

Newsletter – 31.1.25

WORLD BOOK DAY

INSET

Friday 14th February is an INSET day. School will be closed to pupils. We will then welcome children back to school after the half term holiday on Monday 24th February.

World Book Day

World Book Day will be held on Thursday 6th March and to celebrate we are holding some special events in school on this day.

As usual, some of the staff will be dressing up as one of their favourite book characters. Please can we ask that all children come dressed up too and bring along the accompanying book for their character, if you have this.

RSPB – The Big Garden Birdwatch, 24th January

We were lucky to get involved in the RSPB birdwatch last Friday. The Big Garden Birdwatch is the UK's biggest citizen science wildlife survey. The Birdwatch helps the RSPB understand how garden birds are doing in our area.

It was so lovely for so many children to be interested in the event and we are lucky to see so many birds in our beautiful grounds. The children spotted many birds which we have encouraged to our grounds with bird food. Thank you to Lola-Rose who bought in extra food and a bird feeder.

The children spotted many birds including robins, magpies, blue tits and blackbirds. We have also seen wagtails on our playground and red kites flying over. The children loved taking part, here's why they enjoyed it...

"I enjoyed taking time out in the fresh air looking at nature and seeing pretty birds," Violet B.

"It was so good, being in the quiet and observing the birds. I love animals," Rory.

"The best thing about it was learning outside. Learning about birds and wildlife," Sasha.

"It was just a nice thing to do!" Fabien.



PTA News:

DONATIONS - THANK YOU!

We really appreciate the gifts that were donated last week, that we will be able to utilise in coming raffles and help to raise further funds for William Penn - thank you! If there are any missed items that you would like to donate, please let us know!

RAFFLE

Tickets for the amazing raffle go on sale **FRIDAY 31st JANUARY!** There are some incredible **prizes** on offer; **Washbrook Farm** voucher (2 adults and up to 4 children), **Slinfold Golf & Country Club** (round of golf for 4 people) **Christs Hospital Sports Centre** (2 x day passes), **Little Street** (free play session for 2 children and 2 adults) **Kings Head Inn** (2 pizzas) plus 6 bottles of **champagne** and generous **hamper** donated by **Tesco!** Tickets can be bought via **Classlist** and friends and family can buy tickets using the link provided and using the guest checkout option. Further details will be sent out and also on the a-frame by the school gate. Tickets are £2 per ticket and winners will be drawn on Wednesday 12th February - Good luck everyone!

PTA PURCHASES

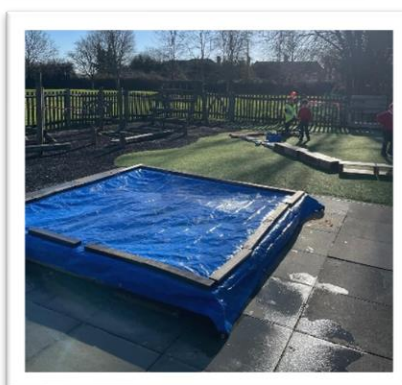
The amazing contributions from William Penn parents, friends and family towards fundraising have meant that before Christmas we were able to purchase the following resources:

- Sand and water tray for Cadbury children
- 2 Tarpaulins to cover the large sandpit built last year in the Cadbury area
- Sensory Tent

This term we shall be providing resources for different year groups and have some events that we are able to support. Please look out for further details in upcoming newsletters - on school visits, resources and opportunities that we look forward to supporting! Thank you for all your donations and involvement.

SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA

We shall be planning at our next meeting on **MONDAY 24th FEBRUARY 3.30pm**, so please come along if you have any ideas or would like to get involved!



Attendance matters

Class attendance this academic year:

Year R	93.4%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	94.9%
Year 3	93.1%
Year 4	94.4%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	95.7%
Whole school	94.3%

We have slipped into the yellow! Let's work together to keep our attendance in the green.

Attendance Ladder



Oral Health Workshop

Cadbury Class and Year 1 enjoyed an oral health workshop by Lucie an oral health educator from a Horsham Practice. The session was a fun and interactive lesson that covered the basics of oral hygiene, including the importance of brushing and flossing, understanding how diet affects dental health and tips for maintaining healthy teeth.



Billingshurst and District Lions Club

Art Competition 2025

'What Farms do for Us'

This art competition is to encourage aged 7 to 11 to creatively think about the world around them.

The closing date is 31st March – this is open to all Key Stage 2 children. The challenge is to create a poster with the theme, 'What Farms do for Us'. The artwork can be between A4 to A3 in size. Only one entry per child. The artists name, age, class and school must be on the back of their poster.

Prizes: Winners and runners up certificates will be awarded for every class. The winner in each class will also receive a book token for the Lions bookshop. The Lions hope to exhibit a number of winning entries at Billingshurst Community Centre.



24.1.25	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Golden Children	Oscar – well done for trying new things this week! Your smile all week has shown us how exciting it must be to have a go at new interests!	Poppy We are all so proud of you. You work hard, have loads of ideas and even shared your love of learning with other teachers during pupil voice. Well Done!	Elena Beautiful writing this week, thank you. You listen so well during modelled or shared writing sessions, and use this to help your own writing get better!	Jacob Well done for coming into school with a positive and ready to learn attitude. It has been wonderful to see you trying your best even when you find things tricky. Well done!	Maisy For really applying yourself in all subjects this week. You have worked hard and it has been a pleasure to see how proud you are of your work. Super effort on your handwriting too!	Elliott For showing such enthusiasm during in our history lessons this week. You particularly enjoyed researching the Shang Kings, involving racing around the room!	Rory For OUTSTANDING maths work this week! You always work so incredibly hard and the results are starting to pay off. Keep up the mega effort Rory!
Lunchtime Stars	Bear Thank you for being so incredibly polite at lunch time – you always remember your manners using please and thank you. You're able to set a great role model to your peers. Keep it up!			Fabien Thank you for being a role model to all in lunchtimes this week. It has been great to see you helping others and making sure you are doing the right thing. Thank you!			

31.1.25	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Golden Children	Delfina Wow what a fantastic week you have had with your phonics! You work so hard and never give up! Keep it up Delfina!	Francesca Your learning behaviour is fantastic. You listen, respond and try hard every time. Thank you.	Beaux I have noticed you 'ready-to-learn' this week. Even when there are distractions, you have been noticed! Keep it up!	Pippa For being an absolute superstar since returning to school. You are a complete delight to have in Fry class. It has been great to see your willingness to contribute during assemblies as well as in class. Thank you for being amazing.	Charlie For having a mature attitude towards your learning recently. You are working hard, focusing in class and choosing to ignore distractions. Well done Charlie.	Jac For being an enthusiastic learner this week. You know every detail of the story of Macbeth and enjoy retelling parts during our recap sessions.	Oscar For really applying yourself in maths this week. Fractions are tricky concepts but you are taking it in your stride; small steps at a time.
Lunchtime Stars	Cory For being so calm at lunchtime this week and setting a really good example to the other children; remaining seated and talking quietly to you friends.			Micaela For being so mature at lunchtime and being such a great role model. You are always polite to staff and peers. Keep it up!			

Achievements Outside of School

Well done to Indie for her superb football skills last weekend when playing against Loxwood. The supreme effort in multiple positions earned her the armband for next game!

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

