

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

I have had the pleasure of actually being able to get into classrooms and teach this week. The children are all settling well and were able to share with me the learning that is taking place - we decided in Year 6 that we would not have liked to have been a Georgian maid and in Year 4 Mrs Stearn set us a near on impossible maths question which she thankfully returned to answer before the end of the session! We are having a focus on presentation at the moment, ensuring children are aware of the basic expectations such as letter and number formation, writing the date and WALT and underlining these with a ruler. We would appreciate your help in reiterating this message at home also.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs West-Gaul

## Dates to note:

### October:

Photos will be sent home of the Harvest Festival and presentation of bibles to Reception pupils.

21st October: PTA Mufti

### November:

2nd November: INSET day

Week commencing 2nd November: Parent Consultation Evenings

## Achievosaurus

Well done to everyone who has received an Achievosaurus Certificate this week:

<b>Year 1</b>	Blake Eden	<b>Year 4</b>	Lily-Marie Lillie
<b>Year 2</b>	Harrison H Harry D	<b>Year 5</b>	Kenzie Devon
<b>Year 3</b>	Josh V Erin B	<b>Year 6</b>	Rhys P Emily T

## Somervale Car Park

A reminder please to be careful when entering the car park and to take care when walking across to school. Parents are reminded to use the crossing patrols and not to walk through the bus lane. Thank you.

### Willing volunteers?

During lockdown the team at St John's were very busy tidying, painting, sorting and planting various areas around the school. One of those areas is the polytunnel, positioned at the back of the cookery room which we hope to get back in use as a growing area. We have got the plastic to cover the polytunnel but just wondered if there were any willing volunteers in our school community that would be able to come and fit it for us? If you think you could help please contact the school office.

### Name the classes competition

We are looking to name our classes this year along a theme. Can you think of 14 class names within a theme that we could use? If so we would like you to create a promotional poster selling your ideas, this would need to include the name and image we could use from each class; nursery, reception and then two classes per year group from Year 1 - 6.

Entries need to be in by Monday 5th October (please hand in to your class teacher who will pass them on to Mrs West-Gaul) and as a school community we will vote to find the winning entry! Good luck!



### Thank you

A huge thank you to Jewsons, Midsomer Norton, for the loan of the rotavator - our reception sandpit is looking inviting once again!

### Break the rules Muffi day Wednesday October 21st

Muffi day is back with a break the rules theme.

The PTA will be selling sweets at the front of school in the morning of the 21st for break time snack. All of which will have been packaged up at least 72hrs in advance of the sale, using strict Covid secure regulations and held in quarantine within school.

Sweets will be sold at 50p per bag and we will also ask for the £1 donation for muffi clothes.

PTA members will be on the front gates with buckets to collect the donation on entry to school rather than the teacher having to collect.

More details of the break the rules theme to follow in the next few weeks.

### School Uniform

Boys	Girls	PE
Grey v-neck jumper White shirt Grey long trousers / shorts Black shoes	Grey or purple jumper or cardigan White shirt Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers Summer dress (with white socks) White or grey socks or grey tights Black shoes	Purple T-shirt with school logo or plain white T-shirt Black shorts Black daps  For outdoor sports during winter: Trainers, Tracksuit School hoodie.
Just a reminder - Hairbands with large accessories attached are not part of the school uniform and can cause huge distractions to the learning. Jewellery is not allowed, however small stud earrings can be worn but must be removed by the child independently for PE.  Currently ties are optional, if you choose for your child to wear one these need to be washed regularly.		
Nursery - uniform not compulsory but branded t shirts can be bought from nursery office - see Suzanne for more info.		



## Learning around the school

### Year 2

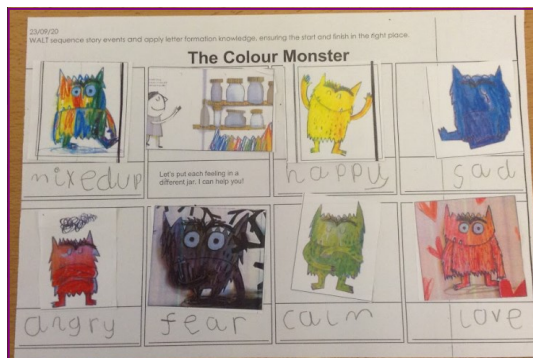
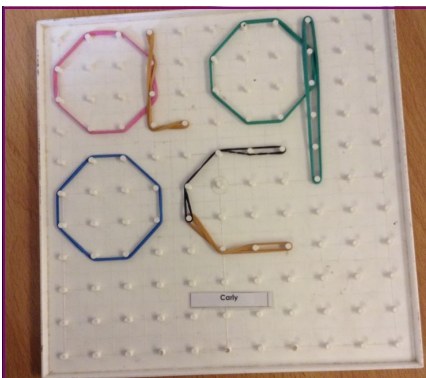
This week our year 2 pupils have been demonstrating their flair for creative writing by retelling the enchanting story of the Tin Forest. By including a range of exciting adjectives and expanded noun phrases, they have done a superb job of comparing the dark, dreary forest in which the old, lonely man lives with the majestic, vibrant forest, which appears in his dreams.

