

William Penn Newsletter June 28th 2023

Dalesdown Residential

Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils spent a very happy time at Dalesdown on their residential last week. For many, this was the first time that they had stayed away from home and they did so well. Thank you for the many positive comments that you have passed back to the school. These are much appreciated. Cherry B has written a report below.

Less of a residential, more of a fabulous, 5-star holiday. At Dalesdown there's always something to do - whether it's performing in the TV room (equipped with chairs), or playing one of the fabulous games. There's a pool table, mini golf, air hockey, an outdoor climbing frame, a swing and grounds bigger than our school building. There are 13 rooms all with a different number of beds. Duvets and pillows were available and the facilities were all clean and tidy.



On the first day, we had a Bake Off (3rd: Isabel W-A 2nd: Rory O 1st: Isabelle C) then in the evening we had a talent show, (3rd Esmé B, 2nd Isabelle C and Lola H 1st Myself, Cherry B) and me singing Snowman got everyone's arms swaying (literally).



On the second day, we went for a lovely walk to Daylands Farm, just down the road from the entrance to Dalesdown. The scenery was so beautiful and I could identify almost all the trees and plants the farmer Derek showed to us. Once we got back, we had free time and dinner. Speaking of dinner, the food situation was $\frac{1}{2}$ stars, I had just hoped that they would have more vegetarian options. After dinner, Joe and Matt- the sports coaches who run P.E at our school - came to Dalesdown for some evening cricket.

Thursday was devoted to team building, leadership skills and an ice lolly break. The P.E teacher from the Weald, Barry Meany, came down to spend the day coaching us with lots of fun and

exciting challenges. Then the evening was spent discoing.

On Friday, we cleared our rooms out and went to an adventure playground that included activities such as monkey bars, tyre climbing, zipline and rope climbing.

I recommend the site for a residential as there is so much to do and lots of activities to keep a class of up to thirty people entertained.

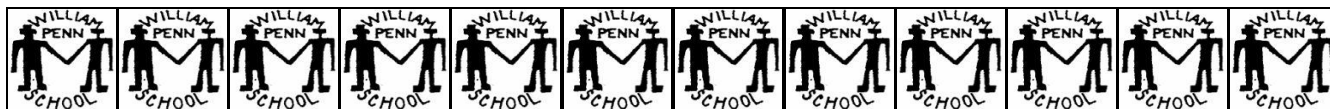
Thank you to all the staff who made that trip possible



PTA Event

Please look out for news from our PTA (flyer to follow) about an event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the school on this site. In your diaries, keep Friday 7th July free, if you wish to help celebrate (5-7pm).





Poetry by Heart

The children at William Penn Primary School have recently taken part in a nationwide competition; 'Poetry by Heart'.

The aim of Poetry by Heart is to introduce children across the country to poetry. In the competition, children must choose a poem from the website, learn it by heart and perform it out loud. The options were: you had to learn 2 classical poems, and then you could do a freestyle poem.

Freestyle poems: Freestyle poems are poems where you can have music, props, including performing with other people.

Classical Poems: Classical poems are poems where you had a selection of poems from a long time ago to recently. They are only allowed to be performed by yourself, and you are not allowed any props or music.

How did we do? At William Penn all pupils were invited to learn a poem(s) and "audition" to be filmed and entered for the competition. The final entries belonged to: Esmé (Yr6), Isla (Yr6), Rory (Yr6), Lola (Yr6) and Shanessa (Yr6).

The entries were sent in and the wait began. When the time came for the winners to be announced, the children did not win but were given instead certificates with "commended" or "highly Commended" Which made them just as happy.

The pupils explained their thoughts:
"It was a great opportunity to express yourself and be creative"

"It was a great way to be improve your poetry and acting skills"

By Esme and Isla (Y6)



Cricket day at Southwater Sports Club

12 children from JBB, were chosen to go to Southwater Sports Ground to play cricket against various other children from different schools and cricket clubs. They were separated into 2 teams; William Penn A and B.

Both teams had such amazing players and a lot of them managed to score 4s and 6s and even some 5s.

