

Winhills Primary Academy Newsletter

OCTOBER 2016

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

A Busy, Creative September

Dear Families, Colleagues and Friends,

I should like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you all for the warm welcome you have given me. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading and managing the school during this, my first month, at Winhills Primary Academy School.

The staff, students and I have enjoyed a fun, busy start to the academic year. During the first week, the school was filled with an artistic buzz as the students participated in a wide range of imaginative activities during 'Creative Week'. The classrooms, halls, ICE Zones and outside areas were hubs of activity as the students excitedly interacted and communicated with one another as they completed the tasks set.

Year 3 and Year 4 were enthused during their History Off the Page Tudor Day. They carried out a range of themed activities and learnt many interesting facts about life in Tudor times. The day ended with a Tudor banquet during which the students sampled foods, some of which they had not tasted before.

During the last four weeks, all year groups in primary have worked with our resident artist, Jack Cornell. Jack is currently working on sketches and plans which will help us transform one of the school's corridors. We are looking forward to seeing his ideas soon.

Our school rules have been revised. During an assembly we developed a school saying, accompanied by a special school wave, 'The Winhills Wave'. (Please ask your child(ren) about it.)

**Who are we?
We are Winhills.**

**What are we?
We are wonderful.**

The students are our inspiration. We are continually seeking and developing strategies and methods which enable us to specifically address, support, facilitate and progress their learning purposely forward from their starting points.

The Head of School newsletter, the class teacher / year group fortnightly newsletters, meetings and open events, the Winhills webpage and Facebook pages, letters from the office about upcoming events, etc, along with your child's homework will enable you to help and support your child and the school. We look forward to welcoming you to the upcoming parent meetings.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and hope you enjoy reading and sharing this newsletter with your child(ren), families and friends.

Kindest regards,

Susan Jaques
Head of School

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Winhills' Macmillan Coffee Morning



Thank you so very much for all of your help, support and kindness.

The Winhills' Macmillan Coffee Morning raised an amazing amount: **£294.12**

THANK YOU



Congratulations to the competition winners:

Guess the weight of the cake
4lb or 1.8kg Miss Taplin
How many cookies are in the jar
44 Mrs Sharpe
Miss Jaques' favourite cake flavour
Coffee & walnut Mrs Picking



Thank you for the delicious tasty treats and for your generous donations and time; your generosity will enable Macmillan to continue to support families in their time of need.

Winhills: Our School Rules

Keep hands
and feet to
yourself.

Make safe
choices.

Be kind and
respectful to
everyone and
everything in
your school.

Work to your
full potential.

Always be
honest.

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Attendance and Punctuality

Average Attendance Percentages – September 2016	
Winhills Primary Academy September 2016 average	Other primary schools within the Diamond Learning Partnership Trust Autumn Term 2015 average
96.03%	96.62% -97.2%

As Head of School, I shall consistently monitor and review attendance and punctuality figures:

- Attending school is crucial to developing, embedding and extending a child's knowledge;
- Punctuality, being present, participation, practice and being positive are all crucial elements in order to ensure accomplishments for all;
- Gaining an education requires hard work, an inquiring mind, focused study and a sense of belonging and being valued;
- Poor attendance and punctuality issues have a negative impact on teaching and learning, student success and the overall success of the school.

Winhills Primary Academy should be well-regarded by all, with a combined dedication to improving attendance, punctuality and positive participation, Winhills' stance within the locality will be greatly improved. Therefore, throughout the academic year, I should like to firmly request your dedicated support in improving the overall attendance and punctuality of Winhills' students.

Together, we shall aim high and achieve more.

We understand that everyone is genuinely ill at some point and this may lead students to miss a day or two of school, which is permissible, but that should be a rare occurrence and not the norm.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance and / or punctuality, please do not hesitate to book an appointment to meet with me. All appointments may be booked via the school office.

Thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

Up-to-date Information and Consent

Please ensure the following information and permissions are kept up-to-date:

- Contact details (including phone numbers), medical records and medications;
- Permissions regarding the collection of students at the end of the school day;
- Permissions regarding the collection of students after an approved activity.

Thank you.

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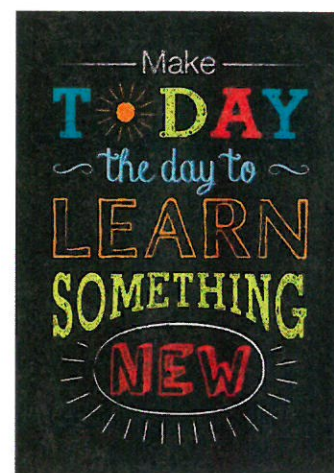
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Parents' Meetings

We look forward to welcoming you into school to talk about your child's progress, achievements and how well they have settled into the academic year 2016 / 2017. The targets and next steps which your child needs to focus upon and work towards will be discussed and agreed with you. It is vital that you attend these meetings so that we may create a united working relationship in order to help, support and advance your child's skills, capabilities and their love of learning.



Parent Questionnaires

To help me gain a comprehensive view about Winhills, regarding perceived strengths and weaknesses, the learning environment and the current activities and events offered, a questionnaire will be available for you to complete, in the main hall, during the upcoming parents' meetings next week.

Analysis of completed questionnaires will enable us to further develop the school and foster links within the local community and beyond. Strengthening and expanding the working relationships between students, staff, parents, carers, families and the locality will continue to play a crucial role in the development, growth and outlook of Winhills Primary Academy.

Parking Safely

Please be aware:

To help ensure the safety of the children in school, the car park gates will be closed daily between 8:30am—9:15am and again from 2:45pm—3:30pm.

Please can we also request that there is NO PARKING in the following zones, **at any time:**

The school car park;

The school's entrance and exit gates - they should be left clear at all times;

In resident's driveways and the entrance to Hen Brook.

By responsibly working together, we shall help to keep our students safe. Thank you.

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Achievements and Awards

Many congratulations to all students who have received stickers, badges and awards so far this term, both inside and outside of school.

One of the many rewarding aspects of my role is walking around the school site daily to see and talk to the students about their learning, successes and next steps in all areas of the curriculum and school life.

During September, I also had the privilege of welcoming students in to my office for various positive reasons including: Diamond Learners; multiplication whizzes; students who had made good progression in their studies; students who had displayed admirable qualities towards their peers and the adults in school; students who had attained well in clubs and events outside of school (e.g. swimming, skating and judo) and one student who brought a letter and card to show me which they had received from Her Majesty Elizabeth the Second, in response to a portrait they had drawn of the Queen.

Superb Winhills' students — participation, perseverance, pride and positive attitudes will prevail.

Achievements and Awards Received on Friday 7th October 2016

Achievement Award: Tulah N

Achievement Award: Shannon C

Achievement Award: Olivia H

Achievement Award: Joshua R

Achievement Award: Mason J

Winhills RRR Reward: Thomas A
(Respectful, Responsible, Reliable)

Winhills Achievement Cup: Jack L

Winhills Art Award: Elsie R



Meet our new Wonderful Winhills Award Mascots

They are fun-filled, happy and caring. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this newsletter they'll have names too! Please ask your child(ren).

Now, to think of three names beginning with... 'W'.

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Year 6 Ballet Visit to the Royal Opera House in London

Last Thursday, children from Year 6 travelled to the Royal Opera House in London to attend a matinee performance of the ballet 'La Fille mal Gardée'. The children were incredibly lucky to witness such a famous ballet from such wonderful seats, with a live orchestra and an amazing performance on display. The play was a love story set in rural France, and featured a lot of funny scenes including dancing chickens and a clog dance. Despite the very long journey back through crowded London, the children behaved excellently and represented the school with pride. Well done Year 6.

