



Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to thank all of the children for a wonderful term. It only seems like yesterday when we were welcoming them in for their first day back. It has been a busy term and below are some of the latest highlights.

We hope that you all have a restful Christmas and get to create lots of lovely memories together over the holidays. We will see you all back on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

#### **Christmas decoration Winners**

**Nursery-** Evan, **Reception-** Giordano, **Sunstone-** Abigail, **Amber-** Mason, **Ruby-** Kaja

**Emerald-** Owen, **Moonstone-** Ryan, **Sapphire-** Elliott **Amythest-** Liliana **Quartz-** Riley

#### **Girls Football Competition**

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, the girls took part in a football tournament at St Neots Football club. It was one of the first times they played together. As the tournament went on, they went from strength to strength. They were really competitive and represented our school so well.

#### **Girls Football St. Ives**

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, the Girls took part in a football game. We took the minibus to St Ives to play Thorndale Primary School. We played against a very organised team who dominated early on. The girls' confidence grew throughout the game and we took a deserved lead. The team kept battled and we ended up winning 2-1 and move into the next round. The team improved massively over the game and I was so proud to see their confidence and determination improve so much.

#### **Science afternoon:**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> November, the children took part in a science afternoon. The focus was around forces with the children taking part in a variety of experiments. Year 1 made helicopters, Year 2 and 3 investigated using magnets, Year 4 and 5 used cars to investigate frictions whilst Year 6 used balloons to move straw along a piece of string. The children had a wonderful afternoon taking part in all the investigations.

### **Cambridgeshire Film Festival:**

As part of the Into Film: Film Festival 2022, the children in KS1 and KS2 were lucky to visit Cineworld to watch a movie. The aim of the festival is to inspire the development of storytelling, literacy, and oracy through film. The children in Years 4-6 watched 'The Railway Children Return' and the children in Years 1-3 watch 'The Croods 2'. The children thoroughly enjoyed the films and followed up the sessions in their English lessons by discussing and then writing film reviews.

### **Anti-Bullying Week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, the children wore odd socks to mark the start of anti-bullying week. The aim was to celebrate what makes us unique and to spread kindness. Throughout the week, the children took part in a range of activities to highlight the importance of being unique. The children were all able to tell us why they thought they were unique and times when they had been kind.

### **Year 4 and 5 History Off the Page**

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, Year 4 and 5 welcomed in History off the Page. The children were transported back into a Victorian Classroom having to use chalk and a blackboard. They had to take part in different lessons with the teacher at the front. I have never seen the children so quiet and transfixed.

### **Rock Wrangle**

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, we held our first Times Tables Rock Wrangle - a competition where the children battle live on TT Rock Stars. The event was a great success, with 25 children taking part. Six children qualified for a final battle where Jaidyn came out as the champion. Well done to Ralf and Noah who finished second and third.

### **Children in Need**

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, the children took part in Children in Need. They all had a wonderful day and we raised over £200 for this wonderful charity.

### **Year 5 and Year 6 Football**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November, children from Years 5-6 travelled to St Ives to compete in the U11s Pokemon Cup, where they played several matches against many different teams from across the region. Throughout the day, the team competed incredibly well and won a number of matches with some wonderful goals being scored.

### **PTA (Parent Teacher Association) Craft Night**

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the PTA organised a Craft Night for the children. There were about 10 different crafts the children could choose to do. The children had an amazing time and were able to leave with a large bundle of crafts. A massive thank you to the members of the PTA as well as the parents that volunteered to make it a success. If you want to join the PTA, please do ask at the office for more details. The PTA really does help the school but providing wonderful opportunities for the children as well as raising vital funds for the school.

### **Year 3 and 4 Football**

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, we attended the Years 3-4 mixed football Futsal event. This was the first time the indoor competition had been held and the children from Winhills competed fantastically. They won a number of matches including the final playoff round. Well done to everyone who took part.

### **Swimming Gala**

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022, St Neots schools held their first Swimming Gala. The children were absolutely amazing. We came an impressive first in the boys' relay race and an amazing second in the girls' relay race. One of the girls had to swim a length twice as we were a member short.

### **Rock Steady Concert**

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, the Rock Steady Bands welcomed in their parents for a performance of the songs they have been learning. The children were amazing and all played and sang in time. The improvement in the children has been massive and it is lovely to see each of the children taking part. If you want more information then please look at the following website: [www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/info-for-parents](http://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/info-for-parents)

If you would like to sign your child up, please speak to the school office for further details.

### **Great Fire of London zoom workshops**

The week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December, the children took part in some zoom workshops for the Great Fire of London. This interactive workshop really helped to reinforce their learning on this topic. It was lovely to see the children all engaging with wide smiles on their faces.

### **Christmas Nativity**

It was fantastic to welcome parents back to the school for the Nativity. The children in Year 1, 2 and 3 all took on varying roles from Inn keepers to dancing as a class. They all performed so well. We were so proud of each of them.

### **PTA (Parent Teacher Association) Christmas Fair**

A massive thank you to the school PTA for organising the Christmas Fair. It was really well attended with the children really enjoying taking part in the variety of games on offer. The highlight was a visit to Father Christmas.

If people would like to help and support the PTA in the new year, please speak to the school office and they will be able to give you further details. The PTA is a vital part of school life which offers children lots of opportunities as well as getting extra funds for the school.

### **Christmas Songs by Reception**

On Thursday and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December, Reception performed Christmas songs to their families. They all stood on the stage and sang beautifully. We were so proud of their first performance at Winhills. Well done, Reception.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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**

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 £2.25, 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 daily 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.

### 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 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

#### **Achievement Awards.**

Aluna	Elijah	
Ryan	Ronnie	
Darcie	Finnley	

**RRR** - Lilliana

**Head Boy** –Leo

**Deputy Head Boy** – Noah

**Head Girl**- Lexi

**Deputy Head Girl**- Cerys

**Truly Trusted** – Kitty, Eva, James, Carmen, Cerys, James, Leo, Lexi, Noah, Advith, Xavier, Flavio, Emily-Jane, Shaya, Alice, Lexi, Alex, Abigail, and Beth.

**House Captains** Mars- Emily      Vice Captain - Xavier

**House Captains** Jupiter – Erin      Vice Captain - James

**House Captains** Pluto – Alex      Vice Captain- Kitty

**House Captains** Saturn - Flavio      Vice Captain - Alice

### **School Council;**

Robert, Kathy, Alex, Poppy, Bea, Ewan, Ralf, Evie, Daisy, Chase, Noah, Lilianna, Hayden, Bethany

**Term dates 2022/2023**

**Spring Term 2023**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February-Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Spring Term Starts

Year 6 Young Voices O2 Arena

Yr5 & Yr6 Royal Opera House visit

Half Term

Spring Term Continues

SEND Parents Evening

Parents Evening

Parents Evening

Easter Holidays

Yours sincerely

PP 

Mr. John Turner

Head of School

On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

**We welcome any comments you may have below:**

To: Mr. John Turner, Head of School, Winhills Primary Academy, Off Duck Lane, St Neots, PE19 2DX

Child's name:

Comment: