

December 2025

Wintringham Primary Academy Head's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderful Autumn term we have had at Wintringham! The run up to Christmas is always very busy and filled with excitement and fun alongside our learning. I hope you will enjoy reading all about the different activities which have taken place.

I am aware of local residents concerns regarding the parking around school. Please, if at all possible, can you walk, cycle or scoot to school? If you have to drive to and from school, please use our car park in Aspen Avenue. If you have to park on the streets, please can you ensure that you are not blocking anyone's driveway and that you are not making it dangerous for the children to cross the road. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation with this.

I thoroughly enjoyed watching the Reception and KS1 Nativity performances last week. The children and staff have worked really hard to get everything ready to show to all the parents. The children were superb and I thoroughly enjoyed watching them all. Well done.

We received lots of fabulous entries to our Christmas tree decoration competition. Congratulations to our winners: Reception-Is'haaq, Year 1-Freddie, Year 2-Bennett, Year 3-Macy, Year 4-Hattie, Year 5-Elaia and Year 6-Darya. The overall winner was Yaz in Year 6.

They were all very happy to win a cuddly reindeer.



Key Dates:

Monday 5th January—Term Starts

Wednesday 7th January—Year 3 History Off The Page Roman Britain Day

Thursday 8th January—Breck Foundation In School

Monday 12th January—Year 1 History Off The Page—toys

Thursday 22nd January—Year 6 Young Voices in London

16th—20th February—Half Term

Friday 27th March—Last Day of Term

Monday 13th April—Staff Training Day

Tuesday 14th April—Term starts for Pupils

Monday 4th May—May Day

11th—14th May 2026 - KS2 SATs

25th—29th May— Half Term

Monday 1st June—Term starts for Pupils

8th-10th July—Year 4 trip to Grafham Water

15th-17th July—Year 6 Trip to Hilltop

Friday 17th July—End of school year



Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our Christmas Fair this year. This was the first event that was supported by our newly formed PTFA, and what a great time we all had. It was wonderful to see the children and so many of you enjoying the event. I would like to thank the PTFA and my staff for all the time and effort they put in to make it such a success.

The raffle was a huge hit, and thank you to our parents and carers and all the local companies who donated some amazing prizes, and to the PTFA for sourcing them. There are still some expenses to be paid, but we raised approximately £1100, which is incredible. The money will be put towards much needed resources for the school.

'Elfridges'

Thank you to everyone who bought a present from our 'Elfridges' shop. We raised approximately £300 for school resources and activities.

Stageworks Visit

Last week, students from Stageworks Studios Ltd visited us to perform two shows for the children. KS1's show was based on The Wizard of Oz and had a road safety theme whilst KS2's show was based on Shrek and had an online safety theme. The shows were very entertaining, despite their themes, and the Stageworks students were enthusiastic and talented. The children had a great time.

Year 4 & 5 Football Match

Some of our Year 4 and 5 footballers represented the school in a match at Holywell Primary School. Despite a heavy defeat, the team showed immense perseverance and determination, continuing to work hard and support one another right until the final whistle. For several pupils, this was their first time representing the school, and they should be extremely proud of the resilience, commitment and positive attitude they displayed.

Reward Day

Reward Day, to reward the children for their good behaviour, is took place on Thursday this week and I organised special treats for all the children. The main treat for Reception and KS1 was watching a magic show which they all enjoyed. KS2 had great fun at their silent disco. It is always fun to see the children dancing with their headphones on in silence!



Christmas Lunch

We all enjoyed a very tasty Christmas lunch this week. The children had made fun hats to wear, Christmas music was playing and Mrs Bryden and Miss Roberts were serving in the kitchen. Thank you to our catering team for the fantastic food and to the Midday Supervisors and staff who all joined in and ate with the children.



