

# Update 4.2.22

What another busy week it has been at St. William's! Year 4 enjoyed a brilliant visit to How Hill this week. They experienced activities such as pond dipping, owl pellet dissecting and hill rolling; it was certainly a busy day. Reception have continued their learning all about castles by making wonderful models and Year 1 have welcomed a visitor into their classroom to find out all about the human skeleton!

It has been great to see our attendance back up to over 90% after the COVID-19 outbreak at school. Sadly, we are still experiencing staff absence and we are doing our very best to ensure that your child continues to receive a full education and that the disruption is kept to a minimum. We wish any child or adult that can't attend school right now the very best and look forward to seeing them back at school, when they are well enough.

Where we have had to cover classes, we have tried to continue to do this internally with staff that the children know. This has also included using our regular supply teacher, Mrs Mel Cockburn. At times, this has not been possible and so we have had to use an external supply agency to help cover classes.

It will always be our last resort to ask classes to have to learn from home due to staffing and if this does happen, we will communicate with you as soon as possible. The team at St. William's have been amazing at volunteering to cover for clubs, extra break and lunch duties to ensure that everything continues as normal. Thank you for your understanding during the past few weeks. If we have had to cancel meetings with you, been a bit late opening the gates, or been slower in getting back to you, we do apologise for this and hope you understand that things have been trickier than normal.

We received some lovely news from Miss Sami James, who has given birth to a baby boy. They have named him Cooper and we can't wait to meet him. Congratulations and well done Sami! We were also joined last week by Mrs Mason and baby Oliver via our whole school zoom. Oliver was very well behaved; he was the star of our assembly!

We have one more week before half term and we are going to make it a good one! Year 2 have their first disco after school on Thursday and all next week we are going to be thinking of how we can look after our mental health as part of Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is "Growing Together", where we will think about how we have all grown and how we can help others to grow. On Friday we are asking everyone to come dressed in their own clothes in a 'Dress to Express Day!' – just remember to be warm as our windows are still open!

Enjoy your weekend everyone, stay safe.

PS Don't forget to check out all the news this week, including some fantastic photographs of our new dinosaur, Super Nova!