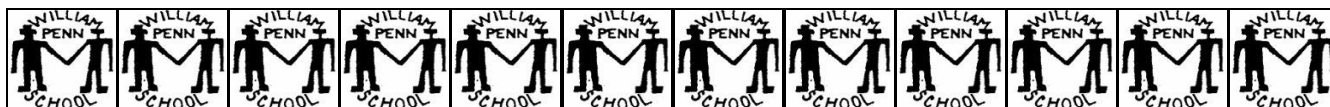
If you are lucky enough to score a six that means that you have managed to hit the ball out of the boundaries without it hitting the floor. If you score a four then that means you get the ball out of the boundaries with it hitting the floor, which is also very good. If you get a 5, then you have managed to stump a player out from the other team.

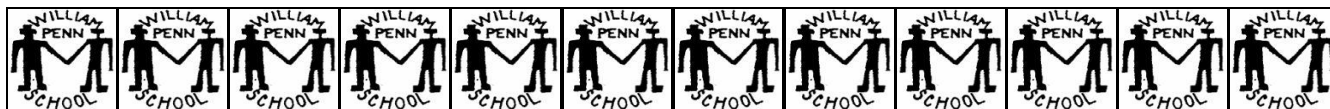
Ms Lipscombe said "I am very proud of all of them. As the day progressed they became more confident, and started to believe in themselves. They all had an amazing time and enjoyed the experience. Very well done to all of them".

By Shannessa and Shayla

Sports Day

Sports Day is scheduled for Friday at 1.30pm. As the temperature has fallen, we will keep the afternoon slot, rather than moving to a cooler time of day. You are very welcome to bring chairs or blankets. Entrance will be through the double gates and via the left of the school building. The event should be finished by approximately 3pm. At this time, the children will go back to their classes to get ready for the end of the day. Visitors are then invited to move to the front playground and the children will arrive as per the normal routine. Please be reminded that the school office will need prior notification from the parents of pupils, if children are going home with other families. As usual, please ensure that photographs taken are for own family use and





are not permitted to be uploaded to social media etc. In the event that the weather does change and the field is wet, Sports Day will move to July 7th at 1.30pm.

School Reading Scheme Books – Collins Big Cat Reminder

We are currently reviewing our reading scheme books. The shelves are rapidly depleting. Please may we ask you all to have a look for any school books at home. Many books may be hiding under beds or in bookshelves. We would appreciate it if you could have a look over half term and return any found before we order more. Thank you.

Safeguarding/Health and Safety/Wellbeing Update

12 ways to keep your children cool as they sleep in hot weather

By [Tara Breathnach](#) 'Made for Mums'

Getting your kids settled for sleep can be hard enough at the best of times, but when it's still light outside - and very warm - it can be even more of a struggle. That's because our core body temperature has to dip for us to fall asleep.

The perfect room temperature for sleep is about 16 to 22 degrees, but what do you do if it's much warmer and you don't have air conditioning?

Worry not, we've got some great cooling tips...

How to keep your children cool while they sleep in hot weather

1. Freeze their pillow before bed

Put your child's pillowcase or favourite toy in a plastic bag, then the fridge for a few hours before bed.

When you take it out and put it under her head, she'll have a nice cool pillow to drift off on, or a cool toy to hug to sleep.

2. Block the light out during the day

If you're out during a hot day, remembering to close the curtains in your child's bedroom (and any other rooms you think of) will help the house stay cooler so it won't be like a furnace come bedtime.

3. Leave the attic window open

Heat rises, so if you have an attic or loft, keep the hatch open so it has somewhere to go.

4. Change up the bed sheets

Just as we wear different clothes for different seasons, you'll need to rethink how you make the beds when the hot weather rolls around.

Make sure duvets have a low tog rating or just use one cotton sheet for those really hot nights.

5. Use a fan

For really hot days, if you have a fan handy you might want to have it on just until your child drops off to sleep. Keep it on a low setting by a window to blow cool air into the room.

6. Wear pyjamas

Sweating is our body's natural way of cooling down. So even though it may seem like sleeping naked / just in pants or knickers is a sensible option when it's hot, wearing light cotton pyjamas can actually help, as cotton is the ideal fabric to absorb sweat.

