

Dear Parents and Carers

Last Thursday and Friday, the Year 3 and Year 4 children enjoyed a terrific trip to Avebury Stone Circle. The children have been studying the Stone Age in History and this was a great chance to see Britain's largest Neolithic monument in the flesh. The sun shone and everyone benefited from the learning opportunities you can only get on such a trip. Thank you to the PTA who helped part fund this visit for our children.



As is our tradition at WF, all of our classes have made some class Christmas art to decorate the school hall. The theme this year was Christmas baubles in the style of a well-known artist.



We have also been fortunate to have been donated Christmas trees from Yarnton Nurseries, Bunkers Hill and from Blenheim. We plan for two trees to be placed in the school playground which the children will decorate with handmade decorations, each of which will have written a Christmas wish or prayer.

The children from EYFS up to Years 3 and 4 have been rehearsing their Christmas plays with their teachers (no doubt you too will know all the words to all the songs!) and they are very much looking forward to performing their plays next week.

We recognise that COVID and the new variant of COVID is causing concern. We continue to monitor the situation closely and follow government guidelines whilst taking into account our local context. Currently, we expect the plays to go ahead as scheduled. **We ask all adults coming to watch do a lateral flow test before attending a performance. We also ask that attendees wear face coverings whilst in the school building (unless of course they are exempt from wearing face coverings).** If you do test positive for COVID you must not attend, and we will refund your ticket money. We hope that by having smaller audiences, good ventilation and the measures outlined above we reduce the risk of COVID spreading in our school community.

The Year 5 and 6 children are planning to put on their show in the Summer term.

Tomorrow, the Year 3 and Year 4 children will be travelling into Oxford to see the pantomime at the Playhouse, Robin Hood. Everyone is very excited about this great opportunity.

With best wishes

Deborah Nind and the WF Team

**Our assembly theme for the month of December is Love**



Writer of the week – Nevaeh in Year 3  
 Mathematician of the week – Indiana in Foundation Stage  
 Reader of the week – Alex in Year 6  
 Value of the Week – Edith in Year 1

### Celebration of achievements

This week Archie, Cheya & Finley in Year 5 and Maggie in Year 6 have been awarded their Bronze merit arrows. Well done to them for successfully completing a range of activities to a high standard to be awarded their arrow badge.

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 75 nights of reading at home: Tilly, Oscar WJ, & Simon in Nightingales. Alex in Kingfishers. Edith & Laura in Swallows. Zachary in Red Kites. Annabel, Isla, Tymek, Anelie, Martha, Ben & Harry in Kestrels. Claire in Peregrine Falcons. Georgie in Sky Larks.

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 50 nights of reading at home: Yasmeena, Jaya & Ruari in Nightingales. Ruby, Isabella & Teddy in Kingfishers. Arthur in Swallows. Henry in Owls. Charlie L, Selina, Maxim, Georgia, Hollie & Toby. Alex in Sky Larks.

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 25 nights of reading at home: Tegan in Nightingales.

### Attendance

School starts at 8:45am, can you please make sure your child is in class by 8:45am.

#### EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

There are only 190 statutory school days in one year and 175 days (weekends and school holidays) available to use for holidays. Parents should avoid taking their children out of school during term time in order to go on holiday.

Class	Attendance for 22.11.21 – 26.11.21
Eagles	91.74%
Kestrel	93.96%
Kingfishers	98.33%
Nightingales	95.70%
Owls	90.20%
Peregrine Falcons	91.95%
Red Kites	98.57%
Robins	100%
Sky Larks	81.54%
Swallows	98.05%
Wrens	94.22%
Total	93.84%

#### Christmas Play Dates

07.12.2021	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 10am
07.12.2021	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 1.45pm
08.12.2021	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 10am
08.12.2021	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 5.00pm
09.12.2021	Foundation Stage Christmas Play at 9.45am
09.12.2021	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 2pm
09.12.2021	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 5.00pm

#### Christmas Play Tickets

Christmas play tickets for the plays are available to purchase at the office, please do come and collect your tickets if you have not already done so. Tickets are £2.50 each purely to cover the cost of hiring lights and play licences.

**Every child has an allocation of 2 tickets each, this year we are reducing the numbers in the audience but have increased the number of performances, so every parent will have the opportunity watch their child's play, this is due to Health & Safety guidelines and entrance is strictly ticket only.**

#### Children's Christmas Shopping Day

Each year we hold two non-uniform days on the Fridays leading up to Christmas to support this event, we have had the first non uniform day and the **2nd Non-uniform Day is tomorrow (in exchange for a male gift)**

On each of these non-uniform days we ask for the children to bring in a gift suitable for a parent, carer, sibling, grandparent or anyone they decide they want to buy for. We have asked for it to be male and female gifts however chocolates, biscuits, sweets are ideal! Other ideas include items such as toiletries, socks, mugs, gloves, games...anything you would like to receive. (no alcoholic gifts please!) These are to be brought into their classrooms and will then be checked, sorted and stored until the shopping event. Please can we ask that these are new, unopened and in date where applicable.

### **Shopping Day: Tuesday 14th December**

On the actual shopping day, we ask for your child to bring in £2 and to hand to their teacher, please put it in an envelope with their name on if possible, to avoid cash handling. This allows them to buy 2 gifts for whoever they choose. They will choose their gifts from a class selection and they will then wrap and label their gifts to come home with them. We hope this answers some questions but if not please email [williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com) The children thoroughly enjoy choosing the gifts themselves, the wrapping and the surprise for the recipients.

### **Key dates:**

**Friday 3rd December** - non-uniform day in exchange for a male gift

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Shopping Day

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December** - Class Christmas Parties

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas School Lunch

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December** - Carol Service for Key Stage 1 & 2

### **PTA Raffle**

Do you know of anyone or a business that would be willing to donate a prize for our raffle? Even a bottle of wine or box of biscuits/chocolates would be amazing.

We are planning a raffle to be held at the Christmas plays next week (fingers crossed the usual lucky bucket too)

If you feel you have something you'd be willing to donate please leave in the school reception or email us at [williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com) and we can arrange collection.

### **Message from Eynsham Rotary Club**

Santa and his sleigh with elves will be at Yarnton village hall carpark on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm till 7pm. music and lights.

### **Parenting Smart Website**

Please see link below for a new Parenting Smart website – it is a free online resource featuring practical advice and tried and tested tips for parents and carers of primary school age children.

[https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/?utm\\_source=Sprint1&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=parenting-smart](https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/?utm_source=Sprint1&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=parenting-smart)

### **Free Mental Health Awareness course for Parents & Carers**

In partnership with the Mental Wealth Academy, Oxfordshire Youth is delivering online Mental Health Awareness Training for Parents and Carers of young people. The training happens monthly and it's FREE for Oxfordshire residents\*. The session primarily considers the mental health of adolescents and young adults, aiming to help parents and carers to:

- Identify emotional distress
- Know where, and how, to signpost children and young people if you, or they, have a concern
- Learn practical strategies to help with listening to, and supporting, children and young people
- Develop your understanding of the wide range of factors and variables that can impact on children and young people's mental health
- Feel more confident and less fearful having 'the conversation' with your child or young person

The session lasts 1.5 hours and includes presentations and group work, providing the opportunity to speak with other parents and carers about young people's mental health. Since the launch of the training, Oxfordshire Youth has received extremely positive feedback by the attendees. The evaluation forms that Oxfordshire Youth asks attendees to complete, show that parents and carers have improved their confidence, knowledge and understanding around young people's mental health. 100 % of the attendees would recommend this training to others. For further information, booking or to check the dates of these sessions, please click on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/oxfordshire-youth-12478648335>

\*In order to receive tickets for free, Oxfordshire residents need to use the first part of their postcode as the promo code (e.g: OX4) when purchasing the tickets online

### **Together Time is a Sensory & Massage Classes for under 3's**

They are offering group classes, 1:1 private group & personalised massage routines & party packages. Please email [togthertimeoxfordshire@gmail.com](mailto:togthertimeoxfordshire@gmail.com) for further information.

### **Forthcoming Dates**

#### **December 2021**

03.12.2021	Non Uniform Day in exchange for a male gift (for the Christmas Shopping Event)
07.12.2021	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 10am
07.12.2021	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 1.45pm
08.12.2021	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 10am
08.12.2021	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 5.00pm
09.12.2021	Foundation Stage Christmas Play at 9.45am
09.12.2021	Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 2pm
09.12.2021	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 5.00pm
Year 5 & 6 are doing a summer play in term 6	
10.12.2021	Learning cards go home
13.12.2021	Learning cards returned to school
14.12.2021	Christmas Shopping Day
15.12.2021	Class Christmas Parties
16.12.2021	Christmas School Lunch
17.12.2021	Carol Service for Key Stage 1 & 2
17.12.2021	Term 2 ends

### **William Fletcher School Term Dates 2021/2022**

#### **Term 2**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November INSET Day

#### **Term 3**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January INSET

#### **Term 4**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

**Term 5**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May

**Term 6**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June INSET

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July INSET DAY

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July INSET Day