

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: Mr John Turner BSc PGCE

Dear Parents

I cannot believe that it is nearly Christmas already. The term has flown by. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone for all of the support that you have given us over the term. It really is appreciated. You should all be really proud of the children. They have settled in so well with the changes in routine.

On the 1st December, we still did our traditional 'Wishing the Christmas lights on' via zoom. It certainly was a different way to do this but the children were fantastic. We have attempted to make sure that the children are completing as many Christmas activities as possible as we do know Christmas may look different to other years for everyone. We hope that they have all enjoyed Christmas at Winhills this year.

Christmas Decoration winners

The children have made some amazing decorations which made it very hard for us to judge for each class.

Nursery Class -	Harley
Opal Class -	Ewan
Topaz Class -	Colin
Emerald Class-	Alex
Sunstone Class-	Aimee
Sapphire Class -	Olivia
Amethyst Class -	Noah
Moonstone Class-	Aiden
Turquoise Class-	Lilli-Mae
Quartz Class-	Charlotte

Poppy Appeal

On 11th November we remembered the sacrifices that people have made over the years in war to ensure that we are able to live in peace. Across the school, the children learnt about why we remember. Year 6 used the short animation by Aidan Gibbons called 'The Piano' to write some moving pieces remembering the wars. The Poppy Appeal raised £129.95.

Children in Need

We combined Children in Need with Anti Bullying Week. The children all came to school in their odd socks to celebrate uniqueness around the school. The children raised over £180.00 to go towards this charity.

Friends of Winhills School Association/ PTA

A Virtual Christmas Panto was arranged by the PTA. The children all got to watch Cinderella and have a little snack in the interval. They certainly all enjoyed the performance.

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Save the children Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 11th December the children came to school wearing a Christmas Jumper or accessory. The children all looked bright and colourful and were full of the Christmas spirit.

Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday 16th December, we held our Christmas Dinner at school. The children all got the opportunity to have a traditional lunch as well as crackers to pull with each other. The Christmas music certainly added to the festivities.

Local care homes

The children at Winhills made lots of cards, poems and decorations to send to local care homes to brighten up their Christmas. They were all fantastic and so thoughtful.

Christmas Carols

The children all learnt a Christmas song, which has been recorded and will be posted for you to enjoy over the holidays.

Reward day

For Reward Day, the children all stayed in their classes for a day of fun activities. This is to thank the children for all of their hard work and fantastic behaviour over the term. They certainly have deserved it.

School Reports

Arbor Information

Please make sure that you are signed up on Arbor. This is the schools 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 have recently released the Arbor app, which can be downloaded from the app store. We currently have over 94% of Parents who have successfully signed up. This makes such a massive difference to both the environment and our budget as we do not have to print as many letters.

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 and this may result in a penalty notice fine of £60.00 per parent per child, if paid within 21 days.

School Uniform

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. 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. Children are able to wear plain jumpers or jogging bottoms if the weather is cold as we will be attempting to go outside for our sessions.

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.

Please do remember that children are allowed to come into school wearing their PE kit on PE days.

School Dinners

The cost of a meal at school from September for children in Year 3, 4 5 & 6 is £2.25, meals for nursery children are £2.00 and adult meals are £3.20. **Payment can now be made online**, please ask the office staff for more information. 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.

Term dates 2021

Monday 4 th January 2021	Training Day
Tuesday 5 th January 2021	Spring Term Starts
Monday 15 th February - Friday 19 th February 2021	Half Term
Monday 22 nd February 2021	Spring Term Continues

Tuesday 2 nd March 2021	SEND Parents Evening
Tuesday 16 th March 2021	Parents Evening
Wednesday 17 th March 2021	Parents Evening
Friday 26 th March 2021	Reward Day
Monday 29 th March – Friday 9 th April 2021	Half Term
Monday 12 th April 2021	Training Day
Tuesday 13 th April 2021	Term Starts

Yours sincerely

J. W. Turner

Mr. John Turner
Head of School
On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

We welcome any comments you may have below: