



Classroom News

Darwin Class:

Welcome back, everyone! We hope you all had a great break. The children have settled back into nursery really well, and a big welcome to all our new children who have just started with us.

This week, the existing children have shown kindness by helping our new friends settle in, showing them where to sit and helping them find their way around the classroom. Our learning question this week has been: How and where do you and your families travel? Thank you so much for all the lovely photos you've sent in—we've really enjoyed looking at them! The children have been sharing and talking about their photos with each other. During group time, we read the story *You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus*. In the classroom, we've made a bus stop, and the children have been busy writing bus tickets to share with their friends.

In maths this week, we've been learning to recognise the numbers 0, 1, and 2. We've also been singing *Three Little Men in a Flying Saucer* and practising counting candles on cupcakes, as well as other objects, up to 3. We hope you all have a great weekend!

Star of the week: - Freya, Damian, Avanthika, Bonnie, Hamnah, Oakley, Imaan, Raphael and Julianna for all settling in and having such a positive start to their first week at William Morris Nursery



Nightingale Class:

What a fun first week back we have had! We have been enjoying ourselves despite the chilly weather and warming up by running around outside. In our Maths learning this week we have been continuing our work on subitising (using our quick eyes to notice how many of things there are) and matching numerals to quantities of five and their corresponding number block. We have been enjoying dice games as we practise stopping at the stopping number. In Literacy and STEAM, we have been talking about many different types of transport. We have been naming different transport and thinking about how they travel. We have also been talking about if they are used for long or short journeys and thinking about the best transport to use for various trips. We have also been talking about how people travelled in the past, using horse and carriages and how cars have changed over time. In PSED we have been thinking about the journeys and trips we have been on, sharing our adventures in a circle time conversation. We have also spent a little bit of time remembering our classroom expectations and classroom behaviour. Great job this week Nightingale Class!

Star of the week: Rosalie, for her leadership in reminding her classmates of classroom behaviour and her resilience when coming in in the morning.

Star writer: Alfie Allen, for his resilience and grit when writing this week.

Star Mathematician: Jamie, for joining in lessons and answering questions confidently.

Star Reader: Amelia, for her amazing work with her speedy sounds!



Kandinsky Class:

Year 1 have had a superb first week back to school. In Maths, we have continued our unit on shape and this week we have focused on naming different 3D shapes. We have also explored what a face is on a 3D shape and how we can count them. In Writing, we have started our new unit looking at the story Goldilocks and the three bears. Our focus for this unit is on a setting description of the cottage. We have explored the 'what' words in our pictures and a range of 'what like' words. For our Wider Curriculum unit this term, our question is 'How has the invention of cars changed over time?' By the end of the term, we will be designing a model car based on a design brief. In our lesson this week, we looked at how cars have developed over time. We sequenced a range of cars in chronological order from oldest to newest. We then identified the similarities and differences between modern-day cars and cars from the past.

Start of the Week: Evelyn for her superb efforts towards showing excellence and compassion this week.

Star Reader: Victoria for her love for reading and sharing this passion in class.

Star Writer: Humah for her excellent adjectives about the cottage in our story.

Star Mathematician: Scarlett for her being able to confidently name a range of 3D shapes.



Seacole Class:



Year 2 have made a fantastic start back to school! As the week has progressed they have become very focused on doing their best and working as a class to be ready for learning.

The new Corefulness breaks have been extremely effective to allow the children to refocus.

We have started out new text in English called Journey by Aaron Becker. This is a delightful picture book about a girl with a magic crayon. It has been a fantastic stimulus for writing so far this week and the children have used to pictures to generate ideas for their writing. They have enjoyed the Youtube video as the music is very fitting to the story – do have a look over the weekend. Mr Needle began our new STEAM topic also this week all about aviation. The children really engaged with the different inventions he informed them about and spent lots of time placing them in chronological order working well in pairs. If you happen to have any mechanical models, old or new, relating specifically to aviation and air travel vehicles only, we would love to start a small display in the classroom.

Thank you for all your support with children this week, they have made a great start to the Spring Term

Star of the Week: Olivia for excellent effort and focus during all lessons and setting an example for others.

Star Reader: Jacob for challenging himself to read and spell tricky words in phonics!

Star Writer: Alfie for his excellent effort during writing lessons to think of his own ideas.

Star Mathematician: Amelia for her effort to recall doubles and halves at speed.

Chawla Class:

In Year 3, we have had an excellent first week back! We have started our new STEAM focus 'What Impact has engineering had on the lives of humans?', so far we have looked at various waterways and we have learnt the keyword 'flow'. After this, we used atlas' to label where the River Thames, River Severn, River Trent, and the River Mersey are on a map. We have also started learning about sources and mouths of rivers, particularly focusing on the River Thames, this will help us with our learning next week where we will explore different parts of the river system. In mathematics, we have begun to practice column addition for two-digit number equations, we discussed how presentation of lining up the 10's and 1's into the right column is key in order to find the sum. In writing we have started our new class story 'Operation Gadgetman!', we used drama to create questions which helped us to understand a character's thoughts and feelings. In reading we are also looking at the same text, this week we have taken a closer look at vocabulary in the text to understand it's meaning. We have learnt keywords such as invent, propel, snoop, and periscope. We are looking forward to another fantastic week.

Star of the week - Caelan: For his excellent start to the term.

Star Writer - Hannah: For her fantastic introduction for a diary entry.

Star Mathematician - Olivia: For her excellent work on column addition.

Star Reader - Zen: For his excellent contributions in class about our new chapter book 'Operation Gadgetman!'



Ramanujan Class:

We've had a great first week back in Ramanujan Class. In writing, we have begun exploring the story of 'Street Child' which is set in Victorian Britain. The children have been developing their understanding of the Victorians and what life was like for them. In maths, we have been exploring the relationship between multiplication and division equations. In STEAM, the children have been historians and have been researching different aspects of the Victorian Era, which they will be presenting to the rest of the class today. I was so impressed with the incredible teamwork and leadership demonstrated by the children when conducting their research this week. Well done!

Star of the week: Mohamed for working well within a team and for showing great enthusiasm in his learning.

Star Writer: Lena for completing additional research on the Victorians outside of school and bringing in pages of handwritten notes!

Star Reader: Abrish for developing her reading comprehension of topic words.

Star Mathematician: Norah for challenging herself to apply her understanding of division to wider contexts.



Davinci Class:

This week in Year 5, we have been exploring *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in English, immersing ourselves in the magical world of Shakespeare through drama and creative writing. In Maths, the children have focused on division, practising short and long methods, solving word problems, and making connections to multiplication and fractions. In wider curriculum, we have begun investigating how light travels, using experiments with shadows and mirrors to explore reflection and refraction. The children have shown great enthusiasm across all subjects, and we appreciate your continued support at home.

Star of the Week: Clara, for consistently showing kindness and friendship to new pupils and always being ready to help others.

Star Reader: Oscar P for expanding his sentences and adding more detail to his answers during reading tasks.

Star Writer: Tyler, for his hard work in writing, impressive improvement in handwriting, and his fantastic golden write about Cleopatra.

Star Mathematician: Ava for her dedication to division and persistence even when faced with challenges.

Well done to all our stars – keep up the great work!

Shakespeare Class:

This week, Shakespeare Class has been full of curiosity and creativity as we explored exciting topics across our subjects. In English, we began reading *Cogheart* by Peter Bunzl, an enthralling adventure filled with mystery and wonder. Our focus has been on how authors skilfully convey changes in person, setting, time, and action. The children have been analysing key passages, identifying literary techniques, and considering how these changes enhance the story's depth and pace. In maths, we've been working on geometry, recapping the properties of various 2D and 3D shapes. Additionally, the children have been learning about coordinates, translation, and reflection, using these concepts to solve problems and create symmetrical designs. Their enthusiasm for applying geometry to practical challenges has been wonderful to see! A reminder about our reading raffle: Every child who reads regularly and records their efforts in their reading log earns an entry to win the fabulous Simba Squishmallow! Keep encouraging your child to dive into their books for a chance to take home this adorable prize. Thank you for your ongoing support, and have a wonderful weekend!

Star of the Week: Heidi for demonstrating enthusiasm, grit and determination towards learning.

Star Reader: Olivia for her accurate and efficient retrieval of key facts from the Charles Dickens text.

Star Writer: Luna accurately identifying how authors demonstrate changes in action, setting, time and place.

Star Mathematician: Summer for her enthusiastic attitude towards maths and accurately articulating processes for finding coordinates.



School News

Attendance Updates

'Improving attendance is everyone's business'

Our winning classes this week are:

1st: Kandinsky
2nd: Shakespeare
3rd: Seacole
Well Done!

Overall school attendance is:

93.5%

(Our target is 96+)



Upcoming...

- 16th January - Year 6 Trip
- 29th January - Lunar New Year
- 5th February - Book Fair Arrives
- 12th February - Book Fair Leaves
- 13th February - STEAM Showcase 2.30pm
- 14th February - End of Term - 3pm
- 24th February - Return to School
- 5th March - YR and Y6 - Height and Weight Visit
- 6th March - World Book Day



Inclusion Information

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease transition and set children up for success:

1 START SMALL AND EARLY



2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE



3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN



4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS



5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY



6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION



7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY



8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING



9 PREP TOGETHER

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

