

NEWSLETTER | 08/02/24

Tree Planting

A massive well done to the 10 children who represented Windlesham School during a community tree planting event. Your engagement and enthusiasm were noted.

This small group visited Hove Community Field to learn from the knowledgeable staff of Brighton Permaculture. We helped to plant 2 trees, a gage and a walnut, as part of their new community orchard. The sun shone and it was the perfect start to spring!

We learnt the steps to keep the fairly young trees safe and watered. We're already looking forward to reaping the rewards, although we'll have to be patient!

You can visit the orchard at Hove Community Field on the West side of the playing field behind Dyke Road Cafe. We hope to enjoy more small trips to enjoy this and get involved with this community space as a school in the future.

Reporter: Mrs Gomez





Headmaster's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term has seen our children delve into a multitude of enriching experiences both inside and outside the classroom. From inspiring lessons to captivating extracurricular activities, each day has been an opportunity for them to explore their passions and develop new skills. Around school we have seen reception teddy bears go amiss, leaving porridge in the bushes and returning from China with a panda bear friend for the class. We have seen county football success with bigger things to come hopefully. We have seen children giving their very best in fixtures and we all enjoyed focus weeks across the Maths and Wellbeing areas. There has been so much more on top of this selection that has meant we have all had a very busy and productive half term so far.

As we enter this week across half term, I encourage the children to take a rest and get prepared for the remainder of the spring term. I also hope you all get to spend quality time as families and whether that be embarking on a family adventure, curling up with a good book, or simply enjoying each other's company, let this break be a time of rejuvenation and connection.

Looking ahead to the remainder of the year, we have many exciting events and initiatives planned, all aimed at providing our children with the tools they need to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Wishing you a restful and rejuvenating half term break filled with fun and laughter and hopefully that spring sunshine we witnessed a week or so back returns.

& Nursery

David Leggett

Headmaster

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

Preparing children for life

GENERAL NEWS

Prefects for this part of the term

- 2DJ Afie & Toby W
- 3S Anastasia & Michael
- 3G Thomas & Sophia
- 4S Isabella & Ethan
- 4JP Mia & Simona
- 50D Henry & Reuben
- 5FL Letty & Rebecca

Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Wednesday 7th February):

Lower School

Eddie, Indi, Finn, Winston, Zoey, Matilda, Feliks, Lucy, Etta

Upper School

Diego, Amos, Jack, Eve, Nicole, Rosie, Darcey, Vladimir, Dorothy, Lottie, Lucas, Simona, Zachary, Zak, Rebecca M, Zane, Olly, Isabella C, Matthew R, Connor, Alia, Harriet, Lex

Spring Term Owls

Isaac, Osian, Kai, Austin, Will, Ayda, Rosa, Kit, Lev, Edward, Toby H, Alya, Ivy, Winston, Sorrel, Kitty, Sandy, Sebastian, Afie, Lara, Jessica, Zayn, Toby P, Thomas, Taigh, Rosie, Vladimir, Michael, Eve, Annie, Jack, Anastasia, Mark, Rosie, Akira, Lottie, Olive, Tia, Carla, Zak, Seb, Selin, Abe, Reuben, Elodie, Isabella C, Maisie H, Isaac, Marvel, Jack J, Timothy, Mia

CAMHS Workshops



Mental Health Services Here is a link to a variety of pre-recorded webinars and parent workshops from the NHS, exploring a range of difficulties that children and young people may experience, along with tips and strategies to support.

https://www.sussexcamhs.nhs.uk/resources/resourcesfor-families-carers-and-professionals/parent-and-carerworkshops?open=15829#single-accordion-15829

Staffing Update

We said goodbye to Sam Burrows, our Premises Manager, at the end of January. Sam started working here in 2019 and he oversaw the buidling of the New Hall. He has taken up a new post in Crawley Council and we wish him the best of luck in his role.

