



NEWSLETTER | 07/02/22

Special interest assemblies

This term, we have launched a new series of special interest assemblies, including members of our community who are able to engage children with a particularly interesting new topic, experience or a story to celebrate diversity and inclusion.

The first special guest was a parent in our school, Mr Halpern, who is a professional crossword writer for all the main national papers.

Mr Halpern was terrific, inviting lots of children to offer ideas and engaging them in ways to play with names and words. We hope to have him back for more wordplay at some point in the future.

We are looking for more people to share their special interests and achievements, so if you, or anyone you know, would be keen to share their experiences, please do get in touch.

Upper school disco postponed

Please note that the Upper school disco scheduled for this week has been postponed. FOW will announce another date soon.



We all know that nothing influences people more than a recommendation from a friend. We would be really grateful if you could 'like' and 'share' our posts on Facebook & Instagram. To find us, just search for Windlesham School or click on the icons here.

Google reviews also raise our profile tremendously and help us to continue to be the best school we can be. So please do get involved in liking, sharing and reviewing!



Windlesham School
& Nursery

Preparing children for life

Headmaster's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of another half term, I would like to take this opportunity once more to thank the wonderful team at Windlesham School for their commitment and dedication, particularly in the face of continuing challenges.

Pupil and staff absences have posed the greatest pressure. When pupils are at home, we have tried hard to make sure that they still receive online tuition while the children at school simultaneously receive live tuition. No mean feat!

And when colleagues are absent, those present have covered their lessons, clubs and duties in addition to the normal tasks they must complete.

Despite these added pressures, staff have shone brightly and without complaint (well, with relatively little complaint).

I wish them and all our parents a restful, healthy half term break.

Best wishes,
Mr Ingrassia



GENERAL NEWS

Prefects for this part of the term

2J	Mia and Joe
2S	Akira and Mark
3DJ	Reuben and Nikola
3S	Nathaniel and Georgie
4C	Hugo and Amelia
4CM	Aram and Hermione
5CS	Annan and Milo
5FC	Jude and Teddy

Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Friday 4th February):

Lower School

Zoe, Eleanor, William, Diego, Jaiden, Delilah, Malu, Mia and Lucas.

Upper School

Heidi, Elodie, Maisie, Jonty, Freddie, Emily, Georgie, Josh, Rose, Benicio, Jessica, Bobby, Letty, Rebecca, Cyrus, Lois, Sophia, Louis, Nicolas and Elliot.

Staff news

I am very sorry to share that this will be the last week at Windlesham School for my right arm; Mrs Blaylock. Mrs Blaylock has been my PA for the last 5 years and has been a tremendous support in that time. If we had to sum up her work I would say it was characterised by professionalism, discretion and efficiency. Mrs Blaylock is taking some time out of work and we wish her all the best. If you get a chance, please feel free to pop in and do the same. Once details about her replacement are finalised, I will share them with parents.

Reporter: Mr Ingrassia

Today's special interest assembly

Our second special interest assembly took place this morning and we welcomed local nurse, Annie Shotton. Annie came to talk to us about her incredible achievement of swimming The Channel last summer.

Annie, who works at the Royal Alex, decided to try and achieve her dream of completing 'The Big Swim' in order to raise money for the children's hospital. Annie explained her inspiration for taking on the challenge, the realities of training and details of the actual event, including an

encounter with some jellyfish!

She shared with us a special quote from the first man to swim The Channel, Captain Webb, in 1875, that encouraged her to keep going when things got tough - 'Nothing great is easy'.

Not only did Annie complete the challenge in just 12 hours and 45 minutes, she managed to raise £17,500 for the hospital.

Annie left us with the message that we should all have dreams and shouldn't be afraid to try and achieve them!

Reporter: Mrs Mack



World Book Day 2022

Save the date - Thursday 3rd March

This year, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. Children should prepare themselves for a day of fun activities, live author workshops, fashion parades and much more.

Of course, World Book Day wouldn't be as much fun without all the wonderful costumes - we look forward to seeing the children dressed up as their favourite book character.

Reporter: Mrs Coego



Charity Reps call Oaklands Nursing Home

Recently, the Charity Reps; Esther, Kaine and Phoebe, met with some of the residents from Oaklands Nursing Home via Zoom. Unfortunately, it was still not possible to visit them in person but we hope we can visit soon, maybe in their garden.

Parent survey

A quick note to say thank you to all the families who took the time to complete the recent parent survey. Your input is vital in the continuing process of reviewing and improving. I appreciate that it was quite lengthy and took some time to complete but the fact that so many of you did complete it is further testimony of your commitment to the school.

The residents told our Reps about their past jobs and about their favourite music which ranged from Little Mix to Elvis Presley. Their previous careers included teaching, law and the services.

The children were amazed to discover that one of the residents, Brenda, is 103 years old!

Reporter: Ms Groves

We were incredibly pleased with the feedback, which recognised many of the things the school does well. I was also pleased that some constructive suggestions were offered, all of which will be given careful consideration.

Reporter: Mr Ingrassia

Level 1
CYCLE TRAINING
at Preston Park and Hove Park



Level 1 is where you will learn to control your bike.
Riders **must** be able to ride without stabilisers

Friday 18 February 2022
10am – 12.30pm
13.15 – 15.45
Ages 9 – 15

Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.
Level 1 training costs £15.00 per person.
To book your place, please visit www.sports.brighton-hove.gov.uk/events



Level 1 & Level 2
CYCLE TRAINING
at Preston Park and Hove Park



Level 1 is where you will learn to control your bike.
Level 2 is where you start with real traffic, but sticking to quiet roads.

Monday 14 to Thursday 17 February 2022
10am – 12.30pm each day
Ages 9 – 15

Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.
Levels 1 & 2 together is £35.00 per person.
To book your place, please visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/events



Level 3
CYCLE TRAINING
at Preston Park and Hove Park



Level 3 is where you learn to cycle safely on busy roads within the city.

Monday 14 to Wednesday 16 February 2022
1.15pm – 3.15pm each day
Ages 11 – 15

Training includes roundabouts, traffic lights and filtering. You must have completed Levels 1 and 2.
Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.
Level 3 training costs £40.00 per person.
To book your place, please visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/events





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Reception's bear adventures

The Reception children have had a very busy half term learning all about fictional bears. They returned to school after the Christmas holiday to a fantastic surprise. Father Christmas had forgotten a very important present... it was Giggles, the Reception class bear. Giggles has since been showered with love and has had many exciting sleepovers. The children have learned to look after him, take turns and show sensitivity to the wants and needs of others.

Each week has begun with a familiar teddy bear story which forms the inspiration for the week's learning.

'Old Bear' helped to develop understanding of the world, sorting and looking at the different materials of old and new toys. 'The Teddy Bears' Picnic' inspired the children to write to the class teddies and invite them to a picnic where they shared different shape sandwiches with them. There was a major upset when the three bears suddenly disappeared from 'The Cottage' home corner. 'Where's My Teddy' supported the children to design wanted posters and luckily, the bears were found. They had been visiting their friend Panda who returned with them to help celebrate and teach them all about Chinese New Year.

Reporter: Mrs Mills



Year 4 pupil wins Sussex Wildlife Trust poster competition

Congratulations to Maisie in Year 4 who was one of many entrants in the Sussex Wildlife Trust poster competition. The theme was 'Help the Kelp'.

Last term, Year 4 spent a day at the beach to learn all about Sussex Wildlife Trust's project to conserve and regenerate the kelp forests along the sussex coastline. The children were then invited to design a poster to convey this message, and Maisie has been announced the winner!

Reporter: Mrs Coego



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Year 3 Viking Day

Year 3 had a fantastic day immersing themselves into the Viking Topic. We kicked off the day with a very special talk from the 'Olaf the Beardless' who showed us his vast array of Viking weapons, amulets, clothing and told us old Norse sagas. Afterwards

children made authentic Viking bread, created a piece of Art about longships and discovered the Runes Vikings used as their alphabet. The children creating their own stamp using lino printing techniques and printed their own names in runes. At the end of the day, we had a mini-Viking feast, some Viking games and dancing.

Reporter: Miss Dorricott

Year 2 Castles and Dragons workshop

Last week, Year 2 children enjoyed a workshop run by Amy Harman. During the day, pupils created their own dragon and castle mosaics using pebbles and coloured stones. They enjoyed learning about the role of a knight and about the suit of armour that they wore. The children also learnt about how wounds and battle scars are created for television and films using make up.

Reporter: Mrs Jarman

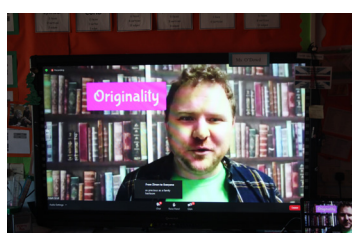
Year 5 Poetry workshop

This half term, Year 5 pupils have been studying poetry and poetic techniques in their English lessons. As part of this topic, they were lucky enough to join other schools across the country in attending a live Zoom poetry workshop organised by Young Writers.

Published poet, Mark Grist, led the workshop entitled 'The Day That Bravery Came To Dinner' and the children had a fantastic, interactive experience exploring personification and metaphor.

