



## A message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this last newsletter of 2017, you will read about all the usual pupil successes we have become accustomed to enjoy reading, but this edition is also an appropriate time to celebrate the generous contributions of others.



First among these are the many parents, carers and grandparents who have visited classes to enrich children's learning, and the parents and carers who have supported their children and the school throughout all the fixtures, clubs and events which have taken place this term.

I would like to thank the many visitors from outside school, ranging from Olympians to Food Bank volunteers.

I acknowledge the enormous contribution of The Friends of Windlesham, who have worked tirelessly this term to organise a long list of events.

I would like to thank the governors who volunteer their time and expertise to provide guidance and support to the school in countless unseen ways.

Finally, I would like to celebrate the contributions of the incredibly dedicated teaching and non-teaching staff of Windlesham School who have consistently started their working day early and not left until late, the staff who have run clubs at the end of a school day, who have spent time in the evenings and weekends preparing for their weeks ahead and consistently sought to find ways to add value and interest to children's experiences at school.

Reflecting on such contributions fits well with a wisdom recently shared by a colleague; the most important gift to share with a growing child is the time we give them.

I wish all the staff, children and families of Windlesham School a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you all back safe and well on the gate in January.

## Lower School crib service

Last Tuesday, the Lower School performed a crib service of the Christmas story at St Luke's Prestonville. The performance saw the children singing, dancing and acting beautifully. It was fantastic to see them display such confidence and humour in front of a big audience. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along, and also to Mrs Hancox who directed the service.

Reporter: Miss Kennedy



## Owlets nativity play

The Owlets performed "The Nativity" by Niki Davis to an audience of parents and carers, grandparents, friends and visitors on Tuesday 4th December. The children sang and danced with great enthusiasm and should be very proud of all their hard work in remembering the songs and actions. Thanks go to Mrs Joyce and Mrs Morling for prompting and leading the singing and to Mrs Spicer for writing the script and narration. Also, thank you to Mrs Hancox and Buckley Phillips for the musical accompaniment in our very special performance.

Reporter: Mrs Older



## Preparing children for life



# General news

## A balanced healthy lunch box

Please remember we are a nut-free school when preparing lunchboxes. It is important to check labels as many products may contain traces of nuts. We have children in the school who are highly allergic to nuts.

Please do not include any sweets in your child's lunchbox; a balanced, healthy lunchbox is really important. Thank you for your help in this matter.

**Also, please could we ask all parents and carers to check the Portal to ensure you have informed the school about any allergies your child might have.**



*Beryl with Jamie and George*

## A visit by our charity reps

As part of our ongoing charity work, Windlesham School is keen to establish links with older members of our community. Last week, two of our Charity Reps, George and Jamie, went to visit an elderly resident living in a care home near to Windlesham School. She moved to Brighton from Nottingham and due to various circumstances has been unable to venture out. She was delighted to meet the boys and was impressed by how well they spoke and engaged in general conversation. She has expressed an interest to visit us at school in the new year. Windlesham School very much hopes to continue to promote this link with Beryl and with other older members of our community.

Reporter: Ms Groves

## School uniform shop

The uniform shop on Blatchington Road will be closed between 11th – 26th December inclusive and will reopen as normal from 27th December. During this period, you will be able to order anything that you require from the website <http://www.sussexuniforms.co.uk/>

## Request to return reading books

Please could parents and carers return any outstanding reading books to school before the end of term.



## Netball tournament

Last Monday, the U8, U9 & U10 netballers travelled to Shoreham College for some very tight matches. The U8 team, helped by Mrs Mack and Mrs Liley, got to grips with their positioning, footwork and passing. While that match wasn't officially scored it was very close with both teams enjoying lots of opportunities to try and shoot.

The U9 team did really well, holding to a 1-1 draw throughout 3 timed quarters, only conceding a goal in the final quarter to make the final score 2-1. They were very well supported by parents and carers, and the Shoreham staff commented on their enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

The U10's made a charging start, taking an early lead to score 3-0 against Shoreham. Going into the final quarter, the wind interfered with shooting for both sides. The girls really worked hard and converted one of their attacking drives into a final goal, resulting in a 4-2 win to Windlesham. Well done to all the girls that played - it was a great fixture.

Reporter: Mrs Fox



U8 team



U9 team



U10 team

## Swimming tournament

The school team swam in a 4 school gala against Cumnor House, Brighton College and Great Walstead on Monday 4th December.

25 children represented the school team, many making their debut, against 3 extremely strong swimming schools. As it was a developmental gala there was no scoring but Windlesham came first or second in 20 of the races - an excellent effort.

Swimmers of the day were George, Sophie and Hermione, all in year 5, who have each made exceptional progress this year.

Reporter: Mr Lambert



The team



Hermione, year 5

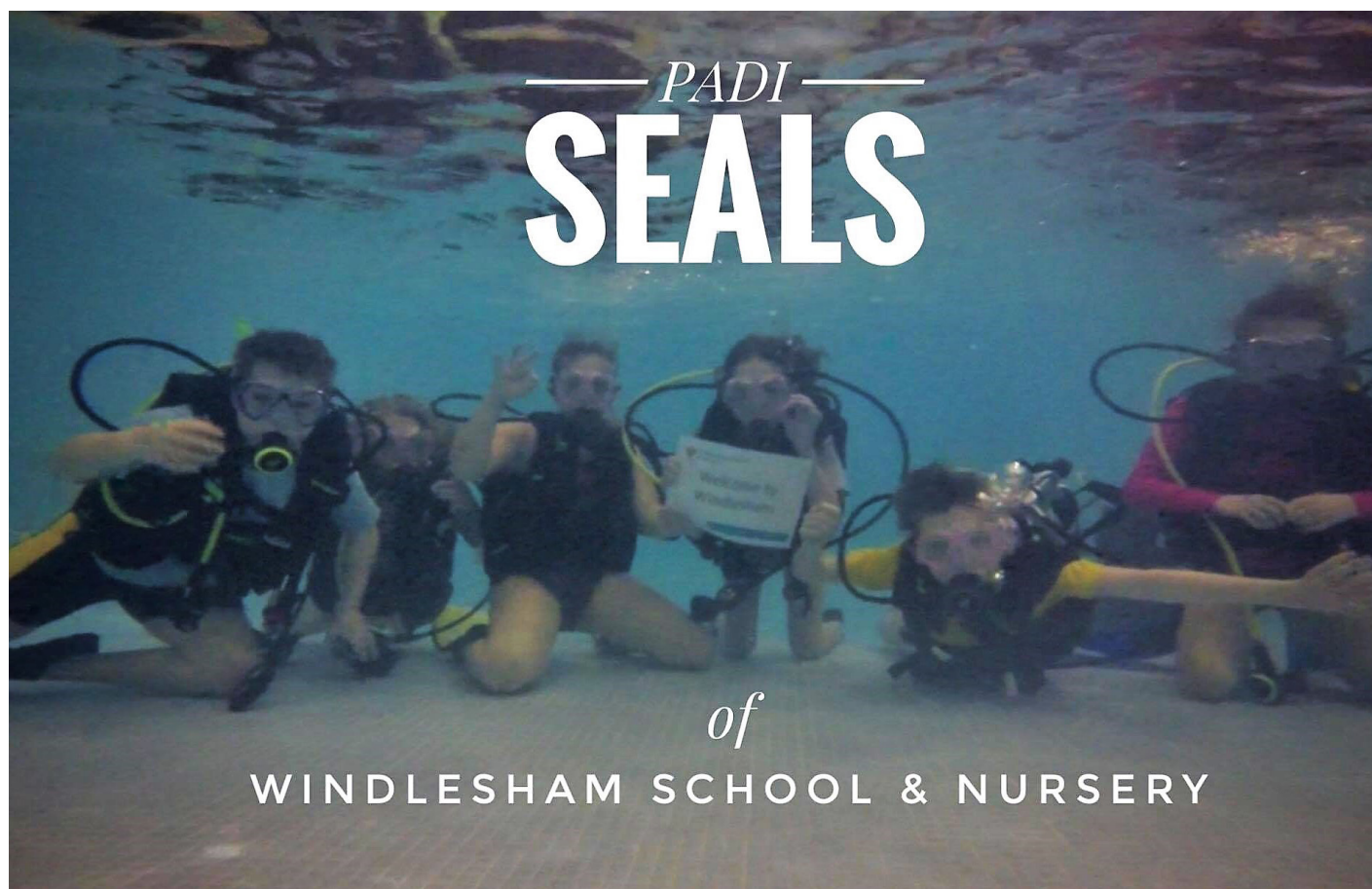
## A Windlesham (and possibly a national) first!

We are delighted that our first round of PADI Seals have graduated through their five week course and have all passed successfully. During their course, they started to develop the skills that allow them to gain neutral buoyancy and to understand the functions of their personal kit. From the photo and videos (on Facebook), it looks like a great deal of fun was had by all six of our new Seals.

We are running a second PADI Seal course starting in January 2018, and further PADI Bubblemaker taster sessions for those who have now turned eight years old. For our older students who are reaching eleven, we hope to be able to run a PADI Junior Open Water course in Summer 2018 through Ocean View Diving Centre.

Any enquiries, or to register interest in a course, please email [info@windleshamschool.co.uk](mailto:info@windleshamschool.co.uk)

Reporter: Mrs Fox





# School Activities

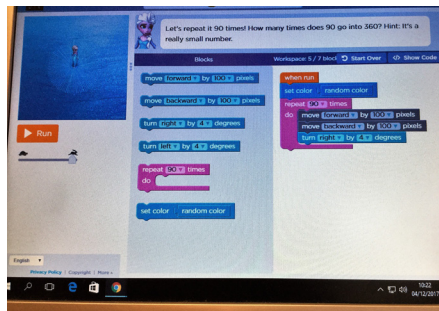
## Windlesham students get coding

Years 4 to 6 advanced their coding skills last week whilst participating in "The Hour of Code". This is a global computer science initiative that encourages students to learn the concepts of computer programming through fun games. Children enjoyed the extra challenges this initiative provides to code worthy heroes to kill enemy armies and monsters and to help fire-breathing dragons reach the treasure.

Year 6 were even able to use Python (a coding language) to solve their particular set of challenges. A great effort by all. Well done!

Remember, these activities can be accessed at home ([www.tynker.com/hourofcode](http://www.tynker.com/hourofcode) and [www.code.org](http://www.code.org)) so get coding!

Reporter: Mrs Moss



## Year 4 assembly

On 23rd November, we reflected on the year so far and showed our parents what we have done. We sung the 7 and 8 times tables, from our maths work, and showed how teeth work, from science. We told our parents about French speaking countries – Oh lala! We showed the Day of the Dead masks that we created for art. For English, we performed a playscript from 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl. Henry V111 and his six wives had a horrific life which we sung about and acted out. In music, we learned how to play the African Djembe drums and played many rhythms.

We really enjoyed this half hour of our lives performing the assembly and hope we can do it again.

Reporters: Maria and Zoe, year 4

## The new buddy scheme

On Thursday, last week, reception children met their year 6 buddies for the first time. Children had a lovely time introducing themselves to each other and sharing the Christmas cards they had made as well as reading together. We look forward to continuing to enjoy exciting activities together next term.

Reporter: Miss Jarman





# School Activities

## City Mission assembly

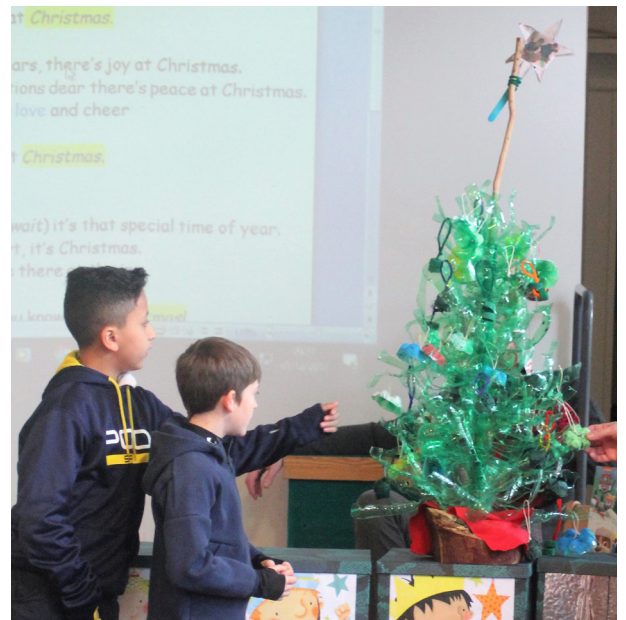
On Friday 1st December, we kicked off advent with a visit from Kerry and Lloyd from City Mission Church. With the help of some volunteers, we opened our own advent calendar boxes and talked about the different characters and the roles they played in the Nativity story.

The recycled tree was an idea from two of our Eco Warriors, Kyrillos and Alex. The boys, with parental support, asked for people to recycle their green bottles by donating them. Once the boys had collected enough bottles there was a lot of cutting and burning in order to create the sculpture. Each bottle was threaded onto a pole and the bottoms were used to create ornaments. Doesn't it look incredible - well done Kyrillos and Alex!

Reporter: Mrs Mack



*City Mission story telling*



*The recycled tree created by Kyrillos and Alex*

## The Primary Maths Challenge 2017

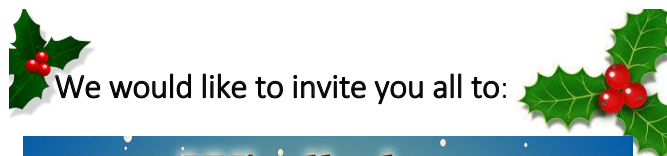
I was particularly impressed with the year 6 and some year 5 pupils who relished the opportunity to sit this maths challenge. What impressed me most was how engaged the pupils were in the problem solving activities prior to the challenge, both in school and at home. Pupils shared accounts with me of parents and carers who were actively involved with them in preparing for the challenge, which was delightful to hear. The highest scores have gone through to the Mathematical Association and we wait to hear if pupils will be called to the Bonus Round in February 2018.

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd





# School Activities



We would like to invite you all to:



## The Beach Hut Advent Calendar

To fully embrace the Christmas Spirit, we encourage you and your family to join us at the Beach Hut Advent Calendar. This event, hosted by one of our families on Wednesday 13th December, 5.30 - 6.30 pm, will feature our very own Lark Choir conducted by Mrs Gallant. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available!

The hut is numbered 194 and is situated between the Hove & Kingsway Bowling Club and The View restaurant. The Lark Choir has also been invited to sing for The View restaurant immediately after the Beach Hut event. This additional performance is expected to run until about 7.00 pm.

Further details about the Beach Hut Advent Calendar initiative are available at [www.beyondchurch.co.uk/shop.php](http://www.beyondchurch.co.uk/shop.php)

Reporter: Ms Groves

## Christmas Holiday Activities



We have negotiated a very special ticket price for the **Pinocchio Pantomime at the Attenborough Centre for Creative Arts** at Falmer: £10 per person. This deal is exclusive to Windlesham School due to our relationship with the Brighton Open Air Theatre (BOAT). The performance is on Wednesday 3rd January at 7pm and the discount code is WINDLESHAM10 To view details and to book, please click here:

[www.attenboroughcentre.com/events/1137/the-amazing-adventures-of-pinocchio/](http://www.attenboroughcentre.com/events/1137/the-amazing-adventures-of-pinocchio/)



On December 18, 19, 20, from 10.00 until 12.30 pm, 'Heart of Art' workshops are running at Windlesham School for children aged 6 to 12. Cost is £15 per session. Workshops will be run by Mrs Freeman. To secure a place, please email: [haleyjfree@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:haleyjfree@yahoo.co.uk)

## Important Autumn 2017 Dates

### MONDAY 11TH DECEMBER

#### FOW Lower School Christmas Party

Owlets and Reception: 13.45 - 15.30

Years 1 and 2: 15.30 - 17.00

### WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER

#### Advent Calendar Beach Hut Event

17.30 - 18.30

### THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER

#### Upper School Christmas Service

at St Luke's Church: 14.00 - 15.30

### FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

#### Last Day of Autumn Term

Lunch time finish, as follows:

Nursery and Reception: 12 noon

Year 1: 12.10 p.m.

Year 2: 12.20 p.m.

Years 3 - 6: 12.30 p.m.

## Windlesham School Term Dates 2018/19

### Autumn Term 2018

#### Staff Inset days

Monday 3rd and

Tuesday 4th September

#### Term starts

Wednesday 5th September

#### Half term holiday

Monday 22nd October –

Friday 2nd November inclusive

#### Term ends

Friday 14th December

### Spring Term 2019

#### Staff Inset Day

Monday 7th January

#### Term starts: Tuesday

8th January

#### Staff Inset

Friday 15th February

#### Half term holiday

Monday 18th February –

Friday 22nd February inclusive

**Term ends:** Friday 29th March



### Summer Term 2019

#### Easter Monday

Monday 22nd April

#### Staff Inset day

Tuesday 23rd April

#### Term starts

Wednesday 24th April

#### Bank Holiday

Monday 6th May (school closed)

