

# 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)

25<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have made a fantastic start to the term and already the children are very active in their learning.













Our reception classes have made a wonderful start and all the staff are very proud of way they have settled into the routines at school. I have been very impressed with their busy learning inside and outside. Keep up the great work Topaz and Opal class!

It was lovely to see so many parents visit our Nursery this morning for our Macmillan coffee morning. We hope you enjoyed seeing the new location for our youngest children and sampling the yummy cakes.

Year 3 and 4 looked the part for their Roman Day recently. This 'hands on' day ensured the children made a great start to their topic. The children were extremely well behaved and staff from the History off the Page were very impressed with the children's efforts, behaviour and contributions throughout the day.


Year 1 and 2 classes have started to explore their new ICE Zone and already know who our great explorers were and what they discovered. They have produced amazing art work with week with our Artist in Residence Mr Cornell which will also continue next week.

You will be aware the Rugby World cup has started and each class will be supporting and following different countries throughout the competition. Please see the list below to see which countries your child will be following. We will be noting down scores after each match on our Rugby World Cup display.

	New Zealand	Quartz Class
	South Africa	Sunstone Class
	Australia	Emerald Class
	France	Topaz Class
	England	Little Gems and Gems Class
	Ireland	Opal Class
	Samoa	Quartz Class
	Argentina	Emerald Class
	Wales	Moonstone Class
	Italy	Amethyst Class
	Tonga	Mrs Wright
	Scotland	Turquoise Class

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	Canada	Mrs Mitchell
	Japan	Sunstone Cass
	Georgia	Amethyst Class
	Fiji	Office
	Namibia	Moonstone
	United States	Amber Class
	Romania	Turquoise Class
	Uruguay	Amber Class

So far this term we have had visits from Actios and Reverend Debbie to our assemblies. Both of our visitors spoke to the children about rules and values and how important these are for us to follow. Each class has discussed their class values with their class teacher, which are displayed in every classroom.

#### **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 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 6<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **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.**

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**

**Please note there is a 10p increase in dinner money for a child's meal as from 3rd September 2015 making the cost £2.25 and an increase of 20p for adult meals**

The cost of a meal at school for children in Year 3, 4 5 & 6 from September is £2.25; adult meals will be £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 2015-2016**

##### **Autumn Term 2015**

23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Staff Training Day
26 <sup>th</sup> October to 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Staff Training Day
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Term Ends

##### **Spring Term 2016**

4 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff Training Day
5 <sup>th</sup> January	Term Starts
15 <sup>th</sup> February to 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Term Ends

##### **Summer Term 2016**

11 <sup>th</sup> April	Term Starts
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	May Day
30 <sup>th</sup> May to 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half Term
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Term Ends for Pupils
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Staff Training Day

#### **Future Dates**

##### **Autumn Term 2015**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	School photographer – individual photos
21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Parents evening 3.30-7.00pm
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	SEND Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Little Gems/Nursery performance 10.30am & 2.00pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Little Gems/Nursery performance 10.30am & 2.00pm
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Yr1 & Yr2 performance 10.30am

10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Yr1 & Yr2 performance 2.00pm
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS2 performance 1.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS2 performance 6.00pm
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS2 performance 6.00pm
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reward day

### Spring Term 2016

10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parents evening 3.30-7.00pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Rewards day

### Summer Term 2016

3 <sup>rd</sup> May	School photographer – class photos
9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week
16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> May	Grafham Water Visit for Yr 4
15 <sup>th</sup> June	SEND Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Yr6 Transition days
11 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 performance 1.30pm & 6.00pm
12 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 performance 6.00pm
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Yr 6 Garden party
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Reward day
18 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> July	Hilltop Yr6

Yours sincerely



Mrs Diane Mitchell  
 Head of School  
 On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

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### 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: