



William Gilbert Endowed (Church of England)

Primary School & Nursery

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Headteacher: Mrs E H Britten



27th October 2023

No. 603

Dear Parents/Carers

Harvest Produce

Thank you to everyone who support our recent harvest service and donated such a wonderful amount of produce. Hope for Belper have written to school to say a huge thank you to everyone at William Gilbert School.

'Love in a box' Christmas Shoeboxes facilitated by Belper Rotary Club

Parents were very generous last year and supported this cause with some lovely donations, and if possible I would like to ask you to support the 'Love in a box' Christmas shoebox appeal to bring a little happiness to children who are living in poverty and would otherwise receive nothing at Christmas. This year the contributions will be transported to children in Eastern Europe, including Ukraine. Please use the link below for further details and to print the label.

[Love in a Box](#)

We would welcome your shoebox into school from Thursday 9th November 2023 – Tuesday 14th November 2023.

Holidays In Term Time

Can I please remind you that current legislation makes it clear that Headteacher's should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term-time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

These regulations also state that holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively.

Any requests should be on an official school absence request form and handed into the school office for consideration prior to any holiday/leave arrangements being made.

Each application will be considered individually and unless the request is an **exceptional circumstance**, the absence will not be authorised.

You may be issued with a Penalty Notice should leave be taken which is not authorised. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996.

School Uniform

A reminder that when we return after half term the full William Gilbert uniform is compulsory and summer options are no longer permitted. Please remember boots are not part of our uniform and girls may wear navy, grey or black opaque tights or white knee socks. Full details can be found on our website.



Acceptable Use Agreement for Pupils

Please read carefully the pupil user agreement and parent permission form that has been emailed with this Newsletter. To save paper we have made the signing of the acceptable use agreement electronic. Please access the appropriate digital agreement form by following the links below.

[Early Years & Key Stage 1](#)

[Key Stage 2](#)

Parent Consultation

As previously published, the Autumn term Parent Consultation meetings will be held on Wednesday 8th and Tuesday 14th November. Thank you to the parents that have booked an appointment via Weduc. If you have not already done so, please book a meeting with your child's class teacher as soon as possible. If any parents are experiencing problems accessing the App, please contact the school office.

WEDUC

Thank you to those parents who have already downloaded the WEDUC app. We are continuing to use the teachers 2 parents system for texting and emailing, and Scopay for online payments, but are hoping to be fully up and running on WEDUC after Christmas.

This will mean that going forward we will have just one platform that will be used for all school/parent communication. I would like to thank you for your patience during the time of transition and I will write to you again with further details.

If you have not yet downloaded the WEDUC app, there is now a new walkthrough video. This video will guide you through the *ReachMoreParents* app, ensuring you can navigate it effortlessly.

[ReachMoreParents Walkthrough Video – You Tube Link](#)

Applications for Reception 2024

A reminder that the application procedure for Reception 2024 will open via the DCC website at Monday 6th November. The deadline for applications is Sunday 15th January 2024.

[School Application](#)

Christmas Fayre

We warmly welcome you all to attend the annual Christmas Fayre on Friday 24th November between 5-7pm. You will have been sent information about this from the PTA earlier today. This is a vital source of funds to support the school in providing a wealth of resources, opportunities and experiences that benefit your child. We are currently trying to raise funds for social, emotional, and mental health resources, topic books for our infant and junior libraries, Emotions Lego for games club, curriculum resources and outdoor equipment for all our classes. Every donation, however small makes a big difference to our school, not just in providing the 'extras' but the basic level of resources that allow teachers to deliver the curriculum.

Half Term

School closes on Friday 27th October for the half term holiday, and reopens on Monday 6th November at the usual time.

On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you all an enjoyable break.

Kind regards

E H Britten
Headteacher