



# St. William's Weekly News Round 10 January 2020

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## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE BOARD

**'Attendance & Punctuality' is part of St. William's safeguarding procedures, to keep children safe.** All adults in school have a statutory duty to keep pupils safe and the Attendance Team (Miss Parker, Mrs Fagan & Mrs Gadd) implement a range of attendance systems to monitor all pupils' attendance and punctuality. All schools must report pupils' attendance, annually, to the Local Authority and Department for Education. **A parent/carer has a legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly.** Failure to do so could result in legal action being taken against them.

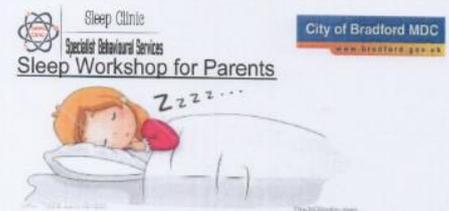
**Good attendance (97%-98%)** is essential for pupils to progress personally, socially as well as ensure that they improve their skills, understanding and learning. Regular absence, when attendance falls below 93%, **puts children at a serious disadvantage.** This is why we try to maximise every child's attendance at St. William's – **WE WANT ALL OUR PUPILS TO BE THEIR VERY BEST** and we are aiming high to achieve 98% overall school attendance because **we believe our children deserve this.** When a pupil is absent it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to inform school before 9.30am, on their first day of absence. Absence can only be authorised by the school and all absences are treated as unauthorised unless a legitimate and reasonable explanation for the pupil's absence has been received. If there is no contact made from the pupil's parent/carer, a telephone call/text message will be made in the morning. The Attendance Team may conduct a Home Visit to find out why the pupil is absent and offer help to parents/carers e.g. collecting medication. Strategies for tackling unsatisfactory attendance, will include: letters to inform parents/carers that their child's attendance **is at or below 96%.** When attendance falls **below 93% parent/carers must engage and discuss with the Attendance Team how to remove these barriers** and the school offers ways it can support them to improve their child's attendance. While the school recognises that the cost of family holidays are cheaper during term time, the law states that the cost of a holiday, is not a reason to take pupils out of school. 83 of our pupils missed 105 days of school because of holidays from Sept- Dec 2019. Our school holiday pattern, includes the two weeks holiday (end of May/start of June) because there is an increased chance of cheaper holidays being more available (due to many schools just taking the one week holiday at this time). **The Local Authority issues fines to families** taking holidays during term time. A pupil becomes a 'persistent absentee' (PA) when their attendance is **85% or below. Absence at this level is causing considerable damage to a child's educational prospects.** We try to support parents/carers, opening the school up at 8am, in the morning, for Breakfast Club and offering After School Clubs, so parents can avoid traffic congestion and support their working patterns. We accept that children do have illnesses and there are times when children cannot attend school as a result of this, however parents/carers must understand that we will ask for evidence of medical appointments; and if attendance is below 93% we will expect medical evidence to authorise further absences. **Arriving after 8.55am means your child is late and has missed the start of their school day.** This would not be good enough for my son or daughter and therefore it is not good enough for any pupil at St. William's School. Punctuality is an essential life skill and it is unacceptable to use, 'The taxi was late', 'The roads were congested', and 'I slept in'. This school is open from 8am every morning and dropping your children here first, is an option before taking other children to nursery or high school. As Headteacher, I have the responsibility to inform you about your child's attendance and late arrivals. These letters will be going out again shortly, and if you wish to raise any issue about Attendance & Punctuality and how I manage this at St. William's, I ask you, to contact me, to arrange a mutually convenient time, to discuss these matters. Thank you.

## Dates for your diary:

**Ash Class Parents'/Carers' Reading Time 8.45-9am every Wednesday**  
**Achievement Assembly every Friday, 2.45pm in the school hall.**

21/01/20	2.30pm KS2 Internet Safety Assembly
03/02/20	Spanish Showcase Y6
10/02/20	Parents Evening
12/02/20	Lime Class Shakespeare Day
12/02/20	Ash Class Open Day 9am
14/02/20	Parents Evening

## Sleep Workshop for Parents



**A HALF DAY WORKSHOP**  
**Target Audience**  
 Parents and Carers of Children who are having difficulty sleeping.  
**What will the workshop cover?**  
 The workshop aims to cover:

1. Common sleep problems and possible causes.
2. The health benefits of good sleep.
3. How light and darkness affect the sleep cycle.
4. Our body clock.
5. How diet affects sleep.
6. Medical conditions that affect Sleep
7. How exercise affects sleep.
8. Attachment and association.
9. Developing good sleep hygiene.
10. Further strategies.

