



March 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Another term has passed and, as you will see, it has been a really busy one, with sporting events, trips and fundraisers.

We are really pleased to have been able to bring back Forest School to Winhills. Year 3 and 4 have been working with a forest school teacher to once again enjoy outdoor learning; lighting a fire, toasting marshmallows and preparing areas for planting. We have lots of plans to develop this further in to the Summer term.

We have welcomed some new pupils and families to Winhills over the last term. We are always so proud of how welcoming our children are, they are so willing to help and support our new pupils to settle and show them the routines.

On behalf of everyone at Winhills Primary Academy, I would like to wish you a restful Easter break. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 15th April ready for a busy term of statutory testing, residentials, better weather and even more sport!

Tuesday 27th February 2024 -Yr5 and Yr6 Hockey Tournament

A small group of Y5 and 6 pupils went to St Ives to take part in a Hockey tournament. They really enjoyed the event and represented the school in a really positive manner. Well done to all of the children who took part.

Thursday 7th March 2024 -World Book Day

The whole school took part in World Book day, with lots of fabulous costumes and props. You may have noticed the 'Very Hungry Caterpillar' and his selection of food wandering around school disguised as staff members! A whole school assembly focussed on reading and school staff all got involved by reading to groups of children and sharing their favourite books. Hopefully you have managed to spend the book token that was sent home.

Friday 8th March 2024 Let Girls Play Football day

A group of Year 3 and 4 children took part in the 'Let Girls Play Football' event at the St Neots Football ground. They threw themselves in to the games and had a fantastic time. One of our pupils even received the tournament 'Respect' award for her sportsmanship and attitude towards the event. Well done Alice!

Friday 8th March 2024- Yr2 Botanical Gardens Trip

Year 2 have were lucky enough to have a fully funded visit to Cambridge Botanical Gardens. They took part in a natural art workshop and had a lovely day exploring the gardens looking

at the different plants that grow there. The trip linked really well with their Geography topic about the weather, and their Science lifecycles topic. They had a fabulous day!

Friday 8th March 2024 – Yr6 Magdalene College Trip

Year 6 also had the opportunity to go on a funded trip, this time to Magdalene College in Cambridge. They experienced what it would be like to be a student at the college, having exciting lectures and a walk around the city. Finally, they visited the Fitzwilliam Museum where they had time to explore the exhibits and enhance their learning further.

11th March 2024- 14th March 2024 – Bike ability.

Pupils in Year 5 and 6 had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability; the government's national cycle training programme. It helped the children to learn practical skills and understand how to cycle on today's roads. For stage one, the children practiced their cycling skills on the playground, demonstrating specific bike handling skills. For stage two, children had to cycle on the local roads, cycling safely and using arm signals to turn corners. The children who took part represented Winhills really well, well done on your achievements.

Tuesday 12th March - NFL Practice Event

After the amazing success of NFL at Winhills last year, Mrs Smith has been busy upskilling herself to lead a new Winhills NFL team. Her NFL after school club has been really popular and they had the chance to put their learning in to action at a St Neots NFL practice festival. The team did really well and were more competitive than we had thought. Well done everyone involved.

Friday 15th March 2024- Comic Relief Red nose day

I was not in school on Friday 15th March, but rumour has it that the 'office went rogue' and arranged for a 'break the rules day'. I am pleased to see that we raised some money for Comic Relief, thank you for your donations, and I believe that the children enjoyed some rule breaking, with funky hairstyles and colourful trousers! I am yet to decide on an appropriate consequence for the behaviour of the office staff!

Monday 18th March – Netball Tournament

Mrs Burns has been running a netball club this term, the children put in a lot of effort to the club and are really fast when it comes to moving and passing the ball. They had the chance to put their skills to the test at a DLPT Netball tournament. The team did us proud and were the highest scorers. Unfortunately, they missed out on being overall winners after a 'slightly questionable' extra time decision. Well done netball team, you have proved what great competitors you are.

Thursday 21st March 2024 and Friday 22nd March - Sunstone and Ruby Caxton Farm Visit

Last week both Sunstone and Ruby classes were very excited to go and visit a working farm. It was a little chilly at times, but the children had a great time meeting the farmer, looking at how the farm worked and seeing the different animals. There was lots of different animals and some newly born lambs. The piglets were a big hit with everyone!

School Website: Class Pages

Just a reminder to have a look at the class pages on the school website. Teachers add information about the week's learning to the website, with examples from lessons and photographs. There is also information about the topics being covered over the term and key reminders for the class. <https://www.winhills-cambs.co.uk/20232024-class-pages/>

Class Dojo

Do not forget to log in to Class Dojo. Teachers add reminders for the coming week to the site and important information for you to be aware of. It is a great way for us to share information with you securely and quickly. If you do not have a log in, please let the office know who can arrange that for you.

Arbor Information

Please make sure that you are signed up on Arbor. This is the school's main use of communication, payment system and online booking system for parents evening. If you have changed your contact details, please can you make sure that these are all up to date on Arbor too. Due to GDPR we can no longer send data collection sheets home for you to check, this can be done through the Arbor portal, and it is your responsibility to ensure the information is kept up to date. Arbor has recently released the Arbor app, which can be downloaded from the app store.

Dates

Please look at the future dates at the end of the newsletter so you are aware of training days and holidays. All dates are on the website under the calendar section:

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

Parking

The school car park will be locked from 8:30am to 9:15am and 2:45pm to 3:30pm. Parents and staff will not be allowed to drive into the school car park at these times. Please ensure you park considerably outside of the school, ensuring you do not block anyone's driveway or emergency access point.

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.

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 3 days.

School Uniform Children need to always have their PE kit and a pair of wellies in school.

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. Children may wear gel, ponytails, or hair bands, but no extreme fashion hairstyles please. **Please name every item of your child's school uniform.**

It is The Diamond Learning Partnership Trusts policy that earrings must not be worn for PE, and your child must be able to remove them if they wear them to school on PE days. Earrings should be small studs.

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 from September for children in Year 3, 4 5 & 6 is £2.35, meals for nursery children are £2.10 and adult meals are £2.75. **Payment can now be made online**, please ask the office staff for more information. You may order lunches daily but according to the 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 a dinner with a child in the school any day of the week, but we do need at least one day's notice where possible.

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.

Friday 8th March 2024

Achievement Awards

Igor	Emily	Lilianna
Xander	Kaja	
Mia	Ian	

WAC – Luna-Rose

RRR – Connor

Art Willow-Mae

Friday 15th March 2024

Achievement Awards

Mia	Giordano	Esme
Sasha	Lily	Romilly
Sophie	Warren	Lily
Ronnie		

WAC – Scarlet

RRR - Ella

Art- Alexandra

Friday 22nd March 2024

Achievement Awards

Danny	Kendal-Rae	Jonathan
Matilda	Ariana	Remy
Alfie	Junior	Aurora

RRR – Alexis

WAC- Robert

Art- Kyle

Term dates 2024

Friday 29th March 2024- Friday 12th April 2024

Monday 15th April 2024

Monday 22nd April – Wednesday 24th April

Monday 6th May 2024

Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May

Monday 27th May 2024- Friday 31st May 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024

Easter Holiday

Summer Term Starts

Grafham Residential Yr. 4

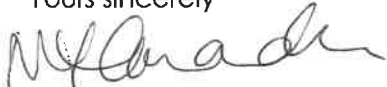
May Day

Y6 SATs week

Half Term

Summer Term continues

Yours sincerely



Mrs. N Harradine

Head of School

On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