We look forward to welcoming our new Premises Manager, Luke Kerr, to the Windlesham team. Luke will begin working with us over half term.



We would like to thanks R.J. Meakers for providing us with the equipment we needed to build our Forest School area ready for Wood and Wild after school club.

The children have really enjoyed their outdoor learning space this half term.



GENERAL NEWS

FOW News

FOW have raised over £2000 from the Christmas Fair and the recent Movie Night.

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your generous contribution towards purchasing iPads through the Friends of Windlesham association.

Your dedication to enhancing our children's educational experience is truly commendable. With the acquisition of these iPads, our students will have access to a wealth of educational resources, interactive learning tools, and innovative opportunities that will undoubtedly enrich their academic journey.

Once again, thank you for your generosity and for investing in the future of our children. Together, we are making a significant difference in their lives, empowering them with the tools and resources they need to succeed.

Did you know that you can support FOW for free? Easyfundraising partners with over 7,500 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand. All you have to do so simply sign up to Easyfundraising, using the links below: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fowbrighton/

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=25632&invi te=4oleeg&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=refCROtest

WORLD

BØØK

7 MARCH 2024





Level 1 & Level 2 at Preston Park and Hove Park

Monday 12 – Thursday 15 10am – 12.30pm each day

Ages 9 –15



Level 3



at Preston Park and Hove Parl

learn to cycle safely on busy roads within the city.

ebruary

Ages 11 – 15

evel 3 training costs £45 per





A LOOK MARK FOR YOUR DIARY:

What shall I wear?

Come as a book of as a character in a itera of energies that you have read

What do I need to do?

stumes with pupils dressing as accurite character or book are a don't need to buy need mes made from re-cycla

mes made from ny cyclatow is any entry mach encouraged

tocopy on to it. A good Eco shoice

a costume that has been often. A super Eco choice!

What's the point?

We recycle and upcycle our books to

Windlesham World Book Dayl



Windlesham School Holiday Camp (Brighton)

Pied Piper Activities



 @PiedPiperActivitiesLtd piedpiperactivities





Maths Week

Professor Brainwave succeeded in capturing the curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills of the pupils of Windlesham School from Nursery through to Year 6. All the pupils engaged in hands-on practical problem-solving activities on 2-D and 3-D Shapes using practical tools. To end the day Professor Brainwave led an entertaining whole-school Assembly on Problem Solving.

Tim in 5FL commented." We learned all about the fascinating topic of Shapes. We discovered new shapes, made the shapes, and enjoyed our time. Thank you Professor Brainwave."

The Year 5 and Year 6 Maths House Quiz was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils. The live scoreboard of the competing Houses-Bodiam, Arundel, and Lewes ensured that all pupils worked eagerly to amass as many points as possible. Year 5 House Quiz- Lewes 1st, Bodiam 2nd and Arundel 3rd,

Year 6 House Quiz-Bodiam 1st, Arundel 2nd and Lewes 3rd

The Maths Parade was a fun and colorful event. All the participants were led down the catwalk by Maisie H and Harriett Year 6 to a funky dance beat. Our winners from Nursery to Year 6 are as follows:

Owlets - Osian& Isaac	Year 3 - Sophia & Annie
Reception - Carles & Aurelia	Year 4 - Mark & Harry
Year1 - Archie W, Toby & Archie	Year 5 - Sid & Eve
Year 2 - Felix & Etta	Year 6 - Lucia & Raf

A huge thank you to all parents and carers for supporting your children in designing awe-inspiring costumes and hats. Pupils plucked from the audience commented freely on the help they received at home to make their costumes and hats.

The winner of the KS 1 Assembly were:

1st place - Arundel, 2nd Place - Bodiam, 3rd Place - Lewes

To round off an excellent Maths Week, we ended with a House event Maths mastermind! This was a new event and it's fair to say the children loved it!

Years 1 and 2 participated in interactive games in the Heritage Hall where they worked on shape activities. It was lovely to see how much the younger pupils enjoyed learning about shape. In KS2, Years 3 to 6 participated in their own mastermind competition. Each house was represented by 3 pupils in each year, whereas Year 6 had the headmaster's chair! We had lights, cheering and lots of exciting maths questions. The pupils were brilliant and showed the school that we sure have some super brainy maths geniuses!

Across the school pupils enjoyed a creative and fun Shape Problem Solving Week!

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd















Owlets make bird feeders

The Owlets have been bird watching in the Nursery playground observing where they have seen them and keeping a record.

They have also made bird seed feeders using orange skin after enjoying a healthy glass of orange juice. They then hung up a bird feeder and spread some bird seed on the bird feeding station before taking their own ones home to hang in their gardens.



Reporter: Mrs Older











Reception have been learning all about bears this term. Father Christmas delivered a late Christmas present...Lollypop Bear our new class mascot! The children have been taking it in turns to have Lollypop for a sleepover each night and writing about their time together.

They explored the concept of past and present through the story of Old Bear by Jane Hissey and really enjoyed finding out about old and new toys. Recently we dedicated a week's learning to the theme of The Teddy Bears Picnic. The children began by investigating healthy and unhealthy food groups, wrote picnic invitations to their own bears, explored the properties of 2D shapes and used this knowledge to make a shape sandwich for their bear. The children and teddy bears had a wonderful picnic together!

Reporter: Mrs Mills







Year 1 Toy Wow Day

Year 1 launched into a new topic, investigating toys from the past. The children have been making comparisons and looking at contrasting features of toys, researching retro games to modern toys.

The children celebrated the start of our topic by coming dressed as their favourite toys and engaging in a WOW day experiencing games and toys from different eras. The wooden noughts and crosses, spinning tops and the house of cards challenge were most definitely the favourites and the tin soldiers became a wonderful focus for our instructional art lesson and independent homework challenges.

Reporter: Mrs Derby

Science in Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed collecting data for their Science Investigation.

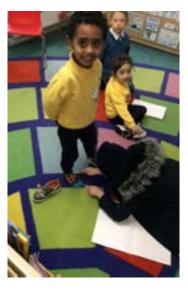
We have been exploring life cycles and wanted to investigate whether age related to growth. Our hypothesis was "The older you are the bigger you are". We decided to measure the length of feet. The children visited different year groups around the school to collect data for their investigation.

Children in Year 2 really enjoyed visiting their friends in Owlets and discussing foot length with them (as they had just done their own learning about feet and designed their own shoes!)

Reporter: Miss DJ











Maths in Year 3

During Maths Week, Year 3 focused on the theme of Shape in Art, Puzzles and Games.

The children recapped what we have learnt so far about regular and irregular polygons. We then learnt some new mathematical vocabulary and explored making 3-D shapes with playdough and sticks.

We practised using our new vocabulary by counting the sides and vertices of our 3-D shapes.

Reporter: Mrs Gomez





Year 4 Wow Day

Wow! Year 4 travelled back in time and transformed into Ancient Greek children. They looked fabulous in their outfits and enjoyed exploring some Ancient Greek activities.

From art to writing, the children got creative. They decorated vases, constructed lush laurel crowns, and designed some dramatic expressive theatre masks!

The children also had a go at creating their own Ancient Greek inspired mosaics. As Ancient Greeks for the day, everyone practised writing using the Ancient Greek alphabet, whether just their name or a secret message!



Year 4 are looking forward to learning more in their topic lessons this term and discovering more about Ancient Greece.

Reporter: Mrs Petronella





Year 5 Buddy Walk

On the final day of Wellbeing Week, caring Year 5 walked with their excited Reception buddies around the grounds of Dyke Road Park.

We talked about all of the friendly dogs that we passed, who were playing on the field. We even practised our counting skills by counting 10 dogs.

We had to wrap up warm as it was a cold day but we really enjoyed strolling together and getting some fresh air.

Reporters: Timothy & Mia











From Waterstones to World Book Day and Beyond!

"Where are we going Miss Thompsett?" our Y6 book enthusiasts enquired. "We're going on an author hunt to Waterstones – no bears involved!" she replied with a knowing smile. And that's exactly what we did. We tracked down the renowned author and illustrator, Adam Stower! Not only did Adam share the secrets of his latest book, Murray Bun, he also revealed that he is the illustrator of David Walliam's book series! What a catch! It's fair to say that we were star struck and over the moon that he spent time with us; he even signed and illustrated a copy of his latest book for our school library.

In the run up to World Book Day, our Y6 children thoroughly enjoyed spending time with Richard and Holly (Waterstones book specialists) travelling behind the scenes to understand the author's journey from a creative idea to a book on the shelves.

Not only did we have the bookstore virtually to ourselves but secret rooms were explored revealing all the hard work involved in getting stories to readers across the world. After our tour, we enjoyed a hearty hot chocolate swamped in marsh mallows whilst we wrote book reviews which are now on the shelves in the store for all to see.

How proud we are of Isaac and Lex who stepped in for Lois and Cyrus, our actual Y6 librarians, who were unable to attend, and to Max who steered the team through our literary voyage. Never has a number 27 bus led us to a book reader's oasis in the heart of our home town!

What's the next step you might ask? Well look out... here comes WORLD BOOK DAY!

Reporter: Miss Thompsett



Wellbeing Week

Our first full week back after Christmas saw us immerse ourselves in Wellbeing Week.

Children across the school learned about ways to feel well and look after their physical and mental health.

Lessons in PSHE explored emotions, kindness and self care, with a range of activities aimed at helping children develop their ability to understand and talk about their own feelings and experiences.

Every year group across the school took part in a Walk and Talk with their buddies, raising the importance of talking to each other when we have difficulties.

A few other highlights of the week included a workshop with Brighton & Hove Albion foundation, using the Smoothie Bike and a visit from a Therapy dog!

It really was a fantastic way to start the term and hope that it helped to raise awareness of the importance of supporting our wellbeing.

Reporter: Mrs Mack

Internet Safety Day

On Tuesday 6th February we explored Internet Safety and how to have a happy, fun and safe time online. Year 5 have delivered an assembly about DigiDuck learning how it can hurt others to say unkind things about people on line or share silly photos. We now know to make more sensible decisions on line.

Year 6 attended a live lesson on BBC Teach about the world of AI. Aram said "I now know AI stands for Artificial Intelligence". Ben "AI does not mean robots have brains like in a sci-fi movie". Florence added that "AI is only as good as the humans who programme it" and Hermione is now aware that "Al can be fun but also we need to be aware of what we are seeing and if it is genuine or not".

The entire school have been learning to navigate the digital world responsibly and make a positive difference by being kinder to one another.

Reporter: Madame Flynn











PARTNERSHIPS & CHARITIES

I am keen for Windlesham to continue to forge impactful partnerships with our local community moving forward and it has been great to see this work start to develop over the past term or so. I have found over the years the profound impact that community engagement can have on the development and growth of pupils. Beyond the traditional classroom setting, involvement in community-oriented projects and initiatives brings forth a wealth of benefits that extend far into their academic, personal, and social lives. This is an area which I am keen to develop further and below are some of the area where progress has been made.

1. Community Outreach Programme

In our commitment to extend the boundaries of education beyond the classroom, we have joined hands with local community organisations to create opportunities. This term has seen the school link with Friends of Hove Field who work on projects related to the environment and sustainability The first project our children have been involved in is the planting of an orchard in Hove field. We have also had a visit from the Wildlife Trust who will be supporting our School Grounds Development Project.

These initiatives aim to bridge the gap between school and community, fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility. Through various events, workshops, and service projects, our children are and will continue to gaining valuable real-world experiences and make a positive impact in the community.

The children have also enjoyed members of our community coming into school to share their experiences and add to their learning. I very much enjoyed having reception tell me on many occasions to 'STOP' eating lollipops and eat more fruit following a dentist visiting their class and the whole school very much enjoyed a visit earlier this term from Dr DiSapia-Perera who gave a great account of life as a doctor.

2. Partnership between Windlesham School and our local Senior Schools.

The transition from Windlesham to senior school marks a crucial period in a pupils educational journey. By fostering strong partnerships with senior schools, we ensure a seamless transition process for our students creating a smoother pathway for pupils as they progress from one educational level to the next. We very much enjoyed welcoming ten senior schools into Windlesham for our very first Senior Schools Fair. It gave an opportunity for parents to meet and talk with all schools under one roof and in one afternoon. This was a real success and will be something we add onto our annual calendar.

We have also strengthened our relationship with Cardinal Newman School. Our pupils have enjoyed receiving specialist coaching from the PE team at Cardinal Newman on a Wednesday afternoon. I have met with the Head at Cardinal Newman and we are working on ways in which we can further strengthen links whereby both the children here at Windlesham and those older pupils at Cardinal Newman benefit from future projects.

We are hoping that by strengthening our partnerships with senior schools it will open doors to a myriad of enriched learning opportunities for the Windlesham pupils here. Collaborative projects, shared resources, and access to senior school facilities would enhance the educational experience for our pupils. Overall I am hoping that this will contribute to the creation of a stronger community by promoting a sense of unity and shared purpose.

As we celebrate these successful partnerships, we express our gratitude to everyone involved in making these experiences a reality. Together, we are creating an environment where our children can flourish academically, socially, and personally.









Windlesham School & Nursery

MEET THE TEAM

Meet the staff - An Interview with Ms Groves

Q: How long have you been working here? A: This is my 44th year

Q: Why did you start teaching? A: Because I wanted to teach young children and inspire them to be passionate about reading.

Q: What is your favourite charity? A: I don't have a favourite, but I like charities that support children and dementia

Q: How many Headteachers have you seen working here? A: 5

Q: What did the school look like when you started working here? A: It was very different, the swimming pool was outdoors with a plastic bubble. Cooper House wasn't here.

Q: What is your favourite book? A: I don't have a favourite book, but I like crime books

Q: What is your favourite subject? A: Phonics and Reading

Q: Are there any teachers or staff who still work here when you joined? A: No!

Q: What do you like to do outside of school? A: I like to go to the theatre, eat out at restaurants, travel and read.

Q; Why are you so passionate about charity work?

A: I think it is important to help others that are less fortunate and if we all help each other a little bit, it would make the world a better place.

Reporter: Aram, Year 6 Charity Rep







SCHOOL TRIPS



Young Voices Concert at the O2

We were so proud of our children who sang in the Young Voices Concert 2024 at the O2 on Tuesday 16th January .

Mrs Gallant, Mrs Colley and Mrs Mack accompanied 28 choir members and singers to London by coach, and we had a very long but exciting day, culminating in a fantastic concert at 7:00pm. There were 9000 children from around the UK singing together and the result was magical and powerful. Many of our parents made the journey to watch and were as proud of them as we were!

Throughout the day we were so impressed with the conduct of the children, all of whom showed respect and politeness, even when they were very tired! We finally arrived back at school shortly before midnight.

It was possibly the longest school day ever, but an unforgettable event!

Reporter: Mrs Gallant







Year 2 trip to the Apple Store

Year 2 had a wonderful workshop at the Apple Store where they learnt about using garage band to make their own music.

Children really enjoyed experimenting with different instruments and drum beats, and after the workshop we had the opportunity to listen to each others dongs- some of the songs created wouldn't sound out of place on the UK top 40!

