



22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Dear Families,

It has been a wonderful start to the spring term. The children happily returned to school and have been eager to get stuck into their learning. We have enjoyed welcoming our new Nursery families to William Morris, as well as other families across some of the year groups. It is great to see how well the children have already started to settle.

### Head Boy/Girl team update

Our Head Girl and newly appointed Deputy Head Boy were invited to attend Merton's first Children's Parliament. There were 17 schools represented and each school was invited to share a key priority of focus in their own school. Priorities ranged from improving school lunches and playtimes to improving attendance on a Friday and providing more opportunities for reducing the amount of litter in and around the school. Our team proudly presented their key priority of: the securing of a grant to launch the BeDifferent Bistro for the local community.



The children were then invited to speak to other school representatives about what they would like to see being improved in the London Borough of Merton. There was a unanimous sense of focussing on 'equality' and so it was agreed after a small vote to focus on equal access to all equipment in all green spaces/parks. It was inspiring to be involved on a larger scale in the future of the London Borough of Merton. We look forward to our next meeting next half-term and in the meantime we will continue to focus on our 'key priority' and we will update you all, as we progress.

### Year 2 – Tudor Day

The children in Year 2 had a wonderful first day back after the holiday period. Miss Dunn become the Queen for the day whilst the children became the Tudor servants. They were able experience a snippet of what life was like back in the Tudor times.



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## Reception's Secret Pizza Party

We are looking forward to inviting our Reception families to school for our very exciting Pizza Party on Monday at 4.00 pm. What a wonderful way to bring their story focus to life!

## The Voice of William Morris – the children's 'voice'

As we begin the new term at William Morris, it's crucial to highlight the impact of a strong beginning on our children's educational journey. Our Head Boy/Girl team have asked for 'the voice' of all children in the Federation on the subject of 'attendance', particularly attendance on a Friday.



Statistics have been shared with the children, making them aware of how being absent from school will affect their learning and their ability to make long lasting relationships.

Mrs Bull will be offering a weekly 'award' to the classes that achieve **94%** and above on a Friday. The award would be given the following Friday to ensure that the attendance of all children remains a priority.

Watch this space....

| Class            | Percentage % |
|------------------|--------------|
| Holmes AM        | 80%          |
| Holmes PM        | 93%          |
| Holmes Full Time | 86%          |
| Beckham          | 89%          |
| Armstrong        | 84%          |
| Kingsley         | 98%          |
| Potter           | 96%          |
| Mozart           | 83%          |
| Farah            | 95%          |
| Rowling          | 96%          |
| Presley          | 92%          |
| Attenborough     | 89%          |
| Gates            | 99%          |



Do you have a budding Young Artist at home?

As an opportunity to showcase the talent and skills of young people across the country, the **Royal Academy of Arts** invite children aged 4-19 years old to submit a piece of art work for judging by 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please visit

[www.youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk](http://www.youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk)

Mrs Bull and Miss Akhtar



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