

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

19th December 2014

Dear Parents

This is the final newsletter for the year and what a busy term this has been. This week we have seen many children receive awards for great achievements in their phonics, mathematics and reading regularly at home. It was wonderful to see so many certificates being given out and we are very proud of the children.

I hope you enjoyed the performances from all the children involved. I was very impressed with the youngest children in Little Gems and Gems singing all their songs on the stage for the first time. The Christmas by Candlelight Concert was wonderful and the children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 were brilliant telling the story of Christmas.

Reward Day was also a great success on Thursday. The children (and the staff!) had great fun. Key Stage 2 walked to the cinema to see A Night at the Museum before it had been released. The Reception, Year 1 and 2 teachers enjoyed a wonderful show by, 'Jezo' the magician.

This morning Key stage 2 visited St. Mary's church joining the children from Middlefield and Round House. The children sang Christmas Carols and listened to readings which was a lovely end to a busy term.

The School league tables were published last week. Level 4 is the average level every child is expected to gain by the end of Year 6. The table below shows the percentage of children who achieved level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. We are really pleased with the improvements gained this year and will continue to focus on raising standards in reading, writing and mathematics.

School	Bushmead	Crosshall	Eynesbury	Great Paxton	Little Paxton	Middlefield	Priory Juniors	Roundhouse	St. Mary's	Winhills
Percentage of children achieving level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics	88%	76%	73%	87%	88%	93%	75%	75%	53%	75%

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A message from Mrs Connell. I wanted to let you know about some really good news. I know you will want to join with me in congratulating all the staff in the Trust. I recently attended an awards ceremony in Cambridge where the Trust was awarded a certificate by the Regional Commissioner for the DFE which recognised the "passion, commitment and determination to raise standards and improve the education of pupils in the region". The success of the Trust relies on the commitment and enthusiasm of its staff which is evident every single school day and it is wonderful news that this has been recognised in this way.

Attendance

Our attendance for the last 10 weeks is 96.21% which in comparison to the same time last year is a vast improvement (it was 93.87%). We need to maintain this improvement until the end of the term to ensure our attendance continues to be above the national average.

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.

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 1 hour. Everyone is welcome to attend and support our hardworking committee.

The next meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday 20th January 2015, Tuesday 3rd March 2015, Tuesday 21st April 2015 & 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.**

New in stock – PE/Swim bags printed with logo £4.00

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

26 th January 2015	Young Voices, Yr 6 at O2
10 th March 2015	Parents Evening 3.30pm – 8.00pm
11 th March 2015	Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6.00pm
26 th March 2015	Reward Day
15 th -17 th Apr 2015	Grafham Water residential, Yr 4 children
11 th -14 th May 2015	SATs
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

Autumn Term 2014

19th December

Term ends

Spring Term 2015

5th and 6th January

Staff Training Days

7th January

Term Starts

16th – 20th February

Half Term

27th March

Term Ends

Summer Term 2015

13th April
4th May
25th – 29th May
1st June
22nd July

Term Starts
May Day Holiday
Half Term
Staff Training
Term Ends

Term dates 2015-2016**Autumn term 2015**

2nd September
3rd September
23rd October
26th October to 30th October
2nd November
18th December

Staff Training Day
Term Starts
Staff Training Day
Half Term
Staff Training Day
Term Ends

Spring term 2016

4th January
5th January
15th February to 19th February
24th March

Staff Training Day
Term Starts
Half Term
Term Ends

Summer term 2016

11th April
12th April
2nd May
30th May to 3rd June
21st July

Staff Training Day
Term Starts
May Day
Half Term
Term Ends

Finally I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, I hope you enjoy the festive holiday and look forward to seeing you all in 2015.

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: