

Wintringham Primary Academy

Part of The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust
Established in the Queen's Jubilee year 2012

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Tracy Bryden BSc Hons PGCE

28th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been very busy this half term and I can't believe that next Friday, 4th April, is the last day of term. Please remember that the children will be returning to school on Wednesday 23rd April after the Easter holidays as there is a staff training day on Tuesday 22nd April.

Thank you to everyone who has joined in with our Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel initiative this week. Please remember that this continues next week, and that the winning class will receive a certificate. We are very aware of parents concerns regarding the parking around school, and hopefully this will alleviate it and encourage more families to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news about an exciting project taking place at Pre-School over the Easter break! We are very fortunate to be welcoming Lashley's Landscapes, who have volunteered to work their magic to transform the Pre-school outdoor learning environment.



This will enhance the children's outdoor experiences by creating a more engaging and interactive space with raised planters for growing their very own fruits, vegetables, and herbs. We can't wait to see the children enjoying their newly improved outdoor space.

We had a fantastic World Book Day and I was very impressed by both the children's and adult's costumes! The children started the day with a whole school assembly where the book 'Our Tower' by Joseph Coelho was introduced to them through a 'reading flash mob'. Teachers and TAs took it in turns to read different parts of the book. The children were eagerly waiting to see who the next reader was going to be. The children then went back to their classrooms and carried out a writing activity linked to the book. The rest of the day was filled with a book quiz and artwork linked to the book. The children also had a different teacher come to visit their class in the afternoon to read them a story. The children's costumes were fantastic. A fun day had by all!

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As part of NSPCC Number Day, children in Key Stage 2 participated in a Times Tables Rockstars tournament. During the week, the children improved their studio score to earn a place in the top 10, so they could participate in finals day. There were two tournaments: Year 3 & 4, and Year 5 & 6. Eventually, after a semi – final and final, there were two clear winners – well done to them! They were able to take home a trophy to keep.

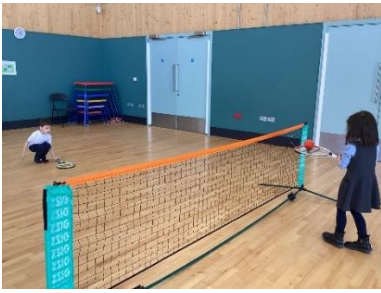
The Year 5 & 6 Football Team participated in a football tournament at Great Paxton Primary School. After defeat in the last competition, the children were determined to do well. They definitely did that. Every player performed admirably, showing superb effort, teamwork and enthusiasm. The team went unbeaten – with 1 win and 2 draws – and didn't concede a goal. This meant that we finished 2nd, which is our best finish. Well done to everyone involved!

This term, we had the pleasure of Hannah from 'Vegfest' visiting our school to talk about gardening. For the last two weeks, Year 5 have been working with Hannah on the vegetable patches, making sure they are suitable to plant different plants and vegetables. So far, the children have planted potato and tomato seeds.



In Reception, as part of their Traditional Tales work, the children made their own gingerbread people! They started off by reading the recipe together, before carefully measuring out each ingredient. The children were very keen to get involved, but demonstrated impressive patience and turn-taking skills, ensuring that everyone was able to take part. Once the gingerbread people were cool, the children were able to decorate their own, before tucking in! Well done Ahlberg and Inkpen for your amazing baking teamwork!

Year 1 took part in a tennis workshop, with a local tennis coach where they practised their coordination skills by balancing a tennis ball on their rackets as they moved towards their partners. They also had a go at passing the ball to their partner by throwing and rolling. It was great to see everyone having a go! The children listened carefully and worked together to get as many turns as possible. Lots of fun was had by all.



For World Book Day, Year 2 created artwork linked to the book 'Our Tower'. The children had a picture of their face and used coloured paper to create a collage very much like the 'tree creature' in the story. They looked so effective!



In History, Year 2 have been learning about how communication has evolved over the years. In particular, the children learnt about how the telephone has changed. They had to order pictures in order from the very first telephone all the way up to the modern-day smart phone. They then had to discuss the similarities and differences between these.

Year 3 were very lucky to have a trip to Pizza Express. Whilst there, the children learnt about the ingredients that go into a pizza and were able to make their own too! They then tried some of the different toppings such as basil, tomato, cheese and olives. Year 3 represented Wintringham beautifully and even wrote letters to the chef to say thank you for teaching us!



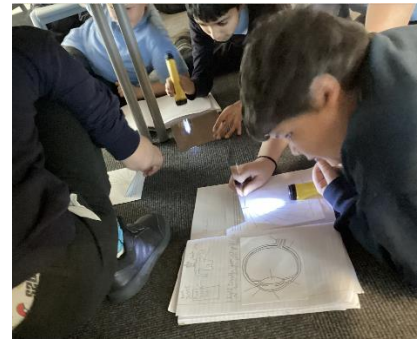
Wilson Class have also been developing their singing techniques in Music. They spent time looking at pitch and rhythm through learning a Viking song. First, they participated in a rowing game where they had ensure they kept in unison when singing a Viking chant. They then practiced the lyrics to the song and added their own actions to the song. If you would like to see their performance, it has been put on our school Facebook page. Well done Year 3, brilliant effort and teamwork!

Year 4 had a great time on World Book Day and thoroughly enjoyed writing a play script for part of the book 'Our Tower'. They also spent time drawing some beautiful images of the tower using rulers to draw accurate geometric shapes.

In Music, the children have been looking at 'Body and Tuned Percussion'. The children composed a piece of music in small groups using clapping, clicking, and stamping as well as glockenspiels to represent the different layers of the rainforests. The children learnt about using 'loops' or repeating melodies to create the basis for their compositions.

In Year 5, the children completed their unit, called 'The Blues'. The children have been brilliant in this unit, showcasing how they can perform the '12 - bar blues,' with Glockenspiels, in front of the class. As well as this, the children, in groups, were able to improvise notes and create their own version of the '12 - bar blues.'

For World Book Day, children created some art based on the book we were learning about, 'Our Tower'. They used natural resources to create one of the characters.



The Year 6 children have been looking at Light in their science lessons. They have studied the pathway of light and why objects are transparent, translucent or opaque, and what creates shadows. They have also been investigating how light is reflected using mirrors and torches and have looked at the angle of incidence and reflection.

We have a SEND DLPT Facebook group which is only for the parents of SEND children in the DLPT. If you would like to join the group please use the following link to the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/737433803299735/>

You may be asked for further information to verify that you are a parent of a SEND child and which school your child attends.

For those parents that are new to the school, we have a closed Facebook group that is only open to parents and carers. A request to join this group can be made using the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/206660223237917/> The page is updated regularly with photographs and information of news and events.

Please can you remind your children that they are not allowed to climb any of the school fences at any time.

Please can I remind you not to encourage conversations with your children through the fence at break and lunchtimes. The children should be playing with their friends at these times. We have a duty of care to keep all of our children safe. If you need to get a message to your child, please call the school office.

Please try and make doctors and dental appointments in the school holidays or after school if at all possible. If you do have an appointment during the school day, please let the office know in advance and provide a copy of your appointment card. This should hopefully ensure that your child is not changed for P.E. at the back of the school field when you are in a rush to get to your appointment.

Term dates for the school year 2024/25 are provided in the diary dates section at the end of this newsletter. Please do not book any holidays during term time.

Please be aware that if a child vomits or has diarrhoea in school, they will be sent home immediately. Children with these conditions will not be accepted back into school until 24 hours after the last symptom has elapsed.

Please, if at all possible, could you walk to school with your children. If you have to drive, please can you park with consideration to our neighbours in our school car park on Aspen Avenue. Thank you for your co-operation.

Uniform

Please note that we would ask that when you are purchasing new shoes for your child to wear at school that they are black school shoes. No trainers are to be worn other than for P.E. Our uniform is as follows:

Grey pinafore dress, skirt or trousers

Navy blue sweatshirt

Sky blue polo shirt

White or grey socks and if tights are worn in winter they should be navy blue or grey

Navy fleece

Black shoes with closed heels and toes

Summer dress is navy and white checked

Please ensure skirts are knee length. P.E. shirts should be a plain white t-shirt. P.E. shorts should be loose fitting 'football' style, and not leggings or cycling shorts.

Please ensure that your child brings a waterproof coat to school with them and a sun hat when the weather is warmer. All children should have a named water bottle in school every day.

Email Communication

We have an email communication system which allows us to communicate with parents by email. I hope that everyone will remain in the scheme as this will save a lot of money currently being spent on paper and photocopying which can then be spent on the children and resources. Please ensure that your email address and mobile telephone number are kept up to date with the school office.

School Dinners

Our catering company, Aspens, provide school meals for the children. Menus for the new term have been sent out separately. The cost of a meal at school is **£2.60 per child** per meal. You may order lunches on a daily basis but 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.

Online Payments

Our Arbor online payment system is available for meal payments, trips and to pay for Magpies. If you still can't access the Arbor Parent Portal, please contact the school office. The Arbor app is also now available for both Android and Apple devices.

Holiday Absence

In line with Statutory Guidance from the Department of Education, Headteachers are only allowed to authorise absence during term time in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays are not classed as exceptional circumstances. The children only attend school for 190 days out of 365 and we do expect parents to take holidays during the 13 weeks of school holidays. Please be aware that as this is an unauthorised absence you could be at risk of the Education Welfare Officer issuing a fixed penalty fine. Term dates for the 2024/2025 school year have been sent home to parents and are available on the school website. Please contact the school office if you require a further copy.

Visits

From time to time, classes are engaged in local studies to support the curriculum, meaning that they need to leave the school site for a short walk or visit, perhaps to the church, for example. We seek to use the locality in practical ways to support the children's learning and always ensure appropriate and adequate adult supervision. If any visit involves transport or alternative lunch arrangements you will always be informed in advance but for a short local excursion, perhaps dependent on fine weather conditions, you may not be.

Nut Allergy

May I remind parents that children's packed lunches must not contain peanut butter or other snacks which contain nuts. Please be aware of all items which also 'may contain nuts' as stated

on the packaging, as we have several children with allergies in school. Thank you for your consideration.

Diary Dates

Spring Term 2025

Monday 7th – Monday 21st April - Easter holiday
Tuesday 22nd April - Staff training day, no children in school

Summer Term 2026

Tuesday 22nd April - Staff training day
Wednesday 23rd April - Summer term starts
Monday 6th May - May Day
Monday 12th May – Thursday 16th May - KS2 SATS
Wednesday 7th – Friday 9th May - Grafham Residential Trip
Monday 29th May – Friday 30th May - May Half Term
Monday 2nd June - Staff Training Day
Monday 21st July – Wednesday 23rd July - Year 6 to Hilltop
Wednesday 23rd July - End of Term

Autumn Term 2026

Monday 1st September - Staff training day
Tuesday 2nd September - Staff training day
Wednesday 3rd September - Autumn Term starts
Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October - October half term
Friday 19th December - end of term

Spring Term 2027

Monday 5th January - Term starts

Please be aware that we do occasionally need to alter some of these dates, but any alterations will be notified to parents.

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Tracy Bryden
Executive Headteacher
On behalf of Wintringham Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)

If you would like to make any comments on the newsletter or anything to do with the school, please use the slip below.

To: Mrs Tracy Bryden, Executive Headteacher, Wintringham Primary Academy, Nuffield Road, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 OAW.

Child's Name:

Comment: