

# March 2026

## Wintringham Primary Academy

### Head's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

Once again we have had a very busy term! I hope the children have enjoyed their learning and all the extra activities. The weather is beginning to improve so it is lovely to see more outdoor activities taking place. We are very excited to be making preparations for our new Opal play scheme and staff training will start to take place next term.

Please note that we have a training day on Monday 13th April and we therefore look forward to seeing all the children on Tuesday 14th April.

Please note that Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 30th June. Reception & KS1 in the morning and KS2 in the afternoon. Further details to follow.

A massive well done to our Year 6 team who represented the school at the English Challenge this term. They did a superb job, working well as a team and answering some very tricky questions (I think there were quite a few adults in the room that would admit that they would have been stumped by some of them).



#### Key Dates:

**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**

**Monday 18th May 2026—Year 2 Trip to Warwick Castle**

**25th—29th May— Half Term**

**Monday 1st June—Term starts for Pupils**

**Thursday 18th June—School Summer Fair**

**Tuesday 30th June— Sports Day**

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

**15th-17th July—Year 6 Trip to Hilltop**

**Friday 17th July—End of school year**



# Ramadan

Years 2 and 3 were lucky to have some parents come into school to teach the children about Ramadan. The children listened carefully as they discovered why Ramadan is an important time for Muslims, learning about fasting, prayer, and helping others. They asked thoughtful questions and showed great curiosity throughout the sessions. As part of their learning, some of the children also enjoyed a creative activity where they made their own beautiful lanterns, inspired by those often seen during Ramadan celebrations, whilst the other children created their own moon and stars using paper plates and different materials. We are very grateful to the parents for the time and effort they put in to make the sessions so interesting and enjoyable.



# Lunar New Year

Children from Years 1, 2, 5, and 6 participated in Lunar New Year workshops run by enthusiastic parent volunteers. Throughout the sessions, pupils learned about the meaning and traditions of Lunar New Year, discovering why it is celebrated and the symbolism behind its customs. They took part in a range of hands-on activities, including colourful craft projects inspired by the festival and an introduction to Chinese calligraphy, where they practised forming characters with care and concentration. The workshop brought the school community together, giving the children a fun, creative, and culturally rich experience they will remember.



# Reception

Our Reception classes have had a wonderfully busy and imaginative few weeks. The children thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day, sharing their favourite stories and exploring the joy of reading together. This linked beautifully with our learning on mythical creatures, where the children have been creating their own dragons, unicorns and magical beasts while developing their storytelling and creative skills. Alongside this, we have been working hard to improve our outdoor learning area. Although we are still only at the beginning stages of this project, the children have already played a central role – helping to plan, design and even take part in putting some of their ideas into action. It has been fantastic to see their creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm shaping a space that they can enjoy for learning and play.



# Year 1

Year 1 have been thoroughly enjoying their recent Science lessons, where they have been learning all about the five sense. As part of this, the children have explored smell, touch and taste through a range of fun and practical activities, including an exciting tasting session. They particularly enjoyed investigating different items using their sense of smell and discussing what they noticed. Throughout these lessons, the children worked brilliantly in groups, demonstrating strong teamwork and curiosity. They also showed fantastic developing science skills by carefully recording their results and beginning to write simple conclusions about what they found out.



## Year 2

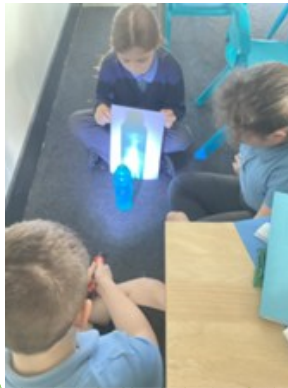
In Design and Technology, Year 2 have been exploring strength and stability as they work towards creating a chair for Baby Bear. To develop their understanding, the children investigated different materials by building bridges and testing how many cubes each one could hold, helping them to see which structures were the strongest and most stable. They carefully observed their results and began to think about how this learning could be applied to their chair designs. Throughout the unit, the children demonstrated fabulous teamwork and cooperation, sharing ideas, supporting one another, and working collaboratively to solve problems. We are very proud!



## Year 3

In science, Year 3 have been exploring light and shadow. We started by looking what a light source is and how this is different to a reflection. The children found it interesting that the moon is not a light source; the reason we see it is because it reflects off the sun!

Wilson and Milne Classes then began to investigate shadows and how different materials cast shadows. In groups, the children have a range of opaque, translucent and transparent materials and wrote in their results table how the shadows looked. They concluded that opaque materials cast the darkest shadows and translucent materials cast the lightest shadows.



## Year 3 continued

During Music lessons, the children have been developing their singing techniques through learning a Viking song. The children have discussed pitch and how they can improve their performances. Recently, they have created actions to their song ready to perform it.



# Year 4

In science, Year 4 have been learning about electricity. They started by learning about different sources of electricity, such as mains and batteries, before exploring the different components of a circuit. The children tested different circuits and investigated why each one did or did not work. In a recent lesson, they have been experimenting with the brightness of bulbs and how changed parts of a circuit can affect it.



In DT this term, the children have been looking at Textiles. They designed and made their own book Sleeves! Within this, they had to show a lot of resilience as things did not always go exactly how they wanted and the technique could be quite fiddly, but the class did amazingly well and made some fantastic final products.

# Year 5

Year 5 have been busy developing both their sporting and scientific skills this term. In PE, the children have been practising key netball techniques, including accurate passing, smooth footwork and effective teamwork, which has helped build their confidence on the court.

