

Winhills Primary Academy

Part of The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust
Established in the Queen's Jubilee Year 2012

Off Duck Lane, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 2DX
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Susannah Connell BSc MA (Ed Mgt) NPQH

24th April 2015

Head of School: Mrs Diane Mitchell BA Ed (Hons)

Dear Parents

The children have made a brilliant start to the summer term and are enjoying their new topics. This week our school governors visited the school and I'm delighted to say that the children greatly impressed our visitors with their superb behaviour and positive attitude to learning.

Mrs Gill, our chair of governors said, "As we walked around, we witnessed that the pupils were fully focused and enthusiastic in their tasks. They were eager to share their learning experiences when we asked questions and were extremely polite. The engagement of the staff team with pupils, their enthusiasm and focus was a joy to witness."

This is excellent feedback and I look forward to this great start to the term continuing.

I am also extremely pleased to welcome Miss Beadles, an experienced teacher, who has joined us to work in Year 2. Miss Holloway is still keeping an eye on the class and will be teaching groups alongside Miss Beadles.

Please look at the future dates at the end of the newsletter so you are aware of training days, big bakes, performances and sports day. All dates are on the website under the calendar section:

<http://www.winhills-cambs.co.uk/diary/list/>

Grafham Water

The children thoroughly enjoyed their time at Grafham Water. They all participated in a range of activities including: raft building, canoeing, bush craft, archery, high ropes, mountain biking, climbing wall and orienteering to name a few! The children represented Winhills excellently and impressed the leaders at Grafham Water. A fantastic experience for all, I'm sure there are many stories that they will hold on to.

Netball

On Tuesday 21st April the Winhills netball team represented the school in a St Neots tournament at Longsands. We entered an A team and a B team into the tournament and both teams played excellently. The A team came third in their tournament which is a fantastic effort and an improvement on last year. The B team came first in their tournament which was also a great achievement! A great effort from both teams, well done!

Cross Country

After weeks of training, the cross-country team represented Winhills on Wednesday 22nd April. We entered 3 teams; A, B and C team. All teams ran fantastically well around Priory park. Our team of boys came 21st out of over 130 schools and our team of girls came 55th. Mr Franco and Miss Larbey would like to thank everyone who participated or watched this wonderful team effort.

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Attendance

Our attendance for this term so far is 95.4% which is just over the national average. We have had a couple of bouts of illness which has brought our overall percentage down but with the good weather coming I hope to see it creeping back up again. We didn't receive any requests for holidays during the Spring term, I hope that this will continue into the summer term so that the children are not missing out on valuable learning time. Thank you to all of our parents who are making sure their children are in school on time and ready to learn everyday.

Red Post Box in Office Reception Area

Envelopes and forms should be posted in the red quick drop box in the office reception area, please ensure all items are clearly named and easily identifiable. We encourage you to use this facility to save you time unnecessarily waiting.

Little Gems Before and After School Club

Please can I remind you that all bookings and cancellations should be made via the school office. 24 hours notice must be given if your child cannot attend a session to avoid being charged. Breakfast is between 7.30am and 8.30am. Please let the staff know if your child has not had breakfast at home. Children attending after school club sessions from 4.30pm onwards will be provided with tea. Please speak to staff if you wish to see the menu.

Achievement Awards

Well done to all the children who have received awards this half term. I look forward to many more children receiving awards next half term.

Monday 20th April 2015

Achievement Awards

Andrew Laing	Milla Clarke	Tayla Storey
Elsie Ray	Alarna Oxborough	Frederick Ayres
Calliegh Dodson	Chloe Willison	Denny Vout
Kira Webster		

WAC - Amanpreet Kaur

RRR - Maisie Hannah

ART - Tino Chamunikara

Term time holidays

Following Government Guidance, we as a Trust do not authorise leave during term time unless there are extra ordinary circumstances, which are judged on an individual basis. As a result of this we will apply to the Local Authority for a penalty notice if you take a child out of school for any unauthorised leave of more than 5 days.

Friends of Winhills School Association

Friends of Winhills School Association meet regularly; each meetings starts at 6.00pm and lasts for about 1hour. Everyone is welcome to attend and support our hardworking committee. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9th June 2015.

School Uniform

Children need to have their PE kit and a pair of wellies in school at all times.

As a reminder, the standard uniform consists of:

- White or blue polo shirts (plain)
- Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore with the length of skirt to be no shorter than just above the knee
- Grey or white socks, royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan (available from school with the school emblem)
- Royal blue pullover or cardigan.
- **Black footwear, shoes (not trainers)**

Hair – all long hair to be tied back, so that your child's vision is not impaired. Girls and boys may wear gel, ponytails or hair bands, but no extreme fashion hairstyles please. **Please name every item of your child's school uniform.**

PE Kit

The children need a plain white t-shirt and plain blue/navy or black shorts. Please avoid strappy tops for the girls.

If your child comes to school without the appropriate items or kit a letter will be sent home with them indicating the missing item or appropriate school wear.

Uniform points will not be given out to pupils if they do not have the correct kit. If children do not gain enough points over the term they will need to come to school in their uniform on reward day.

School Dinners

The cost of a meal at school for children in Year 3, 4 5 & 6 is £2.15 and for children in Nursery the cost is £1.90 per child from September. Adult meals are charged at £3.00 per adult. Payment can now be made online. **Your child should have come home with a letter regarding online payments, however, if this has not been received or you need help with setting this up please contact the office.** You may order lunches on a daily basis but according to Local Authority's policy, all school lunches must be paid for in advance or on the day taken. School is not allowed to give more than one day's credit per child. As you know, any parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle can book to have a dinner with a child in the school any day of the week but we do require at least one day's notice where possible.

Future Dates

4 th May 2015	May Day – No school
8 th May 2015	Photographer in school for Class Photos
11 th -14 th May 2015	SATs
20 th May 2015	Year 6 Big Bake
1 st June	Staff Training – No pupils in school
3 rd July 2015	Sports Day
8 th July 2015	KS2 Performance 1.30pm & 6.00pm
9 th July 2015	KS2 Performance 6.00pm
15 th July 2015	Garden Party Yr 6
17 th July 2015	Reward Day
20 th -22 nd July 2015	Hilltop residential, Yr6 children

Term Dates 2014-2015

Summer Term 2015

13 th April	Term Starts
4 th May	May Day Holiday
25 th – 29 th May	Half Term
1 st June	Staff Training
22 nd July	Term Ends

Term dates 2015-2016

Autumn Term 2015

2 nd September	Staff Training Day
3 rd September	Term Starts
23 rd October	Staff Training Day
26 th October to 30 th October	Half Term
2 nd November	Staff Training Day
18 th December	Term Ends

Spring Term 2016

4 th January	Staff Training Day
5 th January	Term Starts
15 th February to 19 th February	Half Term
24 th March	Term Ends

Summer Term 2016

11 th April	Term Starts
2 nd May	May Day
30 th May to 3 rd June	Half Term
20 th July	Term Ends for Pupils
21 st July	Staff Training Day

Yours sincerely



Mrs Diane Mitchell
Head of School
On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

We welcome any comments you may have below:

To: Mrs Diane Mitchell, Head of School, Winhills Primary Academy, Off Duck Lane, St Neots,
PE19 2DX

Child's name:
Comment: