

NEWSLETTER | 24/3/23

Special Interest Assemblies

On Wednesday 8th March, we welcomed James van der Hoorn to deliver a Special Interest Assembly. Not only did James share his experience as a pilot, but he came to talk to us about his passion for adventures! His passion has led him to taking part in the Marathon Des Sables and trekking across Greenland to climb three mountains that had never been summited before! During the assembly, we found out about the inspiration behind his adventures, the preparation required and the challenges he faced. He encouraged our pupils to set themselves challenges and persevere even when things don't go the way you expected. The children were hooked by the recounts of his experiences and displayed their curiosity with the questions they asked. An inspiring assembly!

On Wednesday 22nd March we were visited by Charlotte, a Nutritionist employed by our school catering company. During her visit, Charlotte delivered assemblies to all of our Upper School children and ran workshops with Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes.

The focus was all about the benefits of 'Eating a Rainbow' of fruit and vegetables to ensure we are healthy. The children learnt how different coloured fruit and veg provide different vitamins, minerals and antioxidants that help our brains, hearts, digestion and growth. A final message shared was that our bodies are quite amazing and that our tastes can change as we grow up- something we don't like now, we may learn to enjoy in the future. Charlotte encouraged the children to keep trying new foods.

Reporter: Mrs Mack



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

Headmaster's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with more than a hint of sadness that we say goodbye to a few of our lovely families moving out of area at the end of this term. We wish them the very best and thank them for their support and friendship during their time at Windlesham.

I also wish to thank Miss Fish for her excellent work in year 2 over these last two terms of the year. Miss Fish's calm and diligent approach has resulted in strong progress and confident happy children. We wish her the very best and we welcome back Miss DJ, returning after a happy period of maternity leave.

And finally, I am happy to share that Mr Leggett is able to join the school to meet parents on two occasions. The first, intended for parents of Early Years and Lower School children will take place on 16th May and the second, for parents in Year 3 up will take place on the 17th May. Both coffee mornings will start at 9am in the New Hall.

Wishing you all a safe Easter.

Sincerely,

John Ingrassia



Preparing children for life

GENERAL NEWS

Prefects for this part of the term

2F	Anastasia & Valdimir
3S	Lottie & Seb
3C	MJ & Carla
4S	Ernie & Zaad
4CM	Louis & Eve
5OD	Connor & Jessica
5FL	Maisie & Cyrus

Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Thursday 23rd March):

Lower School

George, Jessica, Sam, Ariana, Lewis, Darcey, Afie, Toby, Diego, Etta Rose, Noyan, Rosie, Maddie

Upper School

Isabella, Zach, Maisie, Felix, Jess, Matilda, William, Isabella, Delilah, Theo, Griffin, Heidi, Max P, Cyrus, Belle, Ellie, Alex, Simona, Sid, Zane, Rebecca, Jackson, Milo, Lucas, William

Spring Term Owls

Kitty, Reuben, Alya, Yazen, Zoey, Sebastian, Ethan, Ivy, Edward, Archie, Zayn, Jude, Etta Rose, Noyan, Zyva, Maddie, Eli, MJ, Kyra, Ethan, Mia, Joe, Sulaiman, Seb, Simona, Lottie, Abe, Yulia, William, Guin, Matthew, Hermione, Joshi, Lucas, Selin

Developments in School

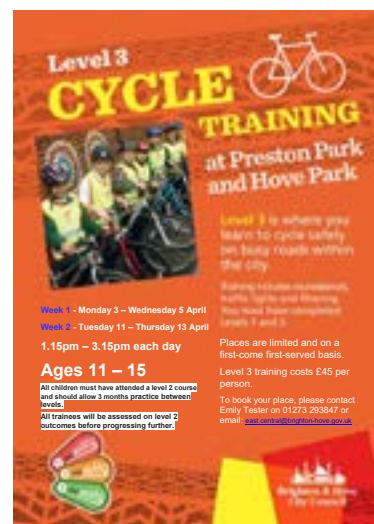
A number of capital works which have been sitting in the pipeline for some time are finally approaching realization. Among these we include the Playground Adventure trail for the Upper School, The Music practice Rooms, lighting for the main drive and a refurbishment of the Heritage Hall. In addition, for those of you who remember, just before COVID began, we started a fundraising initiative for parents to buy an engraved paving brick which would immortalize your family name forever in the Windlesham Walk of Fame.

We are presently in the process of appointing a paving company to carry out these works so if you are interest in joining the long list of people who have already committed, please drop in to the office, pick up a leaflet from Mrs Farnell and drop it back to us by the end of the first week of the Summer term. Each brick will cost £30. All other details are on the leaflet.