Reporter: Miss DJ





Year 1 World Without Walls Trip

On Tuesday 7th February Year 1 took part in a trip arranged by Schools Without Wall. The children had the opportunity to explore Dyke Road Park. They created a picture by collecting artefacts from around the park and sticking it to card.

The children also worked in small groups to locate different minibeasts. As it became very cold, the children returned to school and continued to explore creative activities made from natural resources.

The children made a bird feeder and a clay model. Despite the unpredictable weather the children had an exciting day and were keen to bring home all their wonderful creations.

Thank you to Caroline from Schools Without Walls you created a wonderful experience for the Year 1 children.

Reporter: Miss Jarman











Team Sussex County Champions

Windlesham are officially county champions. After winning the small schools District Cup late last year, Windlesham have followed it up by winning the County Cup this January.

In a league format of seven teams, Windlesham put in an incredible performance to remain unbeaten throughout, winning five games and drawing one.

They scored an incredible 23 goals in total and conceded zero. Keeping six out of six clean sheets at this level is an amazing achievement for the whole team, particularly our great defenders Marley and Jamie, and of course our goalkeeper Abraham.

We won our first four games with great intensity, winning: 3-0; 7-0; 6-0 and 4-0. With Theo, Jack, Isaac, Dylan and Nathaniel all scoring fantastic goals and Zane, Jamie and Marley all contributing with brilliant passes and assists.

After drawing the fifth game, we knew that a win would crown us County champions. Issac struck first by scoring directly from a corner, before Dylan and Nathaniel scored to make it a 3-0 win.

By winning the County Cup, Windlesham are now officially the best small schools football team in Sussex and will represent team Sussex in a South of England Tournament this year! A huge congratulations to all the team - I couldn't be prouder! Well done Windlesham!!

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson







SPORTS NEWS

Netball & Rugby Festival at Lancing Worthing

We enjoyed a fantastic Year 3 & 4 netball and rugby festival at Lancing Worthing Prep this week. All the pupils had a great time learning through competing and developed their knowledge and skills in rugby and netball.

We saw some fantastic passing and shooting throughout all our netball games with great teamwork shown by all involved. Meanwhile, there was excellent passing and positive forward running demonstrated in the rugby games.

It was a lovely afternoon and it was great to see everyone enjoy themselves and work well together - well done Windlesham.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



Netball against Shoreham College

On 31st January a group of Year 5 and 6 netballers travelled to Shoreham College for a match. This was a great opportunity to try out different combinations and see the results of all their hard work in netball squad.

The first seven made a strong start, netting five goals and excellent defence kept the ball out of Shoreham's attacking end. At the guarter break, we made multiple changes and this combination of payers managed to extend the lead by a further two goals and conceded just one goal. The score at half time was an impressive 7-1. After a tactical chat and a switch around of positions, a new team of seven took to the court and continued their successful shooting and strong defence. One final change around of players and another passage of wellcontested play resulted in the final score of 11-3 to Windlesham!

A well-deserved win, with Hermione and Lois voted POM by Shoreham College.

Reporter Mrs Mack



TERM DATES

2023- 2024 Term Dates

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 6th May

Half Term holiday Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May inclusive

Term ends Friday 12th July





2024 - 2025 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024 Staff Inset days Monday 2nd September & Tuesday 3rd September

Term starts Wednesday 4th September

Half Term holiday Monday 21st October - Friday 1st November inclusive

Term ends Friday 13th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Staff Inset Day Monday 6th January

Term starts Tuesday 7th January 2025

Half Term holiday Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February inclusive

Term ends Friday 28th March

Summer Term 2025

Staff Inset day Tuesday 22nd April

Term starts Wednesday 23rd April

Bank Holiday Monday 5th May

Half Term holiday Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May inclusive

Term ends Thursday 10th July

Staff Inset Day Friday 11th July



Polite Reminder

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Windlesham School & Nursery Please can we ask that no mobile phones are used on the school premises.