



William Gilbert Endowed

(Church of England)

Primary School & Nursery

Vicarage Lane, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 4EB

Telephone & Fax: 01332 840395

E-mail: enquiries@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs E H Britten

NEWSLETTER

16th February 2024

No. 607

Dear Parents

Spoken English

Thank you to all parents and family members who attended the Spoken English competition final this afternoon. We were delighted that Mr Connaughton was able to judge the competition this year, and we congratulate all the finalists on their excellent delivery and interpretation of increasingly complex texts.

The children awarded first places were:-

Year 3 - Henry Betterton

Year 4 - Esta Palermo

Year 5 - Emma Todd

Year 6 - Annabelle Sturt

The National College

As a school we have subscribed to The National College for this academic year. This allows us to access a great deal of content and continued professional development opportunities. There is also an area for parents which Mrs Kibble communicated with you recently linked to Safer Internet Day. Thank you to those parents who have registered for a free account, enabling you to access the wealth of fantastic online safety guidance and advice for parents. As a result, we are halfway to achieving the National Online Safety – Certified School accreditation. If you have not yet registered and would like to help us achieve this award, please scan the QR code below. Our aim is to support families in keeping everyone safe online.



Mother's Day Gifts

The PTA will be selling gifts in school on Friday 1st and Monday 4th March. Further details on how to order/pay will be circulated after half term. Any queries or last minute payments please contact williamgilbertpta@gmail.com or speak to Mrs Macdonald on the school gate.

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

To celebrate World Book Day we will be holding a non-uniform day on **Thursday 7th March**, so your child can come dressed as their favourite book character for the cost of £1. This contribution will be added onto your child's Scopay account after half term. Funds raised will go towards books for our infant and junior library. If you would like to donate a book to the library there will be information shared via our school noticeboard (bottom of the infant ramp) after half term. Book tokens will also be sent home with your child week commencing 26th February. The PTA will be organising further fundraising events linked to World Book Day and will communicate this with you separately.

Red Nose Day -Friday 15th March

To celebrate and raise funds for this worthwhile cause we will be holding a further non-uniform day. Funds raised will be shared between the Comic Relief charity and our Bridge the Gap fundraiser. Once again, this will £1 donation will be added to your Scopay account.

Inset Day

Please be reminded that school will be closed to pupils on Monday 11th March 2024.

Parents Evening – March 2024

Can I please remind you that Parent Consultation Evenings will be held on Tuesday 19th March (hybrid - face to face and on-line appointments) and Thursday 21st March (face to face). SEN Parent Consultation will be on Tuesday 12th March. There will also be access to some other dates, and all the details will be confirmed with you in a letter after half term. Year 6 parents maths consultation appointments with Mrs Tipping will be held on Friday 15th March.

Easter Service – Thursday 28th March

The whole school, Reception to Year 6, will be attending St Alkmunds Church on Thursday 28th March at 2.00 pm for our Easter Service. The arrangements will be the same as the Carol Service in December, and I will write to you nearer the time to remind you of the details.

Parking is limited. Where possible, please walk or share lifts. Please do not park on the narrow drive leading down to the car park area. We would also appreciate this information being shared with Grandparents and others who are likely to attend. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The service will finish at approximately 3.00 p.m. and all children should be clear about their going home arrangements **directly from Church.**

Only in exceptional circumstances, are children escorted back to school for dismissal at their usual home time. If this is necessary for your child, then please advise me in writing. Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in case of a Spring shower. Key Stage 2 pupils will also walk to Church on Wednesday 27th March, and need to be suitably attired for the weather forecast.

The Mindful Singer

I am excited to share that singer, Josh Jones will be piloting a mindful singing programme for pupils at William Gilbert School. He will begin with Year 4 pupils after half term for an 8-week programme. The academy choir will provide opportunities for students to come together and have a weekly check-in to express their feelings through singing. They will be singing a range of genres such as pop, gospel, and musical theatre to name a few as well as engaging in fun singing warm-ups to work on breathing and mindset.

Cool Milk

Please remember that you are able to register and pay for your child to receive milk at lunch time with our provider Cool Milk. Please log on to www.coolmilk.com. If you would like more information please speak to the school office.

Please note that if your child is in Reception and is under 5, this milk is provided free. However, once your child has reached 5, this free entitlement stops and you have to register to pay as detailed above.

Dogs on School Premises

Please be reminded that for Health & Safety reasons, dogs should not be allowed onto school premises or tied onto gates or fencing. If you are late arriving to school with your child/children and have your dog with you, please call the school office and they will come out to receive the children into school. Thank you for your support with this. If you have any queries please contact the school office.

Half Term

School closes for the half term vacation today, Friday 16th February and reopens at normal time on Monday 26th February. I hope you have an enjoyable break.

Yours sincerely

E H Britten
Headteacher