Maths Afternoon With Parents & Carers

On Monday afternoon, the teachers organised some brilliant maths activities for their classes to play with their parents/carers, including snakes and ladders, some tactical games and hopscotch. It was wonderful to see so many of you come along to enjoy maths with your children. They thoroughly enjoyed playing games and there was a buzz of excitement around the school. Thank you all for your support for this event.



Reception

We've had a very busy few weeks in Reception! Our 'Wonderful World' theme has sparked lots of curiosity, and the children have loved exploring it through play and discussion. We have spent time looking closely at ourselves and celebrating what makes each of us unique-our families, our interests, and the ways we look and learn. We've also been busy practising for our Nativity. The children have shown incredible enthusiasm and now that the performance is finished, we couldn't be prouder of them! They sang beautifully, remembered their lines, and truly shone on stage.

This week we've enjoyed sharing the story *Stick Man together*, and our Christmas crafts have certainly added some extra sparkle to the classroom. We have also enjoyed our first few Forest School sessions! The children have been learning important ways to stay safe while exploring the outdoors. They have loved using natural materials to create wonderful outdoor artwork, working together, and letting their imaginations run wild. It's been fantastic to see them develop confidence, teamwork, and a real love for nature in these sessions.



KS1 Christmas Performance

The children have been busy learning songs and dances for their Christmas play and did worked hard during rehearsals. They looked wonderful in their costumes – thank you so much for providing these. On the day, the children performed beautifully, saying their lines clearly and confidently, and most importantly, having a great time. We are very proud of them all!



Year 2

In DT, Year 2 have been busy designing and making their own felt pouches using running stitch. The children created either a pattern or an animal design for the front of their pouch and worked really hard to carefully join two pieces of felt together using running stitch. They showed great perseverance and focus throughout the process and then evaluated their finished work. The children did a fantastic job and were very proud of what they achieved.



Year 3

In Year 3, the children have been learning about ballads in music. They listened to the song 'Space Oddity' by David Bowie and created their own actions to go with it. After that, they created their own ballad based on a short clip called 'Soar' choosing the music and then creating their own lyrics. They all worked very hard on this and did such a great job.



Year 4

In DT, Year 4 have been making torches! They started by exploring circuits, drawing diagrams to represent the different components and learning the safety rules when working with electricity. Then they carried out product research on different torches, thinking about the features and what makes a torch effective for its user. They even learnt about the history of the lightbulb and how it evolved through time. They were then given 2 different people that they could design a torch for, creating criteria and a design based on their likes and needs. Finally, they created their torches using plastic bottles as the casing and foil as a reflector. It was a bit fiddly, but everyone showed amazing perseverance and teamwork, which resulted in some amazing final products!

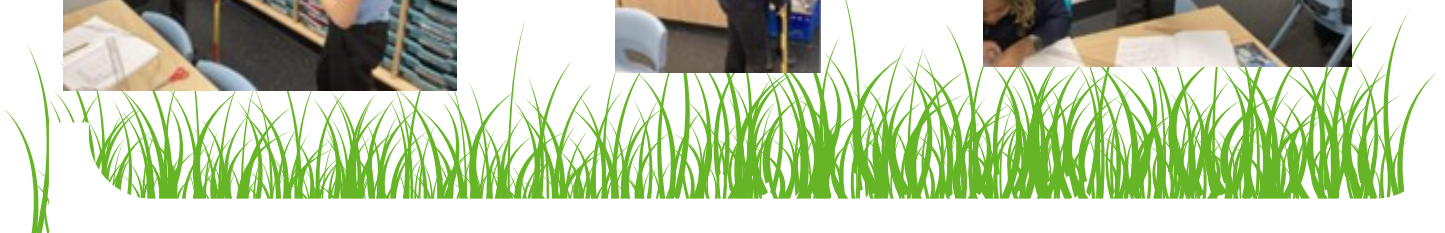


In science, the students have been learning about states of matter. They started by looking at the different states of matter and how the temperature of the matter affects them. They learnt about and carried out experiments focused on melting and freezing as well as evaporating and condensing. In their latest lesson, they learnt about the water cycle and created some amazing diagrams to explain the different steps within it. We even made a 'water cycle in a bag' and will be watching it over the next week to see if we can spot the different processes!

Year 5

In Year 5, students explored the concept of unbalanced forces through a series of investigations. They conducted an experiment on air resistance by designing parachutes with varying surface areas and measuring how this affected their descent speed, discovering that larger parachutes created greater air resistance and slowed the fall.

Building on this, we examined how weight influences braking distance, observing that heavier objects require more force to stop. Finally, they investigated water resistance by testing how different surface areas impact movement through water, learning that larger surfaces experience more drag. These experiments helped students understand how forces interact and affect motion in real-world contexts.



Year 6

Year 6 had a great day at the ballet in London, watching The Snowman. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and behaved excellently during the performance. They also enjoyed their short time in Covent Garden, where they were able to eat their lunch and watch some street entertainers. They were particularly impressive on the way home. Despite the uncertainty, the children showed incredible maturity during the journey through the underground and at Kings Cross, where it was exceptionally busy. We are extremely proud of them. Well done, Year 6!



The Lighthouse

In The Lighthouse the children have had a gentle build up to Christmas, joining in with the Christmas Fair, making Christmas hats for the tasty Christmas lunch and participating in making decorations for the school.

The children also made seasonal rockie road cakes and practised and recorded their annual Christmas movie, which was shown to their parents and carers at the termly open afternoon.



Pre-school

The children have been fully immersed in a wide range of activities linked to Transport and Journeys. They have been eager to share their own adventures talking about trips they've enjoyed with their families and exploring the many different places people travel to around the world. These conversations have opened opportunities for language development and curiosity as the children compare landscapes, weather, cultures, and ways of getting from one place to another.

As part of this theme, we have also taken a closer look at the different modes of transport we use every day. The children have loved discussing everything from bicycles and buses to airplanes and emergency vehicles, exploring who might use each one and why. This linked perfectly with Road Safety Week.

Our phonics sessions are now in full swing too. Children have been working hard on identifying initial sounds and have been showing their growing confidence during play, independently spotting and naming the sounds that familiar objects begin with.

We have also been busy getting into the Christmas spirit. The Pre-School has been filled with festive excitement as the children come together to practise songs for parents and take part in a range of Christmas crafts, the children have shown great creativity and pride in their work.

A highlight of recent weeks was welcoming parents into Pre-School for play sessions. It was wonderful to see families joining in with activities, exploring our environment, and sharing special moments with their children.

This week, our story focus has been a festive twist on our usual curriculum book: *You Can't Let an Elephant Pull Santa's Sleigh*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this humorous and imaginative tale, sparking lots of laughter and conversation about what might happen if different animals tried to help Santa!



Reminders

Uniform

We ask that when you are purchasing new shoes for your child to wear at school, 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. Please ensure skirts are knee length

Navy blue sweatshirt

Sky blue polo shirt

White or grey socks or navy blue or grey tights

Black shoes with closed heels and toes

Summer dress is blue and white checked

P.E. t-shirts should be plain white and P.E. shorts should be loose fitting 'football style' and not leggings or cycling shorts.

Closed Facebook Groups

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: [\(20+\) Wintringham Primary Academy | Facebook](#)

Access to the Closed Pre-school group can be made using this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/397561551714119>

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 2025/2026 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.

School Dinners

Our in-house catering company, Diamond Diners, provide school meals for the children.

Menus are available on the school website. The cost of a school meal is £2.65. Lunches can be ordered on a daily basis, but all school meals must be paid for in advance.

Nut Allergy

Children's packed lunches must not contain peanut butter or other snacks which contain nuts. Items which state 'may contain nuts' should also not be brought into school as we have children with allergies in school. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Term dates can be found on the school website

Please walk to school if at all possible. If you have to drive, please park safely and considerately to our neighbours.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

