

William Penn Newsletter June 19th 2020

End of Term for All Pupils – Thursday 16th July 2020

Further to an earlier communication regarding INSET days for this term, we can confirm that June 22nd will be a 'normal' Monday with the school open to those pupils currently attending.

However, as INSET days are a contractual requirement and they are not transferable from one academic year to another, Friday 17th July 2020 will now be an INSET day and the school will be closed to all pupils. The last day of the Summer Term for pupils at William Penn will, therefore, be Thursday 16th July 2020.

We have given the maximum notice available to us to notify you of this change, but appreciate that this may cause some inconvenience for which we apologise. Unfortunately, there is no precedent for this situation.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Children

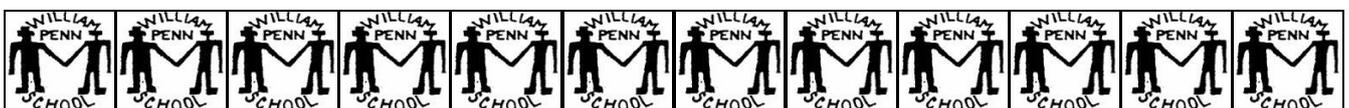
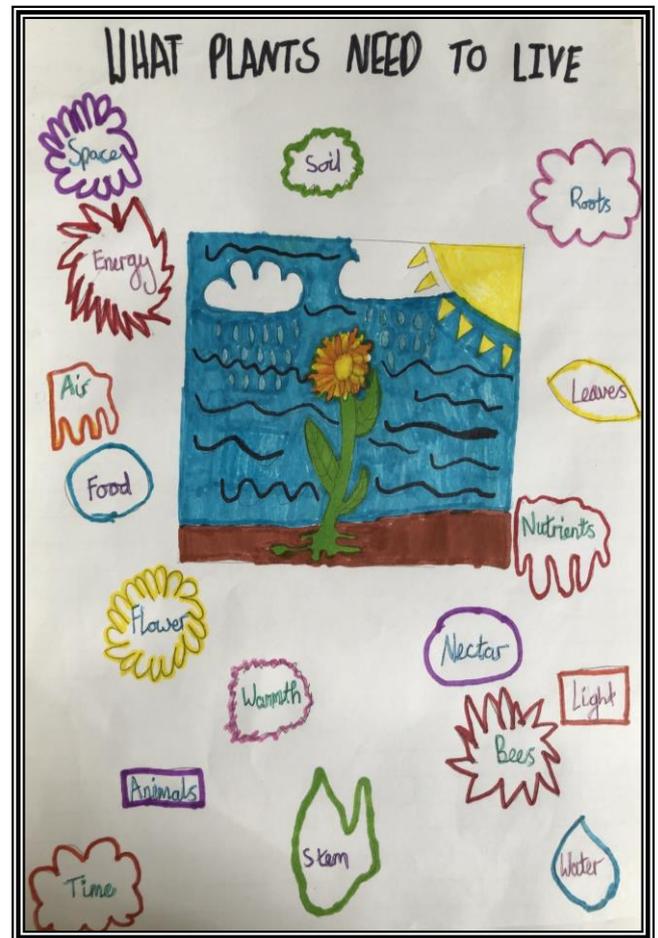
In order to comply with our risk assessments and keep pupils, staff and parents as safe as possible, please be reminded that parents are not permitted on to the school site beyond the first set of wooden double gates from the playground to the car park. Under no circumstances should you sit down, or approach the classrooms or school office. Thank you for your cooperation.

My Child Is Now Back at School – Is Their Place Guaranteed Until the End of July?

Whilst the current numbers of children attending school remain manageable with the number of staff and rooms that we have available, we are aware that in some schools, numbers are rising. This is leading to difficult decisions being made about which pupils are offered or continue to be offered school places. Our understanding from the local authority is that should the numbers of vulnerable pupils or those of key workers rise, the procedure would be to close the Year 6 bubble, followed by the Year 1 bubble and Year R bubble in that order of priority. Whilst this is not being considered at the moment at William Penn, it is important to understand this procedure, should we need to put it in place.

Home Learning Reminder – Please Continue to Access the Home Learning Resources

- The vast majority of teachers (90%) say their pupils are doing less or much less work than they would normally at this time of the year, a study finds.
- The report by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) says head teachers believe around a third of pupils are not engaging with set work.





- *Teachers say just over half (55%) of their pupils' parents are engaged with their children's home learning, according to the report.*

These are just some of the worrying headlines in a recently published BBC News article. This is a complex issue with every home facing its own challenges and as a school we understand this.

However, as we approach the end of the school year, please redouble efforts to ensure that pupils are engaging with the online work planned by their teachers and available on the school website. When more 'normal' times return, it will hold every child in good stead if they have managed to maintain a working routine and understanding of the curriculum planned for this term. This will also make reintegration to school life much easier for children.

If you would like to read the article in full, please use the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-53049127>

Viking drinking horn

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to drink from an old Viking drinking horn? Well here's your chance! Follow these instructions to make one! And drink like a real Viking.

What you need

3 any colour straws, 5 pieces of string [3 30 cm pieces and 2 40 cm pieces of string] some tape, 1 piece of paper, colouring pencils [in any colour you want] scissors and finally a ruler.

Instructions

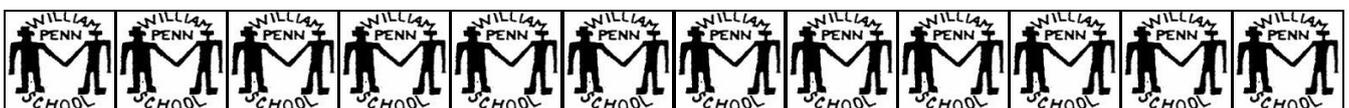
First get your piece of paper. Then fold from the corner into the side creating a cone. After cut about half way into the horn [around 6 cm]. Fold the top half over. After that cut 15cm from the tip of the cone. Tape it to keep its shape.

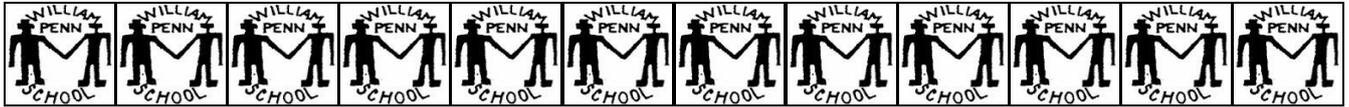
Now this is the fun part you can colour your horn! You can use natural colours like: brown and black or grey or you can use different colours and make it however you like.

Flatten 1 straw. Curl that straw around the horn. Cut the last straw into 3-4 pieces [try to make it equal]. Then curl 1 end of the straw around the holding point. Hold an end of a piece of string against the leg and hoop then tie both ends together and repeat 2 times. And finally, put the horn in the holder to see if it fits.



Please remember that Home Learning is available on the school website. This provision mirrors that being received by pupils in school. To make accessing the work as easy as possible, the teachers are reorganising some folders within the areas for each year group. Planning and Children's Work should be located in order





from newest to oldest. Some older planning and work will not be visible to those logging in at home, typically after about four weeks, so that locating current work is more straightforward.

Children's Home Learning is available on the William Penn website using the link below:

[http://www.williampenn.co.uk/website - online learning resources](http://www.williampenn.co.uk/website-online-learning-resources)

Please return children's work to the class teachers via the office email: office@williampenn.co.uk

To ensure that the child's work is forwarded to the correct teacher, please include the class name followed by the child's name in the subject bar of the email.

The work featured this week was done by Isabel WA in Year 3 and TJM in Year 6. Isabel's information is very helpful – especially for gardeners at the moment. TJ's instructions are so clearly set out – well done.

Safeguarding Update

COVID 19 Update from West Sussex County Council

... a reminder that from Monday 15 June passengers will need to wear a face covering on public transport. Exemptions to the rule include young children, disabled people and those with breathing difficulties. The government has issued [advice on face coverings](#) and also [updated its FAQs](#) as to what you can and cannot do at this time of the outbreak – please take a look.

Pupil Achievements

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

