



Friday 27th May 2022

Dear parents,

It has been pleasure to write this latest newsletter and share with you some of the opportunities the children have had over the last few months. The fair weather has definitely helped making these trips enjoyable for all. The children have all represented the school beautifully and their behaviour has been amazing. It certainly has made me proud. Below is an update of some of the fantastic things that the children have been up to.

Young Voices

On 25th April, the children in Year 6 travelled to the O2 Arena in London to take part in Young Voices - the world's largest school choir. As part of our music lessons, the children had been busy learning a range of songs and dances, ready to perform in London. During the day, the Year 6 children rehearsed along with 7,000 other children, ready to perform to parent in the evening show, with a crowd of 14,000 people. It was a fantastic experience for the children, with a number of singers, dancers and beat-boxers taking part in the final show, an experience they will never forget. The Winhills pupils were wonderfully behaved and it was a pleasure to take them.

Swimming Year 5 –Every Wednesday.

Every Wednesday since the beginning of Summer Term, Year 5 have attended swimming lessons. In such a short space of time, the progress and confidence the teachers have seen in the children is astounding. The children have learnt the strokes front crawl and back stroke so far and they have already been practicing swimming the whole length of the pool. At the beginning of the first lesson, lots of children were extremely anxious and nervous to get into the water but after only a few weeks they are eager to get in the water and are coming out with huge smiles on their faces.

Rock Steady Music

Winhills were lucky enough to welcome in Rock Steady. The children all got to take part in taster sessions to see what it may be like to be part of a band. If your child would like to take part in this going forward, then please speak to the school office to get details of how to sign up and costs involved.

Priory Park Cross Country Competition

On Thursday 28th April, some Year 5 and 6 children from Winhills took part in the Cross-Country event at Priory Park. There were 2 teams of boys and 2 teams of girls who had to compete in a relay race against at least 30 other teams. The children were all absolutely fantastic and their sportsmanship towards each other and other racers was brilliant. All of the children completed the race and ran with great enthusiasm.

Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 4th May, four children from Year 5 took part in the Cambridgeshire Maths Challenge. The competition runs across Cambridgeshire with a large number of schools taking part, and the winning school competing in the final which is held at Duxford. During our heat, the children had to solve a number of highly complex questions on a range of mathematical areas, which really pushed their understanding to the limit. In a field of eight schools, we were delighted to finish second, which leaves the possibility of reaching the final as a best placed runner up - fingers crossed! Well done to Jaidyn, Alex, Leo, and Advith for doing so well.

SATS week.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of our Year 2 and Year 6 children who in the last three weeks have completed the SATS (Statutory assessments set by the government). The children were absolutely amazing and all did their very best. It was great to see them applying everything that they have learnt over their time in school during these assessments.

Year 5 Ballet Trip to the Royal Opera House London

Year 5 were extremely lucky to be able to attend the Royal Opera House on Tuesday 10th May to watch Swan Lake. The children walked into the theatre and were amazed to see the incredible detail of the Opera House. The ballet was fantastic and the children were mesmerised by the orchestra, backdrops, and dancers. It is definitely an experience they will never forget!

Year 3 and Year 4 Girls Football Festival HSSP – St. Neots Football Club

Tuesday

On Tuesday 10th May, four of our Year 4 girls and two of our Year 3 girls represented the school in a football festival at St Neots Towns Football Club. The girls played five mini football matches against a range of teams. Throughout the day, the girls highlighted their teamwork and support for one another, as well as the other teams. Even through the warm weather, the girls all had the biggest smiles on their faces and played with such determination!

SEND Panathlon – Ten Pin-Bowling Festival

On Friday 13th May, 18 children from Year 4, 5 and 6 competed in a Panathlon ten-pin bowling event. Winhills entered 3 teams into the competition and each team were amazing. Every single child had a huge smile on their face and listening to them cheer each other on was extremely heart-warming. However, one of our teams in particular played a spectacular game and came second out of 15 teams. They received a trophy which can be found in the cabinet in the school office.

Bikeability Yr5 and Yr6

Bikeability was back at Winhills this May, this time with years 5 and 6. The 4-day course was broken down into both level 1 and level 2. Starting with the basics in the school playground on day 1 and finishing on day 4 biking up and down Cromwell Road. All the children did Winhills proud with their behaviour and also their attention to the course. Learning how to take care of their bikes through to confidently and safely riding on big main roads.

Everyone had a great time. Well done those that attended.

Opal and Topaz Paxton Pits Visit

Opal and Topaz classes had a fantastic day at Paxton Pits. The children did some pond dipping, bug hunting and bird watching across the lake. They acted as detectives to find out information about the creatures that live in the Ouse Valley and have already brought their new knowledge to their learning back at school. Their behaviour was fantastic and we are extremely proud of them.

Year 3 and Year 4 Tennis Festival with the HSSP

Some Year 3 and 4 children attended a Tennis festival at St Neots Tennis Club on Tuesday 24th May. The children participated in a range of activities and small games. They were taught and used a variety of skills which ranged from throwing and catching to hitting the ball with the racket. The children had a fantastic morning and it was a lovely introduction to tennis.

Monach Farm Vist

On Thursday 26th and Friday 27th May 2022, Sunstone and Emerald class visited Monarch Farm. This was a trip organised by the Country Trust to educate children on where food comes from. The children were able to take part on a walk around the farm looking at the animals and wildlife that was there. In the afternoon, the children got to meet the animals. A highlight for a lot of the children on the Thursday was when the little lamb had a wee on me. The children were all fantastic and asked lots of questions.

DLPT Commonwealth Games

After a pause of almost two years, the summer term saw the return of the much-anticipated 2022 KS2 DLP Trust Events. Held here at Winhills, the Trust Events give each year group in KS2 the chance to compete in Rounders, Athletics and Netball against other age groups from the St Neots Hub schools. With the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games just around the corner, the Trust events joined in with the celebrations by giving each class a commonwealth country to represent. The nations of Malaysia (Y3), Fiji (Y4), Canada (Y5) and Trinidad and Tobago (Y6) represented the school in great fashion by showing a fantastic attitude and championing the game's values of determination, teamwork, and respect. A big well done to all the classes that took part with a special mention to Canada, who narrowly missed out on lifting the Y5 trophy by finishing in a close 2nd place.

Attendance:

Please can you ensure that if your **child is not in school**, you ring the school office to let them know. If we do not hear anything, or you then do not answer a call from the office, you may expect a member of Winhills staff to visit your house to carry out a welfare check. This is something that has been tightened nationally with latest news stories around child welfare.

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 considerately outside of the school, ensuring you do not block anyone's driveway or emergency access point. We are working alongside the local PCSO who will be regularly patrolling the local area. This is an initiative across the whole of St. Neots.

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-hour 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 (about 3 weeks).

School Uniform

Children always need to 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 Trust's 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 £2.25; meals for nursery children are £2.00

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.**

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 29th April 2022

Achievement Awards.

Evalyn	Tom	
Anastasia	Noah	
Seth	Olivia	

WAC Award – Sophie **RRR Award** - Lucy **Art Award**- Freya

Friday 6th May 2022

Achievement Awards

Logan	Cerys	
Robert	Emily	
Anna Lea	Noah	

Art Award – Lexie **WAC Award** – Rosie **RRR Award** – Emma

Friday 13th May 2022

Achievement Awards

Kyle	Aurora	Mollie-May
Poppy	Adela	
Rayan	James	

Art Award - Ralf **WAC Award** – Cameron **RRR Award** – Kaylin

Friday 20th May 2022

Achievement Awards

Jade	Thomas	Kaylin
Alfie	Erin	
Junior	Amelie	

Art Award - Aurelia **WAC Award** – Noah **RRR Award** – Maizy

Term dates 2021-2022

Monday 30 th May 2022- Friday 3 rd June 2022	Half Term
Monday 6 th June 2022	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 th June 2022	Summer Term Continues
Monday 19 th June 2022	School Photographs
Tuesday 28 th and Wednesday 29 th June 2022	SEND Parents Evening
Monday 18 th July 2022	Garden Party
Tuesday 28 th and Wednesday 29 th June 2022	Reward Day
20 th , 21 st and 22 nd July 2022	Yr.6 Hilltop Residential

Yours sincerely

Mr. John Turner

Head of School

On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