We raised over £200 this year during Red Nose Day. Thank you all for your generous contributions!

The children and staff had a wonderful day and it was lovely to see all the individual ways the colour red was incorporated into our school uniform.



GENERAL NEWS

A message from David Leggett, new Headmaster from September 23



I am delighted and honoured to be appointed as the next Headmaster of Windlesham School. It is an exceptional school, with an exciting future, and I look forward to building upon the great work of John Ingrassia.

The school is clearly in excellent shape and is ambitious and aspirational for its future. The overwhelmingly positive and welcoming atmosphere I experienced on my visit whilst meeting the staff, pupils and governors made an immediately warm and friendly impression. I have always been committed to the concept of a holistic, values-based and individualised education which allows all pupils, whatever their innate talents, to flourish, and I recognise that Windlesham School is highly successful in providing a very rich experience for every pupil.

I hope to bring a great deal of energy, personality and a real willingness to enhance the culture and environment at the Prep School - so that the pupils in our care continue to prosper and reach their full potential.

I am really looking forward to being part of the School and wider community and the opportunity to meet again with staff and pupils as well as the parent body over the course of the summer term.

Mr Leggett

Primary Maths Challenge

Congratulations to Kai Jing who secured a Silver Certificate in the Bonus Round of the Primary Maths Challenge 2023.

Jayden also performed to a high standard but missed the Bronze Certificate by one mark. There were approximately 50,000 entrants in the first round of the Primary Maths Challenge.

The highest achieving candidates went through to the Bonus Round held in February. It was no easy feat to qualify for the Bonus Round and sit the Bonus Round Paper so both pupils must be praised for demonstrating resilience in the face of challenge.

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd

Polite reminder

This term we experienced a significant pile of un-named personal belongings and uniform.

Please can we ask that all belongings are named at the start of next term.



We would like to congratulate Cyrus for his outstanding achievement for winning the Worthing Drama Festival recently.

Cyrus was originally entered for 3 classes, prose, verse and scene by his drama teacher and he won the solo drama event with an amazing score of 95, which is classed as exceptional.

Cyrus then went on to perform in front of the mayor of Worthing at the finals and came first place.

He was the youngest winner, having competed against children from Year 5 to Year 8 from various schools across the county.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



World Book Day at Windlesham

Everyone had so much fun celebrating World Book Day earlier this month. At Windlesham, we love reading and books all year round and always enjoy a day dedicated to our favourite book characters and stories.

Children had the opportunity to take part in a wealth of activities, including a Book Trail, which involved following book character clues all around the school and a Book Speed Dating event – children were allowed one minute each to share their favourite book to each of their 'dates'. A fantastic opportunity for children to hear about authors and genres they may not usually read. Author Vashti Hardy was invited into school to talk to some year group and she ran some truly inspiring writing workshops for children in Years 3-6.

A huge thank you to all children and parents for supporting this event, entering competitions and attending the day with such energy and enthusiasm.

Competition Winners and Runners Up :

Costume Runners Up: Henry , Ray, Lewis & Eli

Costume Competition Winners: William, Ariana, Vladamir & Toby

#takeashelfie competition runners up: Freya & Arabella

#takeashelfie winners: Rosie, William & Ethan

Book Cover Design Runners Up: Justin & Max M

Book Cover Design Winners: Sophia & Stratos

We had great fun celebrating World Book Day! At Windlesham we really enjoy books and this was a brilliant way to celebrate our love of reading. Children took part in lots of book themed activities, and our Year 6 children read with the Reception children. They all had a great time!

It was lovely to see such imagination as the children came to school dressed as their favourite book characters. Thank you for all the effort made. We celebrated together as a whole school and really enjoyed seeing everyone's outfits! Children were sent home with a £1 book token which can be spent in any book store. They left with lots of book recommendations!

We would also like to thank the FOW for supporting the event.

Reporter: Mrs Coego





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Year 4 Celebration of Learning Assembly

The Year 4 children invited their parents in for a performance in the New Hall this half term.

The show was a 'Celebration of their Learning' and it included snippets of all the amazing work they have done so far this year.

They sang a song and performed a play about King Henry VIII, relayed facts about Ancient Greece and shared some of their scientific knowledge about 'sound'.

They also shared some of the poetry and Art they had created.

The children worked very hard in rehearsals - so well done to year 4!

Reporters: Mrs Card, Mrs Martin & Mrs Slater

Year 3 & 4 Easter Performance

On Wednesday afternoon, 22nd March, Year 3 and 4 joined together to perform "The Tale of Three Trees" to parents.

This is a lovely traditional folktale about three trees who are each turned into something they would prefer not to be: an old feeding trough, a fishing boat, and planks of wood in a yard.

As the story unfolds, it turns out that the first tree actually becomes Jesus' manger, the second becomes Jesus' fishing boat and the third tree is used to make the cross for his crucifixion.

The story is highlighted by some beautiful songs and plenty of narration. Year 3 and 4 children performed absolutely beautifully and their hard work certainly paid off on the day.

Congratulations to all children, and thank you to the teachers for their help.

Reporter: Mrs Gallant





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Spring Concert

On Mondays 6th and 13th March two Spring Concerts took place in the New Hall.

Our performance platforms give children an opportunity to prepare a piece and perform it to an audience in a friendly environment. The hope is to increase confidence and gain some early performance experience. We were thrilled with both concerts! So many instruments and singers played.

Highlights were Luay on his Double Bass, Lois on the drums and some very advanced violin playing from Kai-Jing and Jing-Shuen. There were also performances on the piano, violin, trumpet, clarinet, flute, voice, recorder and guitar. Across the two concerts over 60 children performed.

Thank you to Mrs Kiernan for helping me with the organisation on both days, and to the peripatetic teachers for their help in preparing them

Reporter: Mrs Gallant



Scholastic Book Fair

We were delighted to host Scholastic's Travelling Book Fair at school ahead of World Book Day. It has been three years since we have been able to run this due to the pandemic, which made it even more of a special event. Thank you to all who came along and chose some brand new books to enjoy at home.

Running this event allows us to take a percentage of the income to replenish our school and class libraries with up-to-date titles ensuring children can always have optimum choice when selecting books to read at school. New books should arrive at some point next term – ready for the children to begin enjoying!

Reporter: Mrs Coego



Science in Year 1

As part of our science topic this term in Year 1, we have been learning all about plants.

We planted our own beans, looked after them and will be planting them in our school vegetable patch.

Hopefully we will be eating the beans as part of our school lunch next term!

Reporter: Mrs Delaney





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Science Week 2023

The theme for the week was Connections. The week began with an introductory assembly of the theme of Connections and where the children and staff shared their Science fact.

Activities included word searches, science facts for the day and special Science week activities in lessons: firefly circuits, investigating finger prints and bridge building.

The children in the Early Years, KS1 and Year 3 were especially lucky as our Science prefects Arthur, Annan and Oscar visited to carry out different activities, including making shadow puppets, polymers, bubbles and froth, lava lamps and 'seeing' sound.

Thank you everyone for supporting Science week so brilliantly. SCIENCE ROCKS!

Reporter: Mrs Colley

Habitats

Reception children have completely immersed themselves in a mini project to create a habitat for a bear. They researched the different types of environments bears lived in and what kind of bear lived there and the resources they needed to survive.

The children then chose their favourite habitat and recreated it using a range of materials. They finished by modelling a bear out of clay and painting it. They are all spectacular!

Reporter: Mrs Mills



World War Two Experience

Year 6 recently had the opportunity to take part in a World War Two Zoom Experience!

The children were immersed in a Blitz experience, where they had to take refuge in an Anderson Shelter (under our desks!) and feel the intensity of this experience! Bombs were dropping over head and the warden was ringing his bell and blowing his whistle!

We were shown a variety of gas masks, including one fit for a baby, which shocked us all!

The children also listened to the personal experience of Mr Macenzie, who used his family history and shared how his family felt living in Germany at that time, being brain washed to support Hitler.

A brilliant experience, where we learnt such a wide variety of detail interactively!

Reporter: Mrs Lilley





SCHOOL TRIPS

Reception trip to Wilderness Woods

The Reception children had quite an adventure in Wilderness Wood this term.

We managed to avoid the snow to spend a day of outdoor activities in the forest. The children built natural shelters for their teddy bears, they worked in teams showing great resilience and creativity. They also decorated wooden medals inspired by the nature all around them.

It was fun despite the cold weather.

Reporter: Mrs Mills



Year 2 trip to Lewes Castle - Knights assemble!

The children had a wonderful day exploring Lewes Castle. We had a tour around the castle learning lots of interesting facts. It was such a clear day we even saw the sea, making it easy to understand why the Normans decided to build a motte and bailey castle.

Back in the indoor classroom, we were able to carefully handle some replica armour (it's heavy!) and some genuine artifacts from the people who lived in the castle, which were about 800 years old.

We finished our day with some drama, dressed up in costumes, acting out the roles of different people who would have lived in the castle - the children were brilliant.

A fantastic day once again with our marvellous Year 2 class!!

