



William Austin Infant School

Curriculum Newsletter 18 September 2026

www.williamaustrininfants.co.uk/

Email: office@williamaustrininfants.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first few days and weeks back at school are always busy, but we have been very pleased with how quickly the children have settled into their new routines and new class groups in Year 1 and Year 2.

A special welcome to any new children who have joined classes in these year groups from other schools. We look forward to working with you and having a happy association with you all.

Attached to this letter is some information about the work your child will be doing at school this term. Curriculum plans do change sometimes, but we hope this information will be of interest to you.

Mrs. Kang, Headteacher

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening for the Autumn Term will take place on Wednesday 14 October 2026, and appointments will be available. You will be sent a link to book online.

You will be able to meet your child's new class teacher and discuss how your child has settled into their new class. There will be the opportunity to ask any other questions you may have. There will be more information to follow later this month.

Parents
Evening

Packed Lunches & Nut Allergies

We kindly request that parents refrain from sending peanuts, or any other nuts as part of a packed lunch. This includes any food that contains nuts and nut products (e.g. nut oil). We are requesting this as we have some children with nut allergies and some of these are severe, meaning a life-threatening reaction can occur even if they are just sitting next to a child that has nuts in their packed lunch. The school kitchen is already defined as being nut-free. Please also watch out for, and avoid, hidden nuts in foods, such as cereal bars and chocolate spreads (e.g. Nutella). The school Allergy Policy will be available to view on our school website in due course.



Author of the Month

Reading has always been a big priority at our school, and we want to instill a real love of reading books for pleasure in our children, both at home and at school.

There are so many benefits and positives of reading; it improves how well the brain functions and increases vocabulary, it helps to sharpen memory and how much information is retained, and strengthens writing skills too!

In the school Library, to encourage the children to enjoy reading even more, we have an 'Author of the Month'. Each month a new author will be highlighted, with a bright, colourful and informative display board taking centre stage in the Library area!



This month's Author is Tom Percival. Tom Percival is artist, illustrator, musician and writer. He is well known for his uplifting stories that celebrate diversity and encourage children to be themselves.

He is the author of many well known picture books, including *By the Light of the Moon*, *The Sea Saw* and *The Invisible*. Tom's bestselling *Big Bright Feelings* picture book series offers perfect reading for building self confidence and managing feelings.

Welcome to the Year Group Meeting

On **Thursday 24 September** you are invited to attend our 'Welcome to the Year Group' meeting. This meeting is for both Year 1 and Year 2 parents, and you will find out what they will be learning this year and how you can help support your child's learning at home.

This is a ticketed event, so please remember to return the ticket request slip. Spare letters are available from the school office.

Following this meeting you will be able to go to your child's class to join in with their Storytime session.

You can bring younger children to this session if you do not have anyone who can look after them at home.

PLEASE NOTE – YOU WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO JOIN THE CLASS STORYTIME SESSION IF YOU HAVE ATTENDED THE YEAR GROUP MEETING.

Harvest 2026

Traditionally, Harvest is a time to be thankful for what we have, and to share with those who are less fortunate than ourselves. In light of this, we will be taking part in the Luton Foodbank's Harvest Challenge this October, and the children will be involved in a special Harvest assembly in school. More information on this will be sent home soon.



Google Classroom

You should have received a log-in for Google Classroom which is for your child to use to access work to complete remotely. Children in Year 1 and 2 will be set weekly homework tasks to complete via Google Classroom.

More information about how to use Google Classroom can be found on our school website under the Home Learning section of the Curriculum tab.



After School Clubs

The after school clubs for children in Year 1 and Year 2 start next week, look out for the club confirmation letter coming home in their book bags today.

If your child is doing a club this term please remember to pick them up promptly at 4.30pm.

Book Fair

We are looking forward to having a travelling book fair visit our school in October. It will be open after school for parents to visit with their child and buy books and stationery items at reasonable prices. We value this opportunity to encourage children to choose and read books. The school receives commission on all sales made, which we then use to buy books for the school library, so this is a very worthwhile event.

Diary Dates

Thursday 24 September - Year 1 and Year 2 Welcome to the Year Group meetings.

Thursday 1 October - National Poetry Day & School Census Day (more information to follow)

Friday 9 October - Book Fair open to parents (more information to follow)

Wednesday 14 October - Parents Evening

Friday 23 October - Last day of Autumn 1 half term

Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October - Half-term holiday

Monday 2 November - Staff Training Day

Tuesday 3 November - Children return to school for Autumn 2 half-term

Monday 10 November - Year R Phonics meeting (more information to follow)

Fire, Lockdown and Evacuation Procedures

The safety of our children and staff is our highest priority. To ensure our school remains secure, I want to reassure you as parents that we have stringent procedures and practises in place here at William Austin Infant School.

Our fire drills are routinely practised each half term, and we aim to carry out a lockdown practise once a term. These are done so that the children know what to do in case of an emergency.

We do not carry out a routine Evacuation drill, as this would involve leaving the school site completely, and we would not want to worry the children unnecessarily. But we do have a robust Evacuation Plan in place with clear instructions that staff are familiar with. In the unlikely event of an evacuation taking place, staff and children would relocate to a building or place of safety in the local area, and parents would be informed of the need to evacuate, and advised where to collect their children from if necessary.

Parking outside and around School



Parking continues to be a major concern on the roads around school particularly at drop off and collection times. We strongly urge our parents to be mindful and considerate to the local residents and other road users, and remember:

- **Not to park or drive on the pavement**
- **Not to park on the yellow zig-zag lines or 'Keep Clear' signs**
- **Not to park in a disabled space if you don't have a 'blue badge'**
- **Not to block local residents' driveways even if there is a car on the drive, and**
- **Keep within the speed limit and be aware of pedestrians crossing the road**

Unfortunately, we have no jurisdiction on the parking around school and there is very little we can do, other than continue to remind people to be patient and polite. Staff on duty outside are not Traffic Wardens, and it is not their role to monitor the parking before and after school each day, therefore we rely on parents to be considerate at all times.

If you have any concerns about parking, we do urge you to please phone **Parking Enforcement on 01582 548523**. Thank you.

Water Bottles

Staff have noticed some of our parents are sending juice and/or diluted drinks like squash in the children's water bottles. Parents are reminded to fill their child's water bottle with plain water only. Please make sure your child brings their water bottle home each day so water can be changed. Please make sure their water bottle is named.



Gold Artsmark Award

We are very proud to announce that our school has been awarded the Gold Artsmark Award. We have been recognised for **"creating an environment, which, through the arts, every individual can shine"** and for showing our commitment for embedding arts culture and creativity across the whole school. Well done to all the staff involved in this superb achievement!



YEAR 1 WOW moments!!



The children in Pine Class enjoyed their field work in Geography



Willow Class have enjoyed learning to jump high like a frog in PE.



Oak Class enjoyed role playing the story we have been reading in English.



Beech Class have enjoyed computing and using the laptops.



Our Year 1 Maths Superstars
Week commencing 7 September!



Our Year 1 English Superstars
Week commencing 16 September!

YEAR 2 WOW moments!!



Kingfisher Class enjoyed using different materials to make a bridge model



Lark Class enjoyed making magic starfish and sharing their talents.



Puffin Class enjoyed the Nurses 'WOW' morning



Owl Class loved watching the Gruffalo Granny workshop with Julia Donaldson and drawing the granny.



**Our Year 2 Maths Superstars
Week commencing 7 September**



**Our Year 2 English Superstars
Week commencing 14 September**