#### Half Term Holiday

Monday 27th May –

Friday 31st May inclusive

**Term ends:** Friday 12th July

## Windlesham School Choir on BBC Radio Sussex

### Friday 15th December

Hot off the press, we are able to share the exciting news that the Windlesham School Larks Choir will be broadcast on BBC Radio Sussex this Friday 15th December at 13:35. The Larks Choir, conducted by Mrs Gallant, recently submitted a recording to the BBC of the choir singing a composition by Mrs Gallant titled 'Wise Men Three'. BBC Sussex broadcasts on 104.5/104.8FM and on 95.3FM (Brighton). They are also on DAB Digital Radio, Freeview 720 and online at [www.bbc.co.uk/sussex](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sussex). We are extremely proud of both our Larks and their composer and conductor, Mrs Gallant.

Reporter: Mr Ingrassia



## Windlesham's Christmas Wonderland



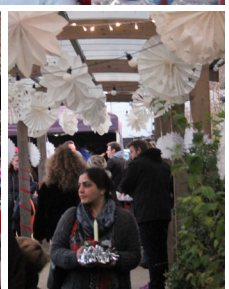
The Christmas fayre, last week, was an extremely successful event and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves - despite the very cold weather! The school was beautifully decorated, from Santa's grotto to the table decorations.

Each year group had organised games and stalls to entertain families and staff, and Santa was kept very busy handing out presents to delighted children.

The delicious home-made curry and mulled wine went down well with adults whilst the excited children left with armfuls of chocolates from the tombola and lots of home-baked goodies from the cake stall. Some lucky winners had fantastic prizes to take home, which had kindly been donated by local businesses.

A huge thank you to everyone involved. We look forward to letting you know the grand total raised from this event, in the first newsletter of 2018.

Until then, the FOW wish you all a  
very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





# Friends of Windlesham

**Biba in year 6 won the competition to match the correct staff name to their photo. How well did you do?**

 Miss Higgs	 Mrs Colley	 Mrs Green	 Mr Crellin	 Mrs Jones	 Mrs Sutcliffe
 Mrs Jeffery	 Mrs Waller	 Mrs Slater	 Mrs Carvey	 Mr Lyle	 Mr Ferries
 Miss Kennedy	 Mrs Mack	 Miss Jarman	 Mr Freeborn	<b>ANSWERS</b>	
 Mrs Card	 Mr Ingrassia	 Mrs Coego	 Mr Lambert	 Mrs Stewart	
 Mrs O'Dowd	 Mr Bryant	 Mrs Thompsett	 Madame Kearton	 Mrs Older	
 Mrs Ball	 Mrs Christofis	 Mrs Blaylock	 ANSWERS	 Mrs Martin	



# Achievements

## Merit Badges

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at 8th December):

### Lower School

Joshy, Nicolas , Raphael C and Joel.

### Upper School

Kai, Alex A, Seb, Yasin, Ben, Sophie, Oliver B, Datis, Buckley, Billy, Marina, Akim, Biba, Mabel, Diego, Max Sw and Harry U.

## Owls Awards

Kareem, Katie T, Florence, Christopher, Isabella, Kaisan, Arabella, Ellie, Stratos, Elise, Charley-Rae, Nicolas, Fawn, Sienna, Rosa, Primrose, Alex C, Jem, Lila, Ava, William B, Isaac G, Henry B, Maria, Zoe, Max Sw, William G, Jakob, Eli, Sophie, Aywin, Zac P, Scarlett R-T, Amelia, Rhea, Oliver D, Sameen, Fiontan, Theo E, Yasin, Freddie, Eva C and Alaska.



Well done to year 3 and 4 Speech and Drama pupils who took a New Era Academy mime exam on 2nd December, 2017. The group did brilliantly, gaining 80 marks which is a Distinction. Congratulations to Zoe, Lila, Michael O, Fiontan, Mabel, Oliver, Ava, Lola M, Alex C and Matilda.



**Windlesham School  
& Nursery**

### The Prefects for this part of the term are as follows:

2K Charlie  
Summer

2S Willow  
Yuvraj

3SJ Gus  
Jem

3M Florence  
William

4CM Zoe  
Jaan

4F Eva  
Alaska

5CC Amaya  
Zachary

5CF Theo  
Akshay

### The School Councillors are as follows:

Year 6 Lily and Ra

Year 5 Ted, Astrid, Katie and Emma

Year 4 Elsa, Faris, Ollie and Amelia

Year 3 Penny, Michael, Max  
and Marina

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