

William Penn Newsletter October 23rd 2020

Happy Half Term

As we reach half term, it is appropriate to congratulate our pupils on the way that they have resumed a more usual school routine. Pupils new to the school, in Reception and other year groups, have also settled in well and have quickly integrated to become part of the school 'family'. In school, we are grateful to the parent body for ongoing support and flexibility.

We hope that there will be some rest and relaxation for you all in the half term holiday ahead. We look forward to seeing you all after half term on Tuesday 3rd November (with Monday being an INSET where the school is closed to pupils).

Harvest and Kids for Kids Thank You

The children looked splendid in their autumnal colours as we celebrated Harvest in a different way this year. Thank you for all the messages and kind words about the online Harvest. It isn't the same as seeing the event in person but we are very pleased that the recorded version was so enjoyed. Thank you also, for your kind donations to the Kids for Kids charity. We have forwarded the sum of £248.83 which will be put to very good use.



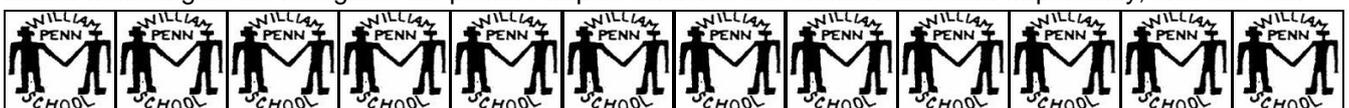
Can You Help Our Pupils' Physical and Mental Well-Being? – We Are Fundraising for a Running Track

We are seeking funding, towards a total of approximately £15,000, to install an all-weather surface track around our school field (220m). We believe that this will have a positive impact on the school community, as it recovers from COVID 19.

The running track will provide exciting new opportunities for PE lessons and will help to instil in the children the notion of a healthy and active lifestyle. We very much value physical education and understand that physical health has wider implications for the community in general.



Not only will the running track contribute to physical wellbeing, but mental wellbeing as we recognise the positive impact exercise has on mental health. Importantly, exercise can





provide opportunities for play and creativity. We believe play is a vehicle for teaching and learning and often integrate game play, role-play and drama into lessons. The running track will therefore provide an excellent space for active gameplay and expression.

The track will also transform the school's outdoor facilities by allowing the children to enjoy the outdoors, not just in the spring and summer months, but also the autumn and some Winter months.

So how can you help? We have had some success by working with local charities to get the ball rolling in terms of funding. However, there is a long way to go and we are hoping that, as a parent body, you may have contacts that we don't have access to. For example, do you have a business or know someone in business that would be interested in sponsoring this venture? Do you have links to any further charities that might be able to help us? Please contact the school office, if you can offer any assistance or would like further information. **Please remember that no amount is too small in helping us to reach our target.**

Recycling and Raising Funds for William Penn School

Thank you for all your recycling efforts, using the bins located at the front of the school. In conjunction with other collection points, our recycling has raised £274.70 for the school and other worthy causes such as the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance. We would particularly like to thank Mrs Carter for leading the collection at William Penn.

Woodwind Lessons Available In School – A message from Mr Chalk

I am pleased to inform you that recorder (Year1+), flute (Y2+) and clarinet (Y3+) lessons have resumed and there are limited spaces available for new pupils. Details of prices and how to apply can be found on the West Sussex Music website,

www.westsussexmusic.co.uk

If finances might prevent your child from taking up music lessons we have a Bursary Fund to help with the cost of lessons:

www.westsussexmusic.co.uk/bursary

For further information email please email me:

nick.chalk@westsussexmusic.co.uk

Mr Nick Chalk

Woodwind Teacher, West Sussex Music



Safeguarding Update – Game Age Ratings

We are aware that some pupils have been playing computer games that are rated for much older children. This potentially exposes children to inappropriate language and violent and sexual content.

It can be difficult to interpret the ratings for these games. The link below will give advice on this and other matters

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/video-games-age-ratings-explained/>

Pupil Achievements

Congratulations to Finn F who has recently received a man of the match award at football. Well done also to Sebby D who, last Saturday passed his Level 1 certificate in climbing.

If you have any pupil achievements that you would like mentioned in the newsletter, please e-mail the office: office@williampenn.co.uk