7. Have a cool shower or bath before sleep

Exchange the warm bath or shower for a slightly cooler ones as the summer months hit.

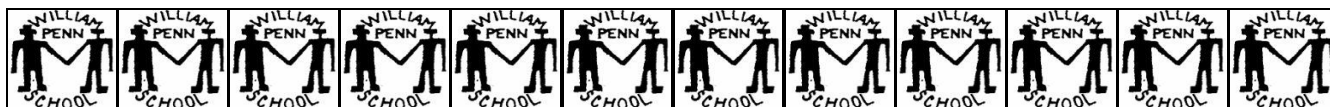
We're not talking freezing cold - so have some warm water running through and don't let your child stay in for too long or they'll get over-cold: just long enough to cool down if they've had a hot and busy day.

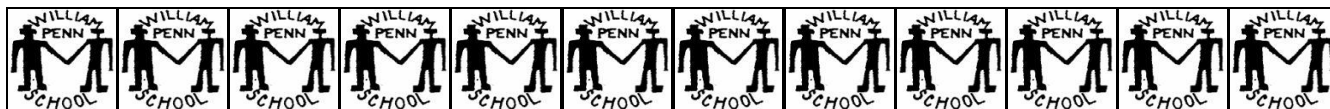
8. Keep a damp flannel by the bed

If you didn't get time for a cool-down bath or shower - or even if you did and your child's still hot - grab a flannel, soak it in lukewarm water and rub it over their body - head and the back of the neck are a good place to start.

Leave it on a dish by their bed and they can use it to cool themselves down if they wake up hot in the night.

9. Create a draught





Where you can, leave windows and bedroom doors open throughout the house to let air circulate and get a draught going.

10. Get them to suck ice cubes while you read their bedtime story

Sucking on cold ice while you read to the kids in bed could be just what they need if they're hot, bothered and fidgety.

Or swap the usual hot milk (if you have it) for cool milk instead.

11. Invest in blackout blinds

We know it's obvious, but hot nights also mean light nights and often the 2 together can make for drawn-out bedtimes or very late ones.

Blackout blinds combined with curtains really do make a difference so if you haven't got them yet - think about it.

12. Do something different

Sometimes trying too hard for too long to get to sleep means it's the one thing you can't do.

If your child's been tossing and turning and really can't sleep, you might just want to give up for a bit, take them downstairs into the lounge and read to them with low lights or even let them watch TV quietly (and something as low-key as possible) while lying on the couch.

Pupil Achievements Outside of School

Congratulations to William R who has walked over 100km with his dog as part of the 'Hound Hike'. William raised over £600 for the Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance who saved his dad's life in April 22.

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



Friday Golden Assembly Awards 23.06.2023

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Golden	Jackson For having such a great attitude yesterday during our STEM morning. You were such a great team player and such an asset to your team. Well done.	Arthur For contributing to his team so efficiently in yesterday's STEM activity. He was determined to succeed and inspired his team to design and build a wonderful bridge. Well done.	Harper For always being such a ray of sunshine. She leads by example, and it was so evident during our STEM activity yesterday. She worked incredibly hard and supported the rest of her team superbly. Well done Harper!	William For being really mature in your approach to our STEM activities this week. You were focused, engaged and were able to support the younger members in school.	Andrew For being completely amazing this week. You have shown kindness and compassion and supported all your peers and other children in the school. You have risen to the responsibility of being the oldest in school whilst JBB have been on their residential.		
Star Writer/Reader	Fraser For writing fantastic reasons why police and farmers are real life superheroes.	Carson For being so resolute with his bridge building. He was so motivated to help his team to build the best structure they could. Well done Carson.	Charlie For his admirable attitude towards all his learning this week. He has been so focused on everything he has set his mind to, from maths to computing. Keep it up Charlie!	Zack For being really kind and caring to your peers during the last two days of STEM activities. You were a role model to the younger members of school. Keep it up Zack!	Violet For being an absolute ray of sunshine this week. You always have a smile on your face, you always try hard and you are a delight to teach! Thank you for being you Violet!		

