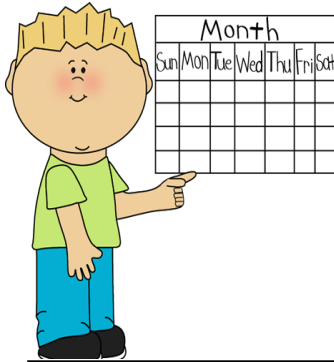


William Older

Newsletter Summer Term (2) 2026



| Month | | | | | | |
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Term Dates:

2nd half of Summer Term: Mon 1st June - Fri 17th July 2026

Return for Autumn Term: Thursday 3rd September 2026

Events for this Half Term

Wednesday 10th June - Visit from the Fire Brigade - pm

Thursday 11th June - The Little Sound Company visit - pm

Tuesday 16th June - Pirate Day - ALL DAY

Friday 26th June - 'What the Very Hungry Caterpillar Heard' Day - ALL DAY

Week Commencing Monday 9th June - Safety Week - Featuring Smartie the Penguin (Internet Safety), Slip,Slop,Slap (Sun Safety), Pantosaurus (Personal Safety) & Hedgehog Road Safety

Sunday 5th July - Angmering Flower & Produce Show

Thursday 16th July - The Little Sound Company visit - pm

Every 3rd Monday of the month - Book Bus Visit

Mondays - Hartbeeps - pm

Tuesdays - School Transition Hour: 1.20pm - 2.20pm

Fridays - Cooking with Amanda - pm

Friday 17th July - Leavers Party with Magic Marty - pm

Friday 17th July - Break-up for Summer

Welcome back after a beautifully warm and sunny half term. Bit of a shock weatherwise first week back but hoping the sun will soon be back, shining on us. If the weather really warms up, we will have our annual Water Fight & Play for our older afternoon children. We have a slip prepared to go out at short notice so children on that day can come with swimming costumes, towels and most importantly, water pistols (we have ours ready too!).

Once again, a reminder to bring your child in with sunscreen already applied, suitable clothes and a named sunhat.

The World Cup also starts this week - we are happy for any children with football kits to wear them in, we may do some impromptu footie events depending on how England do!

Acceptance forms for September 2026

If you haven't yet returned your slip to me with preference for hours from September, then please do asap. Failure to do so could lead to disappointment. For those of you who have already returned to me, then please take as they will be your child's hours unless I have spoken to you.



Leavers July '26

During this term, your child will be making their own tie-dye t-shirt. We will send them home nearer the end of term. Please send your child in for the end of term party wearing them for our Leavers Party with Magic Marty! If your child does not usually attend on a Friday but is leaving for school and you would like them to come, then speak to me and you will be able to drop them in at 1pm (having eaten lunch at home) on that day.

Book Bags

We hope our Leavers have enjoyed the Book Bag experience this year and will be receiving ones from their new schools. Please return ours for next year's intake during week 6-10th July, with the last book they took home inside.

Learning Journals

All our Leavers this year have a Learning Journal which will have been shared from time to time by your child's Keyperson with you. These journals are a great way for the feeder Reception class to get a wider picture of your child. Some schools such as St Margaret's like us to pass these on. They will hopefully have a good look at them before passing them on to you to keep, sometime in the first term. Other schools do not ask for them sadly. In these cases, we will pass the journals directly back to you towards the end of term as a lovely keepsake of their early years and time spent with us.

Lost Property

We have a massive amount of unnamed lost property in boxes at front of building (also some water bottles). Please take time to look through properly as there are some lovely items of clothing and if not claimed by the beginning of July, we will be donating to St Margaret's Clothes Bank in the car park.

Paying Families

Most of our children are funded through the government scheme but for any families that are not or are taking extra sessions please make sure you are paid up in full before the end of term. Many thanks.

Whilst on the subject, if you feel you may qualify for funding from September and do not currently have a code, now is the time to be looking on the government website. If you apply and meet the criteria, you will be given a code to pass on to us.

Details on this Half Term's Events

After the success of the Little Sound Company's visit last half term, we have used funds to book two more visits for this half term and hope to keep this ongoing for next year.

Pirate Day—Tuesday 16th June

It's Pirate Day all day long! If possible, bring your children in dressed as pirates. Not all children want to dress up so there's no pressure to. We will also have some Pirate clothes available on the day for dressing up. During the morning session, we will be visited by the Reception class from St Wilfrid's Primary School who will be joining us in play. In the afternoon, it will be the two Reception classes from St Margaret's Primary School. We always have lots of special activities planned and it is one of our most fun days!



'What the Very Hungry Caterpillar Heard' Day - Friday 26th June

This is a new event for us and has been organised by Amanda. We are asking for children to wear as much red or green as possible but also welcome to dress up as caterpillars or butterflies if they wish.

