	154 days	36	180
	80%	152 days	38	190

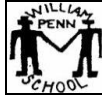
This may come across negatively to some families. However, collectively we have a responsibility to ensure strong attendance across the school. By working together, we will be able to improve the attendance of our children so that they can meet their full potential.

Achievements Outside of School

Congratulations to Francesca who passed the pre-primary ballet exam she took at the end of last term.

If you have any pupil achievements that you would like mentioned in the newsletter, please e-mail office@williampenn.co.uk.





Friday Golden Assembly Awards 13.9.24

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Golden Children	Oscar For super settling into school. You are such a kind friend to all in Cadbury.	Evie You are such a wonderful learner. You follow our Golden Rules ALWAYS. You are 100%, which means that every lesson you try your best. Thank You.	Zachary I have already seen such a huge, positive change in confidence in you this year. Thank you for working hard, smiling and always doing the right thing.	Violet For always working hard and following the Golden Rules. You are a great example to the rest of the class. Well done Violet!	Arlo For working very hard on your writing this week. You have really thought about the vocabulary that you have been using and have been engaged and enthusiastic during lessons. Great work Arlo!	Ava For bringing such a positive attitude to JBB every single day. You always work incredibly hard and pride yourself on taking time and consideration making your work as neat as possible.	Andrew For encouraging others to succeed this week, particularly in maths. You have strived to accomplish your own work, then found opportunities to support others. Thank you for your efforts.
Presentation stars	Ioana For such careful colouring in when drawing her family in her learning journal.	Fitz I am so impressed with your handwriting. Letters on the line, easy to read and plenty of ideas. What a lovely looking English book.	Beaux We've been working so hard in maths as a class, and I know you have because the presentation in your book is excellent. 1 digit in each box and neat sticking! Great job!	Arthur For your beautiful fact file about Tyler Foust. You have thought about the lay out of your work and written your fact in your best handwriting. Well done Arthur.	Betsy A For your fantastic continuous line art. You have clearly thought carefully about the artist's technique and copied it beautifully. Well done Betsy.	Ollie For well presented facts about the Solar System this week. You effectively used the Chromebooks to find a wide range of interesting facts and transcribed them neatly. Keep it up!	Violet For showing such a growth mindset during science this week. You weren't happy with your first attempt, so you started all over again and were genuinely pleased with the final result. Well done Violet!

Friday Golden Assembly Awards 20.9.24

Golden	Zara-Grace For super listening skills during carpet time. Always sitting ready to learn.	Cory Your enthusiasm is infectious! This means that you are always taking part, and trying your best with great answers. Thank You!	Lola Are you an early Queen of the Dojos? It feels like it! You are ALWAYS ready, and as we say in Fox class: "We try to be the best we can every day" – and you are exactly that! Well Done.	Jimmy For being super helpful over the last couple of days. You have always been so willing to offer your help. What a superstar! Thank you Jimmy!	Fabien For being a complete and utter superstar this week. You have found your confidence in class and it is so wonderful to see that paired with your fantastic work ethic. Well done Fabo!	Indie For always being incredibly thoughtful and kind to all your classmates. You are always first to offer help and encouragement to everyone in the class. Thank you for your efforts, Indie!	Clayne For being so enthusiastic about your learning this week. You have shown real determination to succeed, especially in maths. Keep up this wonderful attitude!
Presentation stars	Summer For excellent letter formation during phonics and using the outside area chalkboard to practice her letter formation skills.	Francesca I am so impressed – writing always on the line, always completing sentences and thinking about capital letters and full stops!	Lilly Very well presented English book, focusing on our presentation powers.	Pippa For a beautifully presented story board. You worked super hard on the writing and on the illustration. It is a piece of work that you should feel very proud of! Well done Pippa!	James For a beautifully presented story board. You were very considered about your illustrations. You should feel very proud about how hard you have worked this week! Well done James!	William For really focusing on your presentation this week, making sure all your work is to the highest standard and not feeling content until it is. Well done William!	George For always taking such pride in your work. You take such time and consideration when presenting your efforts and the hard work is certainly paying off. Well done George!

New Facebook and Instagram pages

You can now follow us on Instagram by searching 'William Penn School' and Facebook with 'William Penn Primary'. Or alternatively, click the links at the top righthand side of our school website.