Reporter: Miss Fish





SCHOOL TRIPS



Beach School

During Beach School this term, the children had the opportunity to develop their rock pooling abilities, where they discovered crabs, fish and even a baby shark! The pupils divided into groups of 3 and 4 and began to explore together to see what exciting fauna and flora they could find. On both days we were very lucky to have some nice weather to allow us plenty of opportunity to enjoy what rock pooling had to offer. There was lots of excitement as many different creatures were discovered and placed in our buckets safely. Once finished, we all gathered round to enjoy what everyone had found and then we put all the creatures back safe and sound.

We also spent a lot of our time discussing tides and its relationship with the moon, as well as building sand towers and castle to see the changing tides. We were also very interested to see whose tower would last the longest! It was a lot of fun to see the waves crashing into all the structures had made, and actually very surprising to see how long most lasted!

Everyone was so enthusiastic and focused throughout both days, and enjoyed some lovely weather too. Looking forward to more beach days next term!

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson





SCHOOL TRIPS

Owlets trip to Woods Mill

The Owlets enjoyed a visit to a very muddy Woods Mill. The children were able to see some of the first signs of spring on a walk through the trees; spotting buds, primroses, ducks and even a robin.

During their activities the Owlets used a saw to cut slices of log and a hand drill to make a hole in their log slice medals. They delighted in making mud pies, pancakes and cookies in the mud kitchen and playing with the woodland animal puppets.

After all their hard work the children were rewarded with some delicious hot chocolate and a lovely picnic lunch.

Reporter: Mrs Older



Year trip to Arundel Wetlands

On Tuesday 7th March Year 4 experienced a fabulous day at Arundel Wetlands. Despite the mornings fluttering of snow the children enjoyed a practical lesson sorting out recycling and learning about pollution in our waterways.

A boat trip round the Wetlands was a highlight to see all the beautiful birds that were spending the winter months there before setting off for home.

The children enjoyed a session pond dipping and identifying hidden creatures in their natural habitats.

Reporter: Mrs Slater



SPORTS NEWS

40 Games, 50 Goals, 18 Assists



Congratulations to Jack scoring his 50th goal for his grass roots team.

This goal helped his team win their first cup game.

What a great achievement! Well done Jack.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson

Touch Rugby against Shoreham College

We hosted Shoreham College in two Touch rugby fixtures this half term.

Both matches were highly entertaining with great teamwork shown throughout and great examples of forward running.

We had a huge win in one game with the score finishing at 11-2. Everyone in the team scored at least one try including Lexi, Raffie and Joshy. Teddy scored two tries, whilst Marley and Jamie both scored three tries. As well as the terrific rugby securing a great victory, I was most proud when the Shoreham PE teacher said how humble and gracious the Windlesham team were: highlighting the great sportsmanship shown throughout.

Meanwhile, there was a very tight contest on the other pitch with Windlesham down 4-2 at half time. Windlesham stayed positive and started working even better as a team with some quick-fire tries to equal the score. We then went ahead at 6-4, before Shoreham equalised themselves and the match ended 6-6. It was a brilliant match to watch and there were fantastic team tries finished off by Isaac, Stratos and Freddie who all scored two each.

Well done to everyone involved - they were two terrific games.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



Rugby against Sompting Abbots

We had a fantastic overall victory against Sompting Abbots this week. There was some great rugby played despite the wet weather and muddy pitch. The conditions did not stop all the pupils playing some positive rugby with ambitious forward running on display throughout. We also had a lot of accurate passing and consistent catching during the games, which was made more impressive with the ball being caked in mud for most of the match.

Milo, Freddie and Jamie all contributed to the scoreline, scoring a try each with some excellent running and teamplay, whilst Marley scored two tries too! We also had some notable performances from Stratos, Arthur and Zak, who all showed fantastic energy and enthusiasm at all times.

William, Kai-Jing, Abdullah, Teddy, Raffie, Ollie and Jude were also brilliant during their game, with lots of teamwork demonstrated in defence and attack.

Overall we won 5-1 against Sompting, which means we beat them home and away in rugby this season.

I was also very pleased to see some lovely sportsmanship shown during the fixture so a big well done to Windlesham.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson

TERM DATES

2022-2023 Term Dates

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

2023- 2024 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2023

Staff Inset days

Thursday 31st August, Friday 1st September &
Monday 4th September

Term starts

Tuesday 5th September

Half Term holiday

Monday 16th October - Friday 27th October inclusive

Term ends

Friday 8th December

Spring Term 2024

Term starts

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Staff Inset day

Friday 9th February

Half Term holiday

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February
inclusive

Term ends

Thursday 28th March

Summer Term 2024

Staff Inset day

Monday 22nd April

Term starts

Tuesday 23rd April

Bank Holiday

Monday 1st May

Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May

Half Term holiday

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May inclusive

Term ends

Friday 12th July