In our maths lessons the children have been learning how to recognise the place value of a digit in a number from 0 to 100. They have been doing this by practising with a range of mathematical equipment, partitioning numbers into tens and ones and working out the total value.

After lunch the children have taken part in a range of exciting activities, including orienteering and team building in PE and exploring the different parts of the UK in geography. On Friday in science we are going to be learning about germination and the children will work together to plant some beans. Next week we'll find out if they grow into beanstalks ... let's just hope they don't grow too high and lead us towards the giant's kingdom!

### Year 1

Since returning to school, the Year One classes have been very busy with their learning! They have been reading a book called 'The Colour Monster' which explores different emotions, and have also produced some great work on this. They have been practising their letter formation using lots of different methods; with paint, peg boards, chalk and with their eyes closed!



Year One have also started their termly topics - learning about where we live in the United Kingdom and the different landmarks across the country, as well as our science topic - animals! They enjoyed constructing different animal shelters and learning about the different ways to classify them, and the children were very surprised to learn that humans are mammals too!



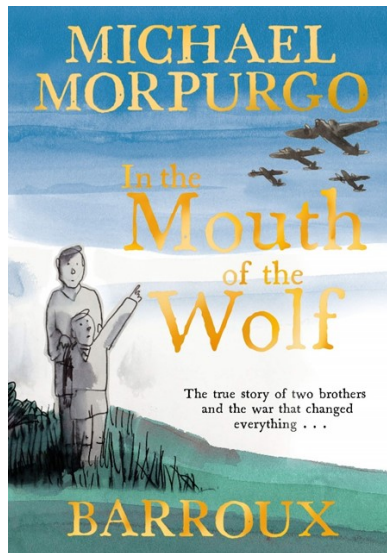
## Reading Corner - Year 5

Our class book this term is 'In the Mouth of the Wolf' by Michael Morpurgo. It is a fantastic read following a veterans memories of the War and the impact this had on his life. The children have loved reading this book and below are some quotes that the children have said regarding this story.

Michael Morpurgo is a fantastic author and has written a variety of books that would be great for this age range of children to read at home and in school.

"I love reading this book because there is so many unexpected things that happen".

"I like that it's written in first person".



"It's really interesting to see what his life was like when he was younger in the war".

"I have learnt the definition of pacifism and I understand why he chose that path".

Book Recommendation	
Book Title: <u>Midnight Gang</u>	Book Title: <u>First Class Murder</u>
<input type="radio"/> Fiction <input checked="" type="radio"/> Non Fiction	<input type="radio"/> Fiction <input checked="" type="radio"/> Non Fiction
You may be interested in this book if you like: <u>Stories, Midnight, secrets, Hospitals, dreams and probably eating</u>	You may be interested in this book if you like: <u>Sherlock Holmes or Murder on the Orient Express</u>
The best thing about this book is: <u>It's the amazing adventures about in this amazing story</u>	The best thing about this book is: <u>The mystery. There is a murder on The Orient Express. There</u>
Rate this book out of 10: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 <input checked="" type="radio"/>	Rate this book out of 10: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Recommended by: <u>Bella</u>	Recommended by: <u>Jennyfer</u>

Reading	
How do you feel whilst you are reading this story?	Can you predict what will happen in the end?
Can you find any powerful verbs or adjectives?	Can you summarise your story to a friend?
How do you think the main character feels?	






## COVID 19 update:

If your child has:  
a runny nose, is sneezing or  
feeling unwell  
But they don't have:  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in,  
sense of smell or taste

These are  
not normally symptoms of  
coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial  
111 or see your GP



If your child has:  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in, sense of  
smell or taste

This could be a sign of  
coronavirus

Book a test

## Get your pupils moving with Bike To School Week

[Bike To School Week](#) is a week-long programme of activities that celebrates all the fantastic things schools are doing to promote cycling to school. It takes place between 28 September and 2 October 2020 and is a great way to quick-start active travel to school.

The health and wellbeing benefits of children travelling actively to school are well-known, from improved behaviour and concentration, to a stronger sense of independence. As pupils return to school following lock-down, active travel is more important than ever to help pupils get to school safely and healthily.

We're making it easy for participating schools to bring the celebration to the classroom by providing **free classroom activities** as well as other resources.

Bike to School Week is delivered by Sustrans, with support from our partners the [Bikeability Trust](#).



# ONLINE CONTENT

## 10 tips to keep your children safe online

The Internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



### 1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



### 2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



### 3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



### 4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



### 5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



### 6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



### 7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



### 8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



### 9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online, listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



### 10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

**NOS**  
**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday





Midsomer Norton  
Schools Partnership

## Virtual Open Events - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

We would like to invite you to join us for the Virtual Open Evening Events at our three schools.

This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will be holding our Open Evenings virtually. Each school will have a virtual tour, subject information and a Headteacher presentation. We hope that these events will help you understand a little more about the vision and ethos of the individual schools and what they have to offer you and your children.

The events will be available on the individual school websites from 8am on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October.



**CREATING  
OPPORTUNITY.  
INSPIRING  
ACHIEVEMENT.**



Writhlington  
School

[www.writhlington.org.uk/](http://www.writhlington.org.uk/)



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