



## Children's Mental Health Week

All the classes have enjoyed taking part in different activities regarding Children's Mental Health Week. These have included strategies for calming and mindfulness, enjoying some time off the usual curriculum doing some arts and crafts and of course, our Slipper Day on Wednesday. We will look at timetabling in further Wellness Days during the year as the sessions this week have been such a success.



## Free Parent/Carer Session Around Online Grooming & Exploitation

Following on from an online workshop a few weeks ago, we have been sent information about another session coming up in March. *'It will be led by Prevention officer Andri Nicolaou from the dedicated Child Exploitation Team in Avon and Somerset Police and will enable participants to learn how to keep the children in their care safe online and recognise the signs of grooming and exploitation. It will provide valuable insights and practical tips to help them navigate the digital world with their children and young people.'*

The previous session was well-attended and as a Trust, we received much positive feedback from parents who joined online.

Finally, we would all like to wish you an enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 23rd February.

**Mr Turull**

### ECO Team Posters Competition

We have the winners of the ECO Team Poster Competition! All of the children who won will receive 10 House Points, together with the celebrity status of seeing their laminated poster up on the school walls. Some of the designs will also be sent to the MNSP Head Office to display them on their office walls.

A huge well done to: Edith (Reception), Amelia (Y2), Annie (Y2), Mireya (Y2), Grace (Y3), Hannah & Darcey T (Y4), Immy (Y4), Adele (Y4), Isla (Y5), Jess (Y5), Viv (Y5), Billy (Y5), Flo W. (Y5), Bram (Y6) and Flo L & Arya B (Y6)



### Useful Contacts

**Office** - [office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk)

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**Leadership** - [mball@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:mball@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk) or [gsmith@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:gsmith@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk)



### Diary Dates

#### **February**

**Monday 23rd**  
Monday 23rd  
Tuesday 24th  
Friday 27th

**Start of Term 4**  
Starling Class Trip - Sevington Victorian School  
Swallow Class Trip - The Holburne Museum  
Kingfisher Class Trip - We The Curious

#### **March**

Tuesday 3rd  
Friday 6th  
Wednesday 18th  
Thursday 19th  
Monday 23rd  
Wednesday 25th  
Friday 27th

Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament - Norton Hill School - 4pm - 6pm  
World Book Day  
Tag Rugby Festival - Year 3/4 and 5/6  
Year 6 Cross Country Event - Somervale School - 4.15 - 5.30pm  
Dance Umbrella Performance - Bath Forum  
Parent Consultations  
Goldfinch Class Trip - We The Curious

#### **April**

Wednesday 1st  
Thursday 2nd  
Thursday 2nd  
**Thursday 2nd**  
**Monday 20th**  
Wednesday 22nd  
Thursday 23rd  
Friday 24th  
Thursday 30th

FOLS Easter Bingo  
Goldfinch Class Final Swimming Lesson  
FOLS Easter Egg Hunt  
**End of Term 4**  
**Start of Term 5**  
Goldfinch & Swallow Class Trip - Field to Food  
Starling Class to Begin Weekly Swimming Lessons  
Rags 2 Riches Collection  
Kingfisher and Starling Class Trip - Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

### Notices

**Sevington Victorian School** - A reminder that Starling Class will be going on their school trip on the first Monday after half term. Children will need lunch and costumes for the event.

**The Holburne Museum** - Swallow Class will be going on their school trip on Tuesday 24th February. Please provide consent asap via your Arbor Parent Account.

**We The Curious** - Kingfisher Class will be going on their school trip on Friday 27th February. Please provide consent asap via your Arbor Parent Account.

**Sports Fixtures** - We have a number of sports fixtures open to various age groups taking place next month. Please check your Arbor account and sign up for any that your child would like to take part in.

**Lunches** - A reminder to book your school lunches for after half term. This can now be done through School Grid.

**Threadworms** - There has been a case of threadworms reported. Please ensure that you check and treat as necessary. Thank you.

### **FOLS 100 Club**

Our 100 club winners for January:

1st Place (£30) - Number 23 - Emma Leat  
2nd Place (£20) - Number 8 - Yvonne Dix  
3rd Place (£10) - Number 46 - Katie Payne

If you would like to be included in the 100 club draw, please contact a member of FOLS.

### Stars of the Week

**Kingfishers** - Honey  
**Starlings** - Paige  
**Goldfinches** - Immy  
**Swallows** - Arya

### Top Doodlers

#### Doodle Maths

**Kingfishers** - Sunny & Eliza  
**Starlings** - Pippa & Evelyn  
**Goldfinches** - Sofia & Amelia  
**Swallows** - Ava & Flo

**Top Doodlers** - Starlings

#### Doodle Tables

**Starlings** - Daisy F  
**Goldfinches** - Flo  
**Swallows** - Caitlin & Ava C

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### News from the Classrooms



This week in Robins, we have been learning all about Castles, Dragons and Knights. We have been noticing where different people live and extending stories using props. We enjoyed doing some crafts and making shields and goblets.



We celebrated Children's Wellbeing Week with a variety of meaningful activities. The children practiced mindfulness through deep breathing techniques, expressed gratitude with a 'Happy Jar,' and learned how to externalize their anxieties using a 'Worry Box.' To top it all off, we had a wonderful time bringing the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff to life through creative role-play!



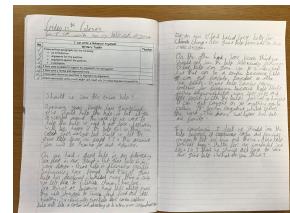
This week in Starlings we blocked all our computing lessons so that we had a good understanding of coding. We used a new program called MakeCode which is a Microsoft program and can be accessed through the internet. The children learnt how to sequence code blocks to make an algorithm to program a virtual microbit. We discussed how each block is like a link in a paper chain. The children ordered a given code sequence first, then had a go at making their own code.



This week, Goldfinch class have been immersing themselves in well-being week by completing daily activities to calm their minds and help them to feel relaxed and focused in lessons. They have really enjoyed the change of pace and being able to have some time to complete a range of activities that they enjoy.



In Swallows this week, we have been working on a quick writing project of a balanced argument. The children have been finding arguments 'for' and 'against' the question of whether we should save the Giant Kelp from extinction – it is has reduced in amount by 95% in recent years because of the rising ocean temperatures, but because it grows up to 30cm a day, it can still cause problems for fishermen trying to catch fish with their nets. [You can read more here.](#)



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## MEET OUR SCHOOL GOVERNORS

From Leigh on Mendip & Hemington School

### CATHERINE FARMER

Director Appointed, Chair of Governors

Works in SEND

#### WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BECOME A GOVERNOR?

"I became a governor because I wanted to understand more about how my children's school works, while also challenging myself to learn new skills and gain experience in a completely different role."



Catherine carrying out a 'pupil voice' survey with children.

### ANNE MACKAY

Director Appointed

Head of Science at a secondary school

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

"Meeting all the staff and other governors and being part of a team that can make a real difference to the staff and children in the schools."

### MELANIE WALCOT

Community Governor

Vet

#### WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BECOME A GOVERNOR?

"Hemington is a very small village and the Primary School is an important part of our friendly, welcoming community. I became a school governor because I wanted to play my part in fostering that relationship."

### VIKKI FEAR

Parent Governor

Work in Financial Services

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

"I enjoy going around the schools and watching the children learning with such enthusiasm and being so welcoming and well behaved. Their work is always a delight and the staff friendly."

“The governors play a crucial role as 'critical friends'. They provide support by questioning, asking for clarification and offering advice. As a head, having the ability to discuss issues facing the school is invaluable.”

Alun Randell, Headteacher

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

We are looking for more governors to support Hemington and Leigh on Mendip Primary Schools. Governors come from a wide range of backgrounds and bring a variety of skills and experience to our schools. All you need is curiosity, commitment and a willingness to learn. If you'd like to find out more, please contact our Clerk to Governors, Katie Payne, at: [kpayne@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:kpayne@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk)

## National School Governors' Awareness Day!

We would like to say a big thank you to the dedicated team of school governors who work behind the scenes at Leigh on Mendip and Hemington Schools.

Our governors play a vital role as "critical friends," helping our schools thrive by providing support, asking the right questions and ensuring our children have the best environment to learn and grow in.

We would love to welcome some more people onto our school governing body. If you would like to:

- Gain new skills and professional experience
- Give back to your local community
- Play a direct part in shaping our children's futures

Please contact Katie Payne at [kpayne@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:kpayne@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk)

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