By the end of the 45 minute session, the children had created their own original poems with titles including 'The Day that Kindness Came to Visit' and 'The Day that Intelligence Came to Visit'. We seem to have quite a few budding poets in the year group!

Reporter: Mrs Croucher



Mark Grist, published poet, presented a live Zoom poetry workshop



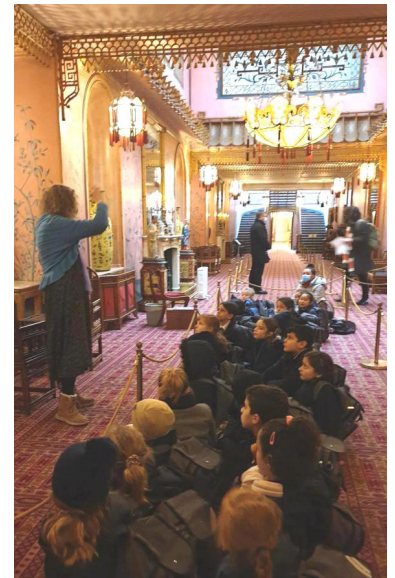
SCHOOL TRIPS



Year 3 Dragon Detectives Tour at The Royal Pavilion

Last Wednesday, Year 3 ventured down to Brighton Pavilion to participate in a dragon investigation! The visit linked to our topic of Vikings and to the book we are reading, 'How to train your dragon'. We learnt all about the different varieties of dragon found in the palace and why the King was so fascinated with them.

Reporter: Mrs Smallwood



Year 1 visit to the Theatre Royal, Brighton

To celebrate National Story Telling week, Year 1 enjoyed an exciting trip to watch 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' at the theatre. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and thought it was extra special as it featured a tiger. This week, Year 1 also discussed Chinese New Year 2022, the Year of the Tiger!

Reporter: Mrs Jeffery





SPORTS NEWS



U8 & U9 Netball v Brighton Girls

On Thursday 20th January, it was wonderful to be back on the netball fixture circuit.

Brighton Girls hosted us for an afternoon of friendly fixtures on their astro. We split the group into Fox and DJ teams and started out on our first quarter. Although it's been a while since we played competitive netball against other teams, we held our own, winning one match and narrowly missing a draw in the second.

On the Fox court, the

player of the match, as voted for by the opposition, was Lois. The coach's player voted for by staff was Katie.

The DJ team played fantastically against a tough opposition. It was a close game with a final score of 5-3 to Brighton Girls. Coach's player of the match was Nikola w-scoring all 3 goals for Windlesham, player's player of the match was Florence who worked hard in centre court.

Reporter: Mrs Fox and Miss Dorricott-Juniper

Y6 & Y6 swimming gala at Hurst

Last week, we enjoyed a fantastic gala against Hurst and all the swimmers did themselves proud, demonstrating incredible determination and skill throughout.

It was a pleasure to have our swimming teacher Mr Hearne join us for the gala and he thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the Y5 & Y6 swimmers competing to such a high level.

A highlight of the event was Maisa who won both her individual events, as well as seeing everyone performing well in the freestyle and medley relays.

As well as a great performance by our swimmers, their behaviour was perfect. Everyone showed great sportsmanship and represented Windlesham really well.

We have another swimming gala against Brighton Girls this week which we look forward to hosting here at Windlesham.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2022

Staff Inset day

Friday 11th February

Half term holiday

Monday 14th February –
Friday 18th February inclusive

Term ends: Friday 1st April

Summer Term 2022

Staff Inset day

Monday 25th April

Term starts

Tuesday 26th April

Bank Holiday

Monday 2nd May

Half term holiday

Monday 30th May –
Friday 3rd June inclusive

Term ends: Friday 8th July

Autumn Term 2022

Staff Inset days

Tuesday 30th August &
Wednesday 31st August

Term starts

Thursday 1st September

Half term holiday

Monday 17th October –
Friday 28th October inclusive

Term ends

Friday 9th December

Spring Term 2023

Staff Inset day

Tuesday 3rd January

Term starts

Wednesday 4th January

Staff Inset day

Friday 10th February

Half term holiday

Monday 13th February –
Friday 17th February inclusive

Term ends: Friday 24th March

Summer Term 2023

Staff Inset day

Monday 17th April

Term starts

Tuesday 18th April

Bank Holiday

Monday 1st May

Half term holiday

Monday 29th May –
Friday 2nd June inclusive

Term ends: Friday 7th July

Half term

Monday 14th to Friday 18th February

Please note that Friday 11th February is an INSET day, therefore the last day of school for the children next week is Thursday 10th February (normal finishing times).

Have a great half term!