

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)

18th December 2015

Dear Parents

This is the final newsletter for 2015 and what a busy term this has been. This week we have seen many children receive awards for great achievements in their mathematics, phonics and reading regularly at home. It was wonderful to see so many certificates being given out and we are very proud of the children.

The school has looked wonderful this month with all the Christmas decorations, especially the children's decorations they made for the tree. Thank you for all the positive feedback from our performances over the last two weeks. It always amazes me how impressive the youngest children sing all their songs on the stage. Our older children in key stage 2 performed brilliantly in their Christmas Carol Concert.

Reward Day was also a great success on Thursday. The children (and the staff!) had great fun. Key Stage 2 enjoyed their silent disco, and the Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 children enjoyed a wonderful show magician.

This morning Key stage 2 visited St. Mary's church joining the children from Middlefield and The Round House. The children sang Christmas Carols and listened to readings which was a lovely end to a busy term.

From my letter earlier in the week you will know that the Key Stage 2 results were published. The table below shows the percentage of children who achieved level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. We are really pleased with the improvements gained this year and will continue to focus on raising standards in reading, writing and mathematics.

| School | Bushmead | Crosshall | Eynesbury | Great Paxton | Little Paxton | Middlefield | Priory Juniors | Roundhouse | St. Mary's | Winhills |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Percentage of children achieving level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics | 73% | 81% | 77% | 88% | 100% | 100% | 78% | 78% | 55% | 81% |

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It was lovely to see so many of you who attended the Friends of Winhills Festive Fete last week; it was a very successful event raising over £400.

Attendance

Our attendance for the Autumn term is 95.05% which in comparison to the same time last year is down slightly (it was 95.32%). The current National average for Primary school is 96%, there is a direct link between attendance and attainment and for all of our pupils to achieve their best they need to attend regularly and on time. I hope that in the Spring term with all the winter coughs and cold gone we will once again see the improvement that we had been achieving.

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.

Winhills Wraparound 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 12th January & Tuesday 26th January (AGM).

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

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.

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 4th December 2015

Achievement Awards

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Lilly-Mae Oxborough | Ben Parker | Andrew Laing |
| Keanen Hanley | Joshua Ralph | Matthew Clarkson |
| Joseph Hawkins | | |

WAC - Alfie Baker

RRR

ART Jack Prentice

Term dates 2015-2016

Autumn Term 2015

18th December

Term Ends

Spring Term 2016

4th January

Staff Training Day

5th January

Term Starts

15th February to 19th February

Half Term

24th March

Term Ends

Summer Term 2016

11th April

Term Starts

2nd May

May Day

30th May to 3rd June

Half Term

20th July

Term Ends for Pupils

21st July

Staff Training Day

Future Dates

Spring Term 2016

11th January

Years 1 & 2 Great Fire of London Day

10th February

Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm

16th March

Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm

17th March

Parents evening 3.30-7.00pm

23rd March

Rewards day

Summer Term 2016

3rd May

School photographer – class photos

9th-13th May

SATs week

16th-18th May

Grafham Water Visit for Yr 4

15th June

SEND Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm

5th & 6th July
11th July
12th July
13th July
14th July
18th-20th July

Yr6 Transition days
KS2 performance 1.30pm & 6.00pm
KS2 performance 6.00pm
Yr 6 Garden party
Reward day
Hilltop Yr6

Term dates 2016-2017

Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 1st September
Friday 2nd September
Monday 5th September
Friday 21st October
Monday 24th - Friday 28th October
Monday 31st October
Tuesday 20th December

Training Day
Training Day
Term Starts
Training Day
Half Term
Training Day
Term Ends

Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4th January
Monday 13th - Friday 17th February
Friday 31st March

Term Starts
Half Term
Term Ends

Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18th April
Monday 1st May
Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June
Monday 5th June
Friday 21st July

Term Starts
May Day
Half Term
Training Day
Term Ends

Finally I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, I hope you enjoy the festive holiday and look forward to seeing you all in 2016.

Yours sincerely



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

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: