

Dear Parents and Carers



Last Sunday was the Oxford half-marathon and, as in previous years, many of our children took part in the schools challenge. We were very proud to have such a large number of children (92!), staff and parents take part in the event in Oxford. The children also welcomed the support from the cheering crowds as they ran the 1.1 miles to add to their school runs to total the half-marathon distance of 13.1 miles. Many thanks to all of the staff who gave their time on Sunday and a special thanks to Mrs Phillips for all the organising and coaching for this event. We would very much like all of the children who took part to wear their race t-shirts to school on Friday so we can celebrate their achievement in our Friday assembly.



Our older children are currently learning about the Ancient Greeks in their history lessons. This week, the children had an excellent visit to the Ashmolean Museum to look at Greek artefacts and to take part in a history workshop led by the museum staff. Visits such as these really help to bring alive the history the children are studying. Many thanks to the PTA for part funding this visit for our children.



Also, this week, our children took part in the St Frideswide civic service held at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford. We were invited to write and perform poetry on the theme of "caring for the environment" as well as sending some artwork which was printed in the order of service.



We took a group of 29 children along with many of their parents and members of staff. We were all treated to afternoon tea with the Lord Mayor of Oxford and the Leader of the County Council. The children had the opportunity to ask lots of questions as well as enjoying the sandwiches and cakes!



I have included in this newsletter the poems written by three of our children which they read during the service. The children who read and the children who attended the service were a real credit to our school.

Tomorrow will be our last day for this term, I hope you all have an enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 31st October.

Best wishes Deborah Nind and The WF team

Our assembly theme for the month of October is Justice



Writer of the week – Jude in Year 4
 Mathematician of the week – Daisy in Year 4
 Reader of the week – Joan in Year 5
 School Value – Lara in Year 6
 BLP of the Week – Samar in Year 2

Congratulations to the following children who have reached their 25 nights of reading at home: Rayhan, Lucy & Corrie in Kingfishers. Freya, Aaron, Hollie, Emilia & Thomas in Nightingales. Elliot, Everest, Hudson, Albie, Evangeline & Keziah in Swallows. Alex P, Enid,

Evie, Nikodem & Ruby in Red Kites. Lupita in Eagles. Zachary D, Jovan, Maisie & Emmie in Peregrine Falcons. Annabel is Sky Larks.

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 10.10.22 – 14.10.22
Eagles	98.18%
Kestrel	93.33%
Kingfishers	91.79%
Nightingales	97.50%
Owls	94.29%
Peregrine Falcons	98.33%
Red Kites	95.93%
Sky Larks	96.36%
Swallows	96.92%
Wrens	87.59%
Total	94.83%

Preschool Resources

Preschool will be opening up on Saturday 22nd October between 10am and 12pm. There is a selection of resources to clear, mostly books and some toys. A small cash donation of £2 to £5 per family would be welcome, which we will donate to the PTA.

Ignite After School Club Term 2

Ignite are running an after school sports club for children in Foundation to Year 6. If you would like your child to attend Ignite Sports Club for term 1, which will run every Thursday from 3pm to 4pm, starting on 3rd November, please complete the Parent Pay form. It is based on a first come first serve basis and will cost £4.50 per session (£31.50 for term 2).

Parents Evenings

You would have received an email today regarding Parents Evenings, please log into the booking system asap to confirm your meeting. We will be holding our Parents' Evenings on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th November and some teachers on Wednesday 16th November. Please select a date and time to see your child's teacher. This year we will be doing Hybrid Parents Evening, where appointments will be either a face-to-face meeting on Monday 14th November or via video call on Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th November.

Yarnton Fireworks - Saturday 12 November

Yarnton Fireworks on Saturday 12 November. Gates open at 6pm. Fireworks start at 7.00pm at Little Marsh Playing Field (Behind the Turnpike Pub), Green Lane, Yarnton, OX5 1QE.

American Hotdogs, Dinky Donuts, Cakes, Sweets & Refreshments!

Tickets can be purchased online www.tinyurl.com/yarntonfireworks2022 - £4.50 in advance and £5.00 on the gate. Under 5's free!

Busby Busy Books

*****CHECK OUT THIS WEBSITE*****

Busby Busy Books is a small business who sells educational busy books (velcro name building, phonics flashcards, daily routine tick lists) all of which are beautifully made, and can be personalised.

We have been lucky enough to be given a DISCOUNT CODE for you to use should you wish to order. Perhaps some easy xmas gifts? It gives you 10% off your order. The code is Williamfletcher10

**** NOTE personalised items have a 3/4 week turnaround so consider this if you are ordering for xmas.

The website to visit is <https://busbybusybooks.co.uk/>

PTA Update

Autumn Disco - Thank you to everyone that came along and supported the discos last Friday. We believe lots of fun was had and was a big success with 94 children attending the KS1 disco and 87 attending the KS2 disco. Also, a big Thank you to all those that gave up their time on the night. We can't put on these events without your help.

Halloween Competition - Just a bit of fun! Looking for something to do during half term?

We want to see your cake decorating, pumpkin carving, painting/drawing, you decide?!

Please send a photo entry with your child's name and class name

to williamfletcherschoolpta@gmail.com Deadline date: Tuesday 1st November. Winners to be announced in the newsletter. One winner per class.

Uniform Exchange & Sales - The next two dates have been confirmed as Tuesday 1st November and Tuesday 6th December, both 3pm on the bottom playground.(Subject to weather conditions) Suggested donation of 50p per item.

If you have any items you wish donate before the sales please drop them in the Uniform Exchange bin in the school reception. If you have any specific uniform requests please email us at ptauniformexchange@william-fletcher.oxon.sch.uk and we can see what we have in stock.

Book Swap

Next term the PTA hope to launch a new book swap for William Fletcher children, to let them borrow and swap books in Yarnton. To get this up and running, we're asking if you have any preloved (but also still lovable!) books suitable for primary school age children? Please donate at the uniform exchange (1st Nov), or we will have a box in reception after half-term.

Children's Christmas Shopping Event - The two non uniform days for the Children's Christmas Shopping Event have been confirmed as Friday 2nd December in exchange for a male gift, Friday 9th December in exchange for a female gift with the Christmas shopping event taking place on Monday 19th December. More details to follow.

Friday cafe

Starting Friday 23rd September, 8.45am- 10.30am in the Howard Hillsdon Room.

Pop in, meet other parents and carers, everyone welcome. Information available at each session, including:

*Helping your child with maths *Healthy lunchbox ideas *Money matters *Reading with your child.

Tea, coffee and biscuits available and younger siblings always welcome. For more

information, please contact: Clare Pink, Family Support Worker

clarepink@william-fletcher.gov.uk or, Karen Ariss: karen.ariss@abingdon-witney.ac.uk

Half Term Hockey Club

Please see link below for information of a Half term camp happening at Oxford Hawkes hockey club, which will be ran through WHC (Williams Hockey Coaching).

https://www.canva.com/design/DAFHPnuv-C4/eaGgfOEbtv3Ro4d8tuCNcw/view?utm_content=DAFHPnuv-C4&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink

Woodstock Tennis Club

Woodstock Tennis Club is running a two-day junior tennis camp during the October half term on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th October. Children aged 5+ of all abilities are welcome. Rackets can be borrowed for the sessions and children should come in trainers and comfortable clothing.

Please book via website: <https://www.wbtc.org.uk/holiday-tennis-courses/>

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club runs every day from 07:30 – 08:45 in the Howard Hillsdon building (old playgroup). The children enjoy a range of breakfast cereals, fruit juices, yoghurts and toast, followed by the opportunity to play indoor games. The cost is £5.00 per child. If you would like your children to take part in breakfast club, **please see the staff in the office to book prior to attendance.**

Knitting For All

We have a knitting club at school run by Steph Radda on Tuesday's from 3pm - 4.15pm (term time only). If you would like your child to attend or for more information, please contact Steph on 07940564486 for further details.

Yarnton Brownies

Yarnton Brownies currently have spaces. Come and join the fun! Open to girls aged between 7-10. We run Wednesday's during term time from 6.30-8pm. Please visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/> for more information and to register interest. Alternatively call 07866122863 - Heather Kimber Moss for any additional help.

Forthcoming Dates

October 2022

21.10.22 Last day of term
31.10.22 Term 2 begins

November 2022

01.11.22 Uniform Exchange in the playground at 3pm
10.11.22 Year 6 Imps visit
14.11.22 Parent/teacher meetings
15.11.22 Parent/teacher meetings
21.11.22 –
25.11.22 Year 6 Glasbury week
22.11.22 Clip & climb for year 5

December 2022

02.12.22 Non-uniform day in exchange for male gift
09.12.22 Non-uniform day in exchange for female gift
14.12.22 Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 10am
14.12.22 Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 2pm
15.12.22 Foundation Stage Christmas Play at 9.45am
15.12.22 Key Stage 1 Christmas Play at 2pm

15.12.22	Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Christmas Play at 5.00pm
16.12.22	School Christmas Lunch
19.12.22	Christmas shopping day
20.12.22	School Carol Service
20.12.22	End of term 2

William Fletcher School Term Dates 2022/2023

Term 1

Tuesday 6th September to Friday 21st October

Friday 2nd September INSET Day

Monday 5th September INSET Day

Term 2

Monday 31st October to Tuesday 20th December

Friday 18th November INSET Day

Term 3

Wednesday 4th January to Thursday 9th February

Term 4

Monday 20th February to Friday 31st March

Friday 10th February INSET Day

Term 5

Monday 17th April to Friday 26th May

Term 6

Tuesday 6th June to Friday 21st July

Monday 5th June INSET

William Fletcher School Term Dates 2023/2024

Term 1

Tuesday 5th September to Friday 20th October

Friday 1st September INSET Day

Monday 4th September INSET Day

Term 2

Monday 30th October to Wednesday 20th December

Monday 27th November INSET Day

Term 3

Monday 8th January to Friday 9th February

Term 4

Tuesday 20th February to Thursday 28th March

Monday 19th February INSET

Term 5

Monday 15th April to Friday 24th May

Term 6

Tuesday 4th June to Wednesday 24th July

Monday 3rd June INSET

One Life

We only have one world

One life

In my world

I have clean clothes

In my world

I have clean water

In my world

The streets are clean

We only have one world

One life

In other people's world

Some live on mountains of rubbish

In other people's world

Some walk miles for a dirty bucket of water

We only have one world

One life

Let's try

Let's all try to respect nature

Let's all try to care

We only have one world

One life

Milly year 5

(Article 24: all children have the right to live in a healthy environment)

The sea was crystal clear

Fish swam gracefully

Neon jelly fish floated through

The depths of the dark ocean

Bales of turtles crawled on the golden sand

Now I look at the sea

Murky and grey

Plastic drifting out to the horizon

Turtles nowhere to be seen

In the distance I see

An army of children

Gathering the strewn rubbish

Refusing to use plastic

In a laboratory far away

Scientists use algae to make plastic

And engineers build electric cars

And the children have hope.

By Dora -Year 6

(Article 24: all children have the right to live in a healthy environment)

Our world

Imagine
The vast, grassy plains
Full of life. The colourful canopy
Of trees. The beautiful crystal-clear lake.
The lush green forest - homes for animals.
Humans and wildlife living
together
Don't destroy
Be plastic free
Stop:
Litter
Deforestation
Pollution
CO2 emissions
Do:
Reuse
Recycle
Use solar
Wind power
Use:
Less fuel
Cycle,
Walk.

We have no planet B, care for our world.

Jovan – Year 6

Seb – Year 6

(Article 24: all children have the right to live in a healthy environment)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SENDIT

Sendit is an add-on to Snapchat, not a standalone app: it requires users to have an active Snapchat account, which they then connect to Sendit. It's important that trusted adults realise, therefore, that any risks associated with Snapchat also affect children using Sendit. Within the app, people play question games like 'Truth or Dare' and 'Never Have I Ever': users select a question to share on their Snapchat story for their friends to reply to. All responses are anonymous, although – for paying subscribers – Sendit reveals hints about who sent which messages.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ANONYMOUS RESPONSES

Anonymity online encourages people to say things and act in ways that they normally wouldn't. They're less accountable, and it's harder to track who sent a message. Research has highlighted that children perceive anonymous messages as being more severe than if the same message had come from a friend. Any app that lets children communicate anonymously should be treated with caution.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Categories of questions such as "Ask me anything" or "Rate me" – coupled with the app's anonymity – mean there is a likelihood of some friends or strangers (if the account is set to "public") responding in a negative manner. These critical comments (especially if there are several) could ruin a young person's self-esteem – heightening their insecurities and affecting their mental health.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Currently costing £8.49 per week, Sendit's Diamond Membership offers clues about who sent particular messages, such as their approximate location, the type of phone used and any mutual friends. Membership also provides exclusive games and an ad-free experience. Young people may well be curious to find out who certain messages are from and therefore sign up for membership.

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

Open-ended questions which relate personally to the sender are an opportunity for malicious people to make offensive remarks, which can lead to full-blown bullying and harassment. Additionally, bullies and trolls can hide behind the anonymity that Sendit offers, feeling more powerful and able to intimidate their target – who, by contrast, feels hurt, victimised and helpless.

POSSIBLE GROOMING

If your child doesn't have their Snapchat account set to private, or they have previously added strangers as friends, there is a possibility of predators responding to their Sendit questions. They do this in an attempt to gather information about your child – or to initiate a conversation with them, seeking ultimately to form an online 'friendship' and gain the young person's trust.

REPEATED ENGAGEMENT

On Sendit, users receive trophies for reaching a particular number of responses, for answering friends' questions and for posting their own. This sense of achievement could incentivise a young person to be active on Sendit more frequently – spending more time on their phone or tablet as they may naturally want to collect all of the trophies or might be competing with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

If your child has already downloaded Sendit, it might be wise to have a discussion with them about the impact that saying something anonymously online could have on others. Encourage them to think about how they would feel if they were on the receiving end of a particular comment. Reminding them to stop and re-read messages before sending could reduce the number of regrettable situations.

TALK IT OVER

Before allowing a young person onto a social networking app, it's a good idea to chat with them about the possibility of receiving hurtful comments. Explain that not everyone online is nice; that people often say things they don't mean; and that posts get misinterpreted. Teach your child not to reply to any offensive users on Sendit and simply block instead them (via the three dots in the top right of the screen).

BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

Even if you do allow your child to use Sendit, you might want to consider talking to them in advance about whether they really need a membership subscription. Either way, it's probably safest to make sure that in-app purchases are blocked in the settings, or that you have configured your child's device to ask for your approval before making a purchase online.

ONLY PLAY WITH FRIENDS

Stress the importance of your child playing Sendit games only with their close friends and not having strangers on their contacts list. This should help to keep the nature of the questions light-hearted – and if the games are being played among a small group, it will be easier for the members to figure out who gave certain answers if someone's been left feeling hurt or uncomfortable by any responses.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Sources: <https://www.getsendit.com/privacy> | <https://www.getsendit.com/terms> | <https://www.getsendit.com/terms>

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