Mr. Gross, Class Teacher

"It was really amazing to see inside the Royal Opera House. The ballet was incredible and I couldn't believe how graceful the dancers were. We had a fantastic day."

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Diary Dates

The calendar may also be accessed via the school website at:

<http://www.winhills-cambs.co.uk/diary/list/>

<u>October 2016</u>	
Monday 10th October	Year 5 and Year 6 Bikeability — Bicycle training
Tuesday 11th October	Year 4 Inter Sports Day Challenge 9:30– 12:00 Year 5 and Year 6 Bikeability — Bicycle training
Wednesday 12th October	Parents' Evening 15:30 to 19:00
Thursday 13th October	Parents' Evening 15:30 to 18:00
Monday 17th October	9:15-10:30 OPEN EVENT and TOUR of the SCHOOL for PARENTS of NURSERY and RECEPTION aged PUPILS for 2017 admissions Book Club this week (more details to follow)
Tuesday 18th October	Tag Rugby Tournament (2 Teams) 9:00-12:30
Wednesday 19th October	Year 5 Inter Sports Day Challenge 9:30– 12:00
Friday 21st October	STAFF TRAINING DAY - <u>School Closed</u>
24th to 28th October	HALF TERM - <u>School Closed</u>
Monday 31st October	STAFF TRAINING DAY - <u>School Closed</u>

<u>November 2016</u>	
Tuesday 1st November	2nd Half of the AUTUMN TERM STARTS - Nursery to Year 6
Thursday 3rd November	Year 6 Inter Sports Day Challenge 9:30– 12:00
Friday 4th November	Year 4 Trip to Tesco Extra (a.m)
Monday 7th November	Year 3 Inter Sports Day Challenge 9:30– 12:00

<u>December 2016</u>	
Monday 12th December	KS1 Performance
Tuesday 13th December	KS1 Performance
Wednesday 14th December	KS2 Performance
Thursday 15th December	KS2 Performance
Friday 16th December	Reward Day
Tuesday 20th December	Term Ends

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Contact Details

You are always welcome to visit school or meet with me, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. S. Connell

Head of School: Miss. S. Jaques

Winhills Primary Academy School

Off Duck Lane,

St. Neots

Cambridgeshire

PE19 2DX

Telephone: (01480) 211626

Fax: 01480 479869

Email: office@winhills.cambs.sch.uk



Challenge Your Child



Let your child(ren) investigate possible solutions and responses.

(Possible activities are suggested in brackets)

Maths

Measurement

1. Are bigger items always heavier than smaller items?

Estimate which items are heavier / lighter, then use the kitchen scales to prove it.

2. Will 3 oranges be heavier than 3 apples?

Estimate, then verify, the weight of different fruit / vegetables using kilograms (kg) and grams (g).

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Make a Positive Comment or Suggestion and / or Get Involved as a Volunteer

If you wish to make a positive comment / suggestion, please complete section 1 and section 2 below, then return this page to: Miss Jaques, Head of School, Winhills Primary Academy, Off Duck Lane, St. Neots, PE19 2DX
Thank you for those already received.

Section 1:

Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Email: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Section 2:

Positive comment / suggestion: _____

Get Involved as a Volunteer:

If you are interested in helping, please complete section 1 above and section 3 below, then return this page to: Miss Jaques, Head of School, Winhills Primary Academy, Off Duck Lane, St. Neots, PE19 2DX

Section 3:

There is a requirement for schools to carry out a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check for all staff and volunteers who have regular contact with students. All schools need to hold a register of the checks undertaken. In order for you to work in school as a volunteer, you will need to complete a DBS form. Please be assured that all information will be treated in the strictest confidence and that these checks are done only in the best interests and safety of our students.

Further information about volunteering within a school setting will be shared in the next few weeks.

☐ I would love to help; I would happily attend a meeting about volunteering within a school setting and complete a DBS form.

☐ Please tick both circles to confirm you have read and accept the information above.

Thank you

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