This event coincides with us also growing our own live baby caterpillars (and ladybird larvae), into Painted Lady butterflies so gives us lots to talk about. Amanda is also theming activities around a story. I'm sure it's going to be a great day and could be an annual event.

Apprentices

During the past couple of months, staff member Emily completed her Level 3 in Childcare and we are extremely proud of her. Amanda will be following suit over the next few weeks and I am sure you will wish them the warmest congratulations too!

Summer Planting

Over the next week or two, you will see our containers bursting with beautiful, colourful flowers and herbs, planted by our children. We always use local supplier, Culberry Nurseries on Dapper's Lane for our plants and couldn't be happier with the value and quality they provide us. The children really enjoy planting them out and keeping them watered—they give so many learning opportunities.

Angmering Flower & Produce Show - Sunday 5th July

On a similar theme, we always like to enter some of our children's work to this village annual event. It is held at the Angmering Community Centre and has lots of growing / craft events for all the family. If you would like to participate with your family, I have some schedules in the office and these can also be found at the Parish Council offices. This year, we are entering some of our children's work in the Pre-School age classes: 'A Flower Picture' (A4) and 'A Bug / Insect Model' (max 20cm / 32cm).

The show is open for viewing on the day between 2pm and 4pm.

Other Info:

Social Media

We use our Facebook and Instagram pages to help keep you up to date with all the exciting activities your children are experiencing. We know it's not for everyone but if you change your preference and are happy to let your child be featured in our posts, then please let us know any time.

May we ask that as many families as possible request to follow us, as this is our main way of getting information out quickly, not just for posts and pics of the children having fun, for example, our recent phone line fault, outbreaks of illness, exceptional weather causing closure etc. You can request to follow us without giving permission for us to show your child on social media but please may we also ask that you like or love our posts so that we can see who we are engaging with and who might be missing info.

Snack

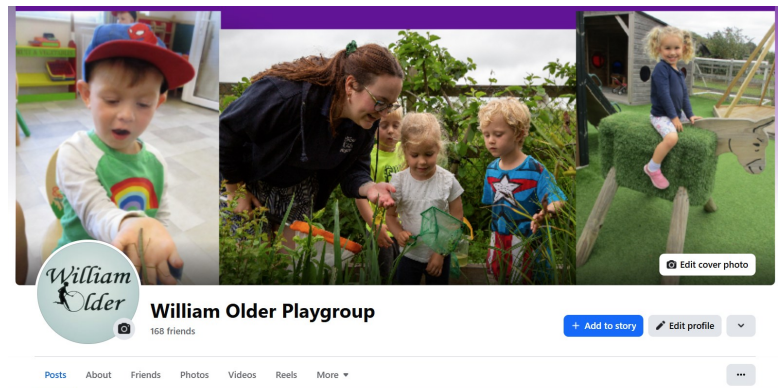
As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we like to keep costs for parents to an absolute minimum but buying in a healthy snack for each day comes at a cost. Thank you to those parents who regularly contribute a monetary donation either by BACS or snack pot outside the front doors. Unfortunately, many do not and we are reluctant to charge formally for consumables unless we really need to.

As seen in the press, childcare costs many families thousands of pounds per year. Although term-time only and school hours, we are excellent value and provide the children here with many extra curricular activities with no cost at all to families. Snack is the one thing we do ask for contributions towards. This can be done termly, weekly or whatever suits but helps us use our money for more resources for the children.

To contribute, use the snack pot outside the front door or by BACS using the reference SNACK to:

Sort Code: 30-95-09 Acc Number: 00626350 Acc Name: William Older Playgroup

Many Thanks



Car Park

The school car park is only for staff of St Margaret's and William Older Playgroup. There have been reported incidents of cars following in staff and those who have been permitted entry by the school via the intercom, whilst the secure gates have been open momentarily. Please park on the surrounding roads safely and with consideration to local residents. Thank you for your understanding.



Illness - It is our policy that all children should be kept off for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea. This is to protect other children and staff alike. Children who are also on antibiotics or taking Calpol are also much more comfortable at home so please do keep them off when they are poorly so they can fully rest up. Please let us know by email or phone if your child will not be in due to holidays, illness etc. so that we can mark that onto the register. If we have periods of time when children are not accounted for, we have been advised to contact authorities so please help us by letting us know why they're not attending.

And finally...

A both happy and sad time for us with our Leavers, many of whom we have got to know for a large proportion of their young lives. We wish them all the very best in their Reception classes and know they will go and thrive. Many we will still see at St Margaret's but for others, it may be you who see us out and about (probably in a supermarket!) and you might realise we don't actually live at Playgroup! Don't forget to come up and say 'Hi!'. For our younger children, we look forward to you being our 'Big Ones' next September and enjoying so many extra things with us as you grow.

Thank you to all our families for choosing William Older and we wish you a fabulous Summer!

Sue & the Team