In science, they have been investigating the properties of different materials, carrying out hands-on tests to explore hardness, transparency and electrical conductivity.



# Year 6

Year 6 have enjoyed a busy and enriching term, approaching all areas of their learning with enthusiasm and maturity. In history, they have been studying World War II, gaining a deeper understanding of how it impacted life in Britain. They explored significant events such as the Blitz and the Battle of Britain, reflecting on the challenges faced by civilians and the resilience shown during this time. In PE, pupils completed a gymnastics unit where they developed their ability to create and perform sequences using a range of travelling movements and balances. They worked collaboratively, showing excellent teamwork by performing in unison and with synchronisation.

The children also celebrated Lunar New Year, learning about its cultural significance and expressing their understanding through creative and vibrant artwork.

During World Book Day, the children produced some excellent pieces of writing, including thoughtful internal monologues inspired by *The Café at the Edge of the Woods*. They also created striking artwork using black card and white chalk to produce silhouette-style images of the café, showing great attention to detail and creativity.

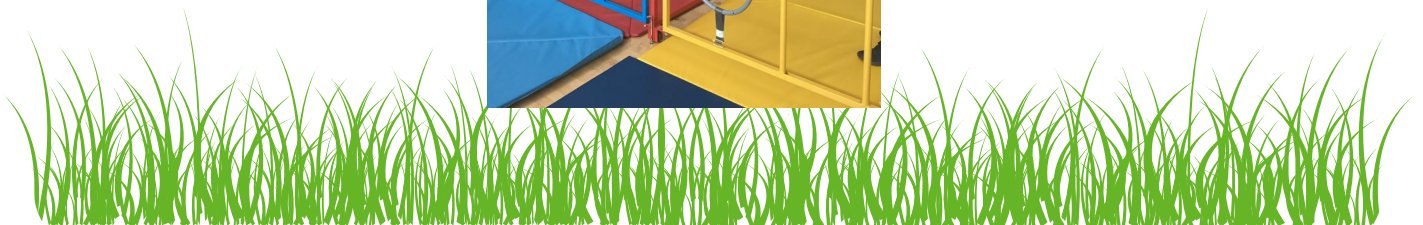
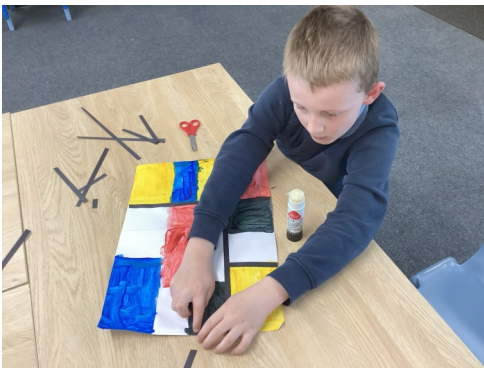
As we move towards an increasingly busy period Year 6 continue to demonstrate impressive dedication, hard work and commitment in all that they do.



# The Lighthouse

This term in the Lighthouse we have been full of exciting learning across the curriculum. In Maths, the children have been developing their skills in fractions, column addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, as well as exploring both 2D and 3D shapes. In English, our KS2 pupils have been studying *Escape from Pompeii* and have produced some fantastic newspaper reports, using adverbials of time, subordination and well-structured direct speech. Our KS1 pupils have been learning to identify nouns, verbs and adjectives, using the story *Wombat Stew* as inspiration for their own sentences. We are also now successfully accessing the Little Wandle phonics scheme, which the children are really enjoying, and we are already seeing this reflected in their growing confidence in reading and writing. In Science, we began by investigating forces, where the children were fascinated to discover how friction affects the movement of objects. We have now moved on to learning about everyday materials and are investigating which materials are best suited for different purposes. Our Lighthouse Crew have also been developing their French through our new topic *Les Petites Bêtes* (Minibeasts), learning new vocabulary, songs and even practising some written French. In Art, we studied the early 20th century artist Piet Mondrian and created some beautiful pieces inspired by his abstract use of rectangles and lines. In PE, the children have been exploring different ways to move their bodies while using the climbing apparatus safely and with control.

We also celebrated World Book Day, with everyone dressing up as their favourite characters. To finish the day, we used our literacy skills to design an Ogre cake – which we then made during a fun cookery session!



# Pre-school

Pre-School have had a lovely half term, although it has been short, we have managed to get so much done with many lovely activities. Our learning this term has been about 'Animals' and the children have been exploring a range of engaging and beautifully illustrated books that help to deepen the children's understanding of different animals, the habitats they live in, and how they survive and thrive in their environments. These stories have also opened discussions about how we can care for the world around us, including simple ways to keep our environment clean and protect wildlife. The children have particularly enjoyed sharing their own experiences and knowledge about animals, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they contribute to conversations and activities.

Pre-school were excited to celebrate World Book Day, and this was done in style. The day was based around 'The Day the Crayons Quit' and the children enjoyed a range of activities featuring elements from their favourite stories.

Neli continues in Pre-school and the children have been growing their vocabulary and learning their new key words. You can see what they have been doing as well as continuing their learning via the weekly NELI@Home posts on Tapestry.

In outdoor learning the children have been learning about Spring and noticing the changes in the environment as the seasons have begun to change and the temperature warms up. Mrs Clarke has created a mud kitchen which the children are enjoying along with their bug hunts and crafts. Some ducks have moved into the wetland area and the children enjoy going to feed them.

The children who will be moving to Reception in September have been busy with their phonics sounds and their early reading and writing skills and are making great progress.



# 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.

Please only put water in your child's water bottle as juice is not allowed in the bottles.

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.

