



This half term we are focussing on: Empathy

# William Ransom Weekly

Good Morning Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to Mrs Bassindale and Mr Carmody for hosting a fantastic evening at the Quiz Evening on Friday. Thanks as well to members of the SPA for arranging the event, providing refreshments throughout the evening and for making sure that everyone was able to enjoy a fish and chips meal half way through! A great evening all round!

Next week will see be an exciting one for Pine and Cedar class as they will be welcoming Phoenix comic illustrator, Zak Simmonds- Hurn, into their classrooms to tell the children all about what he does and how he does it. The Phoenix is a popular comic in classrooms up and down the country and I am sure his visit will help our children to enjoy reading even more and inspire our young illustrators of the future!

As we enter hayfever season, please make sure that you are giving your child any antihistamine medication needed before they come to school. We do not hold spare antihistamine medication in school as we can only administer prescribed medicine to children in school. Please do not send your child in with antihistamine medication, or any other type of medicine, as all medicines must be brought to the office by an adult to be safely stored and administered to children there. Thank you for your support.

On a different note, please could we ask that all parents specify, as much as possible, the reason for illness when phoning or emailing to let us know that your child is unwell.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend!

Mr Plunkett



## Coming Up Next Week...

### Wednesday

- Yr 3 Swimming
- Tennis Tournament
- Yr 5 Djembe drumming

### Thursday

- Cricket match v Samuel Lucas at Hitchin Cricket Club

## Winning Book Reviews on Accessit!

Congratulations to Ari, who is the first person to win our Book Review of the Half Term prize - a voucher to buy another book!

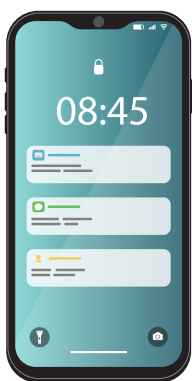
To be in with a chance of winning, children from Year 4-6 can log on to Accessit and write a book review about any book they have read recently.

There will be a winner each half term.

## Phone and Smartwatches

The school position is, and continues to be, that phones and smartwatches should not be being brought into school. The exception to this is when a child requires their phone for use before they arrive at school, or after they leave school. When this is the case, phones must be handed into the school office before school starts or as soon as the child enters the school building. They can be collected at 3:20pm.

Smartwatches should not be worn into school. If they are seen in school, the child will be asked to hand the watch into the school office, to be collected at 3:20pm. This is due to the camera and recording functionality, that exist on many, which is not permitted at school.



## Djembe Drumming in Year 5

On Wednesday Year 5 took part in their first djembe drumming session with Caz. Everyone thought it was fun and it made a lot of noise! We started by learning some instruction patterns, like when to stop. We also learned how to make loud bangs and quieter sounds. We started to learn some of the beats and rhythms to some of the songs that we will be learning. I think everyone is looking forward to next weeks session and to hitting those loud sound again!

Written by Olivia Yr 5



## The Uniform Shed Needs You!

The 2nd Hand Uniform Shed helps reduce waste, provides quick and easy access to affordable uniform and raises money for the school - WIN-WIN-WIN! To be able to continue opening regularly, we need volunteers who can spare an hour a week to help staff the shed. There is flexibility regarding when that hour might be. To find out more please email: [williamransomspa@gmail.com](mailto:williamransomspa@gmail.com) or speak to any member of the SPA.



## Boys Netball Rally

On Thursday 25th April William Ransom took part in a netball rally. We played four matches in total. We won one of them by being successful in a game of rock, paper, scissors! We played a game against Whitehill first and then we played St Andrews. After two close games we played Highover. Everyone tried hard and played well!

Written by Liam, Yr 6



## Netball Rally

On Wednesday 17th April, nine Year 6 children travelled to Whitehill School to play in a netball rally. There were ten teams in two groups, which were made up of five teams each. The highlight of the tournament was the game that we won 9-0! At the end of the rally, there was a final between the first team in each group and the second team in each group. Sadly, we didn't make it into any of the finals, but we still had a wonderful time and had lots of fun!



Written by Edu, Yr 6

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, William Ransom participated in a netball tournament at Whitehill Junior School. There were eight schools there and we played matches against four of them (Whitehill, St Andrews, Purwell and Weston).

At 1 o'clock we left school, drove to Whitehill and met Miss Swinkume there. After warming up, we went on to court one and sat down, ready to hear the rules. Five minutes later, we were standing in our positions because we were going to play against Purwell first.

Each game was ten minutes with half time after five minutes. After the first game had finished, we had scored one goal but Purwell still won.

For the next game, we played against Whitehill. Sadly, we didn't score any goals and Whitehill won.

In the third game, we against Weston. At the start of the match, we scored two goals and we were in the lead but then out of no-where they scored three!

Finally, in the fourth match (which was straight after the third one with no break) we played St Andrews in the pouring rain! The ball was really slippery and everyone was dropping it. Unfortunately, we lost all our games but it was still really fun and we enjoyed it.

By Daisy 26.4.24



## Swimming In Year 3

On Wednesdays we have been going to Hitchin Swimming Centre to swim. I think it has been going very well because the swimming teachers have been helping us a lot and they talk to us about how to do things differently and help us to find better ways of swimming. I enjoy going really deep under the water and I have been able to do that, but not as much as I want to yet. I like swimming and doing it with my classmates can make it even more enjoyable. We also got to travel on a fancy coach this week and I am hoping we get to again next week!

Written by Aidan, Yr 3



**Rising Stars Wrap-Around Clubs Ltd** Ofsted Registered and childcare vouchers accepted

**WRAPAROUND CLUBS**  
**MAY HALF TERM 24**  
**MARY EXTON**  
**PRIMARY**

OPEN TO CHILDREN FROM ALL SCHOOLS

**8.00 - 5.00 - £30.00**  
(INCLUDES BREAKFAST AND LIGHT TEA)  
**8.00 - 1.00 - £25.00**  
**12.00 - 5.00 - £25.00**  
**10.00 - 3.00 - £25.00**  
PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH

Summer Bookings also open! | Tues 28 May - Friday 31 May | For children aged 4-11

Activities include:  
Sports | Inflatables  
Indoor and Outdoor games | Chill and Care  
Arts and Crafts | (games, puzzles etc)

To book please go to [risingstars.magicbooking.co.uk](http://risingstars.magicbooking.co.uk)

Need more information? [info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk](mailto:info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk)



## Cyber Choices and Online Safety Events

For parents / carers of children aged 9 and up

You are invited to attend two **free** online sessions to discuss all things "cyber".

These sessions will be suitable for parents/carers of children in Year 5 (age 9) and above. This will be a fantastic opportunity to learn and ask questions regarding your child's online world and it shouldn't be missed!

**Part 1** will introduce you to the Cyber Choices programme which will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Choices Team. They will provide:

- An overview to parents and carers on what cybercrime is.
- What the risks to young people are.
- How the Cyber Choices programme supports at-risk individuals.
- How you can refer a young person into Cyber Choices.

You will also hear from Kent County Council's Education Safeguarding Team, who will provide an overview of:

- Some of the potential risks that children and young people may experience online.
- Advice to support parents to make informed decisions and keep their children safer online.

Please visit the NCA website to find out more about [Cyber Choices](#)

Please register for **one** part 1 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 @ 1000 - Part 1  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 @ 1300 - Part 1  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 1  
[Book here](#)

**Part 2** will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Protect Team. They will provide:

- Advice on how to improve your personal cyber security.
- Identifying and protecting yours (and your children's) key accounts.
- Threats and techniques that cyber criminals may use to target you / your family.
- Benefits of family accounts.
- Parental controls on your router.
- Signposting to useful resources.

The aim of the session is to provide you with tools and techniques to improve the cyber security of your family.

Advice and guidance from the session will be in line with the Government's [Stop! Think Fraud](#) and the National Cyber Security Centres [CyberAware](#) campaigns.

Again, please register for **one** part 2 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 @ 1000 - Part 2  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 @ 1300 - Part 2  
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 2  
[Book here](#)

If you have any questions or would like us to cover a certain topic within our sessions, then please complete our [online form](#).

Hertfordshire Music Service

**Drumming for Wellbeing**

As part of Mental Health Awareness week in May, we are pleased to be able to offer a one-off drumming session at North Herts Music School for families with children in year 3 or above.

These sessions will be led by our amazing Whole Class & Community Music Development Lead – Caz Wolfson.

Please register each person attending using the QR code or via [www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk](http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk)

Two sessions are available; 4pm to 5pm and 5.30pm to 6.30pm but places are limited.  
Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult.  
Cost is £3 per person or £10 for a family of 4 (2 adults and 2 children).

Date: Wednesday 15th May  
Time: 4pm - 5pm and 5.30pm - 6.30pm  
Contact: [hitchinmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:hitchinmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Follow @HertsMusic | Hertfordshire Music Service | [hertsmusicservice.org.uk](http://hertsmusicservice.org.uk)

**Gymnastics and Trampoline Days**  
**May 2024**

Rising Stars Multi-Sports Ltd

**Dates and School Venues**

Tuesday 28 May  
Lordship Farm, Letchworth

Wednesday 29 May  
Fairfield Park, Stotfold

Thursday 30 May  
Mary Exton, Hitchin

For children aged 4-11

Led by qualified coaches! DBS checked and first aid trained

**10.00 - 3.00**  
**£25.00**  
**10.00 - 2.00**  
**£22.50**  
4 year olds may only attend until 2.00

Please provide a packed lunch

Book on our website: [risingstars-online.co.uk](http://risingstars-online.co.uk)

Please note that for Lordship Farm and Mary Exton these courses are separate from Wraparound Care

[multi-sports@risingstars-online.co.uk](mailto:multi-sports@risingstars-online.co.uk) 01462 790152

# Reminders...

## Vomiting and Diarrhoea

A reminder that children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick/had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



## Headlice

Unfortunately, your child may come into contact with headlice. For further information on what this might look like and what to do about it [please click here](#).

## Please Look After Our Neighbours

With 422 children now in the school, we realise that picking up and dropping off are going to be very busy times outside the school. But please make sure that you are parking sensibly and responsibly and being courteous to our neighbours.

## Taking Care Around Railways

We wanted to share the following links to two assembly videos focussed on railway safety with you all. With the school being in close proximity to a railway track and station, we are aware that some of our children are of an age where they might be independently exploring their local community and we want everyone to be as safe as possible. You can access the KS1 video by [clicking here](#) and the KS2 video by [clicking here](#).



## Crossing Wymondley Road

As you are all aware, Lollipop Kate has now retired and the role is currently being advertised. In the meantime, please continue to remind your children to take extra care and be extra cautious when using the crossing on Wymondley Road.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING THE SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL AT

**William Ransom Primary School**



THE PAY IS £11.59 PER HOUR (excluding enhancements)

**JOB SHARES ARE AVAILABLE**

FULL TRAINING AND SUPPORT ARE PROVIDED BY THE TEAM

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THE ACTIVE AND SAFER TRAVEL TEAM ON

01992 556816/01992 556803  
OR EMAIL: [scp.enquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:scp.enquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Can we please remind you that it is parental responsibility to get your child to and from school safely

Hertfordshire County Council, Active and Safer Travel Team,  
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DN.  
Tel: 01992 556816 January 2024

"It provides me with extra income"

"It's given me the confidence to get back to work"

"It makes me smile"



"Term time only is perfect as it fits around child care"

"It puts me in a good routine"

"I feel part of the community"





## WILLIAM RANSOM WRAP-AROUND CLUB

### BREAKFAST CLUB

From 7:30am - £6.00  
Breakfast served until 8.15 only

### AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Until 5:00 pm - £9.50 per session  
Until 5:30 pm - £11.00 per session  
Until 6:00 pm - £13.00 per session



MON Trampoline    TUE Summer Sports    WED Dodgeball    THU Inflatables    FRI/FRI Friday Fun Day



At our after school club, children will start the session with the activity listed above or by having time in our chill and care area where they will have access to a variety of play activities. (Activities may be subject to change). After tea, there will be further opportunities for indoor or outdoor games and play activities or quiet time if they prefer.

To register please go to

[risingstars.magicbooking.co.uk](http://risingstars.magicbooking.co.uk)

If you need to contact us please email [williamransom@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk](mailto:williamransom@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk) 07919 330254 or for admin queries: [info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk](mailto:info@risingstars-wraparound.co.uk) 01462 790152

On registering your child for a place on our course Rising Stars will collect certain information about you/your child which will include your names, email address, telephone number, child's date of birth, gender and school. We will not share this information with any third party for marketing purposes.

## Allergy Awareness To Protect Every Child

We need everyone to do all they can to protect every child in the school. Some of our children have known allergies, others are being diagnosed and there will be some who have allergies that have yet to come to light.

Children bringing snacks in for breaktimes should only be bringing in fruit. Please ensure that your child is not bringing in nut based snacks.

Please also note we are unable to have in school, or hand out, birthday sweets/cakes. This is for everyone's safety. Thank you for your support.

## School Uniform

Please can all parents please ensure that children are attending school wearing the correct school uniform. If there are difficulties in doing that, please approach a member of the School Office or a member of the leadership team and we will happily discuss this further with you.

