



William Gilbert Endowed

(Church of England)

Primary School & Nursery

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NEWSLETTER

12th March 2024

No. 608

Dear Parents

Pre-loved Uniform Sale

The PTA will be holding a sale of pre-loved uniform in the school hall from 3.30pm on Thursday 14th March. This will be an opportunity to buy uniform ahead of the summer term. There will be doughnuts for sale at this event with proceeds going to the PTA charity. All parents/carers welcome.

Red Nose Day - Friday 15th March – ‘Do something funny for money’

A reminder that we will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 15th March to raise funds which will be shared between the Comic Relief charity and our Bridge the Gap fundraiser. Once again, this will be a minimum of a £1 donation will be added to your Scopay account. If you wish to make a donation of more than a £1 it will be gratefully received.

Bridge the Gap Fundraiser

A huge thank you to all those who have kindly donated to help us become a Bridge the Gap school and further support pupils' mental health and wellbeing. Together you have helped raise £660 of the £1000 target. If you would like to find out more and donate please follow the link <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/fundraising/help-us-become-a-bridge-the-gap-school->

Parents Evening – Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March

If you have not already done so, please log onto Weduc and book a meeting with your child's class teacher. Any queries please contact the school office.

PTA Fundraiser - Willy Gilly Bar – Find a golden ticket to win

Click on the link below to buy a chocolate bar and find the golden ticket to win a prize!!

You can buy more than one bar if you want to.

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/wgbar>

Grand Prize : Xbox Series X worth £249

Other prizes include:-

Smyths Voucher, Build a Bear Voucher, Goat walking experience, child yoga pass, goodfolk sweet treat voucher, smiggle voucher, astronaut projector and more!!

Important - Access to WEDUC

We have been advised by Weduc that not all parents are accessing the system and/or reading the emails and messages being communicated.

This system was put in place following feedback from the parent questionnaire, where it was felt that one system could be employed for ALL communication. We have been using Weduc for over 12 months for the administration of the parent consultation appointments, and following positive comments, decided to go ahead and use this platform to communicate with parents.

We currently have a member of every family signed up to WeDuc which is marvellous. However, only 86% of the school population are actively using it. We use the WeDuc app and the newsfeed within it to share reminders. This has replaced the 'texts to parents' service that we historically used.

If you have not already done so, can you please register and download the Weduc app, as we do not want parents/carers missing important information and communication. If any parent needs support to access/register, please contact Mrs Mercer in the school office.

Summer Clubs

We will be sending details out next week regarding the after school clubs on offer for the summer term. Unfortunately, we have had problems this term with children signing up for clubs and not attending for various reasons. RS Coaching are employed to run these sessions at a cost to the school, so the £1 a week contribution from parents is crucial so we can make these clubs viable.

This term some of the clubs have been running at a loss so we have had to review the way we organise them. We are hoping to upload club details onto Weduc next week and notify parents accordingly. The Weduc system will allow parents to register their child for a club and a payment will be required at this point, which will secure the place and give a commitment of attendance. We appreciate that this is a different way of administering the process, but we want to continue to offer the children a variety of after school activities as an important part of their development. Please note that if a club is over-subscribed, places will be offered on a first come, first served basis and Mrs Manners will contact parents to confirm your child's attendance. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

School Lunch Price Increase

Please note that when the children return to school after Easter, the cost of our school lunches will increase to £2.70 per day. Derbyshire County Council increased their meal charge to £3.25 in September 2023. The Governors were very keen not to pass such a huge increase on to parents, so our daily meal price has remained at £2.40. However, we hope you can appreciate that with the rising costs of food products and ingredients, and to ensure that we continue to provide healthy, balanced meals, this increase is necessary, and a lot less than the Local Authority.

We are currently reviewing the school lunch menu with pupils through the pupil led school council. We will update you in due course of the agreed actions and changes to the school menu.

Recycling Hub

We're excited to share some fantastic news with you all! William Gilbert has started to recycle with TerraCycle®'s Green School Project. Contributing to it helps our school raise funds and teaches the importance of recycling to empower future generations to take action at no cost to you!

How it works

- Pupils, teachers, and the staff can drop off certain items of hard-to-recycle rubbish at our recycling point. Located at the school office.
- Once we have a full box, we send it to TerraCycle® (using a free shipping label). **If there are any parents that would be willing to help take filled boxes to be posted that would be a great help.**
- TerraCycle® awards us points that we can redeem for donations to the school.

Look out for the Recycling Hub letter coming later this week with a useful 'acceptable waste' visual.

Sustrans Big Walk & Wheel

We have logged 124 active journeys to school today on Sustrans, with Reception class leading the way with the greatest number of active journeys to school. Well done to all those that walked, scooted or cycled to school.

Park and walk/wheel is an option for those families that live too far away to walk, scoot or cycle for the whole journey to school. In this instance we would suggest you park at least a 10-minute walk from school and complete your journey actively by foot, scooter or cycle. Places to park within the village could be at the Viceroy Indian Restaurant Car Park or Eyes Meadow car park. I have shared with the children that if they need to drive into the village, they could ask parents/carers to park at one of these places and walk/scoot the remaining distance to have their 'walk or wheel' logged in the challenge.

Artist of the Month

Congratulations to Isabella Penny in Reception, Ada Allen in Year 1 and Freya Walton in Year 3, who were chosen as Artist of the Month by Poppy Lathbury (headteacher for the day). They produced lovely pieces of art inspired by Hilma af Klint. If your child would like to take part in this month's event, please see the Artist of the Month page on our website. The artist this month is Frida Kahlo and the children could create a self-portrait to enter. Closing date for this month is Thursday 28th March.

Measles update

As you may have seen in the news recently, the number of measles cases is increasing across the country. Measles is a serious illness, with one in five children who get the disease having to be admitted to hospital for treatment, so if you or your child have not had your MMR jab, it is vital you contact your GP.

If you are unsure if your child has had both vaccinations, please call your GP to confirm or to book an appointment. Older children and adults who have not had two doses of MMR can also ask their GP surgery for a vaccination appointment.

The initial symptoms of measles:

- Resemble a cold with runny or blocked nose, cough and a slight fever
- Eyes become red, sore, watery and sensitive to light
- Sneezing

As the illness progresses, children may develop:

- A high fever
- A raised red rash that usually begins on the face and spreads downwards to the neck, trunk, arms, legs, and feet
- Small white spots inside the cheeks and lips

For some people, measles can be very serious if it spreads to other parts of the body, such as the lungs and the brain. Problems can include pneumonia, meningitis and seizures (fits). If you think your child may have measles:

- Call your GP or NHS111 – do not attend your GP practice or any other healthcare setting (e.g.A&E) unless told to do so as measles spreads very easily.
- Avoid close contact with babies, pregnant women and anyone with a weakened immune system. These people are at increased risk of severe disease from measles.
- Stay off nursery, school or college for at least 4 days from when the rash appears.

Parents and carers can find out more about the different vaccines their child should have and when by visiting www.nhs.uk and searching for 'NHS vaccinations and when to have them'.

Yours sincerely

H Britten
Headteacher