And much more.....  
**Where and when will the workshop be held?**  
 The workshop will run between 9:00am – 12:30pm for half day on the following dates:

Carrwood Primary School, Eversley Drive, BD4 0EQ - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020  
 Fagley Primary School Falsgrave Avenue, BD2 3PU - 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
 High Crags Primary, Crag Rd, Shipley, BD18 2ES - 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
 Atlas Community Primary, Lincoln Close, BD6 8DL - 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**How do I apply?**  
 Please complete a sleep workshop referral form and return to the address on the referral form

Referral forms are under the shed

## The God Who Speaks – The Year of the Word.

During Monday's Whole School Liturgy, we thought about Pope Francis' quotation, 'You are holding something divine in your hands: a book that is like fire! A book through which God speaks'. This year the Catholic Church is focusing on the Bible; how it teaches us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other. The aim of The God Who Speaks – The Year of the Word is: Celebrating, Living and Sharing God's Word and we invite you all to join us in this spiritual journey.

## Kick-Boxing – PE Lesson

Pupils in Pine Class said

**Iyah :** "Kickboxing was fun because we were taught how to do punches!"

**Zdenko :** "I enjoyed the lesson because I was taught how to block my partner to defend myself."

**Sahil :** "I learnt how to shuffle my feet and move quickly to protect myself."

**Umayma:** "We were told to bow to show respect."

## Winter Weather & School Closure

As you are aware we have a text messaging system in school which we use to contact you with any important messages, this will include any school closures due to bad weather conditions. You can also hear the school closures on Pulse Radio or by visiting [www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk)

## Attendance & Punctuality

**Give your child the best start in life – every school day counts! Be in the line for ten to nine!**



### This week's Trophy Winners!

Class	%	Number of Lates per class	Time lost through lateness	Number of pupils on time
Ash	86.8	4	1hr 43m	18/22
Oak	91.5	3	23m	24/27
Pine	95.4	4	2hr 56m	24/28
Beech	94.3	2	34m	26/28
Lime	98.5	4	1hr 9m	23/27
Holly	98.8	0	0	24/24

**94.4% Overall school attendance**

**Well done HOLLY Class excellent punctuality this week**

If your child achieves 100% attendance your family will be entered into a prize draw to win £50 shopping vouchers for the term.

If you have more than one child with 100% then you will receive two or more chances of winning the prizes!

### Happy New Year

I, and all the staff at St. William's want like to wish you all a very Happy 2020!

### Welcome Miss O'Brien, Pine Class Teacher

Miss O'Brien, an experienced primary teacher, started with us last Monday. We welcome Miss O'Brien to our school family and I know you will introduce yourselves to her at the start and the end of the school day. Miss O'Brien has particular strengths in the Performance Arts and we are proud to have her join our staff team.

## Congratulations...Bravo...Well done!!!



### Hot Chocolate Friday!

**Jeremiah, Karolina, Eva, Cassidy, Lena, Sylvia, Shanel, Sofia, Bethany, Summer, Chiara and Harry** Congratulations to the children who have gone 'above and beyond' this week: Well done for always following our school rules and modelling our core virtues.

### Golden Table Winners

**Ahvina, Sahil, Sofia, Logan and Paige** These pupils have demonstrated outstanding behaviour during lunchtimes. On Monday, they will be on the Golden V.I.P. Table and will receive a prize for their exemplary behaviour. Keep this up!

### After School Clubs 2020 – Please note the change of days/times:

If your child would like to attend an afterschool club, please complete the relevant forms sent home. The clubs are based on age appropriateness and places are filled when completed slips are returned.

**Monday 3.30pm – 4.30pm Minecraft** Ash, Oak, Pine, Beech, Lime and Holly

**Monday 3.30pm – 5.00pm Cooking** Lime and Holly

**Monday 3.30pm – 4.30pm Football** - Beech, Lime and Holly

**Tuesday 3.30pm – 4.30pm Science** Beech, Lime and Holly

**Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.00pm Jiggle & Wiggle** Ash and Oak

**Tuesday 3.30pm -4.30pm Arts/Crafts** Pine, Beech, Lime and Holly

**Tuesday 3.30pm -4.30pm Archery** Pine, Beech, Lime and Holly

**Wednesday 12.15pm – 12.55pm Choir** Beech, Lime and Holly

**Wednesday 3.30pm – 4.30pm Martial Arts** Beech, Lime and Holly

**Thursday 12.25pm – 12.55 Homework Club** Ash, Oak, Pine, Beech, Lime and Holly

**Thursday 3.30pm -4.30pm Dance** - Beech, Lime and Holly

**Thursday 3.30pm -5.00pm Cooking** Lime and Holly

School closes Friday 14 February 2020 at 3.15pm and re-opens on Monday 24 February 2020.