



# NEWSLETTER | 27/3/25

## Celebrating Science Week at Windlesham: A Week of Discovery and Fun

What a fun filled Science week we have had with the exciting theme of Change and Adapt. There were lots of wonderful activities happening in each classroom over the week.

This year, our school celebrated Science Week with a variety of exciting activities that inspired curiosity and hands-on learning. From engaging experiments to thought-provoking discussions, Science Week was a hit across the whole school.

### Hands-On Experiments in the Classroom

Pupils were treated to a wide range of interactive experiments, all designed to bring scientific concepts to life. In Lower School, the children created their own bears, super seeds and flower chromatographs.

Upper School pupils delved deeper into the worlds of changing and adapting: tinting and shading with paint, creating colourful soap bubbles paintings, junk models of the digestive systems, designing and making dream house with a lighting system!

All of this culminated in our wonderful Science Mastermind Quiz where children worked collaboratively. Well done, everyone.

Reporter: Mrs Colley



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!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've reached the end of Spring term and, as always at Windlesham, the days and weeks have been packed. This newsletter is a celebration of those at the heart of our school - the wonderful Windlesham pupils. I hope it gives an insight into just some of the learning, activities and achievements that they have enjoyed over the last 5 weeks and if this whets your appetite, I encourage you to take a look at your child's Classlist page to see what else they have been up to.

After a well-earned Easter break, the Summer term will start with an INSET day on Tuesday 22nd April. The pupils' first day back at school will be Wednesday 23rd April and pupils should return in their Summer uniform, details of which can be found in the Parent and Carer Handbook.

The Summer term marks the arrival of Mr Matthews and we are all very much looking forward to welcoming him into the Windlesham community and starting a new chapter with him at the helm. Thank you for your support during my time as Acting Headteacher. It has been a privilege to take on the role.

I hope you thoroughly enjoy the Easter break with your families and look forward to seeing you again at the start of next term.

Katherine Croucher

Acting Headteacher



Windlesham School & Nursery



## Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Wednesday 26th March 2025):

## Lower School

Mona, Kitty HG, Aylin, Toby

## Upper School

Siyoo, Felix L, Annie, Carla, MJ, Felix B, Guin, Matilda, Essi, Simona, Mia, Theo T, Elodie P, Georgie, Rosie W, Mark, Indy, Reuben B, Toby P, Carmen

## Spring Term Owls

OWLS are awarded for outstanding work and learning. Congratulations to the following pupils who received an OWL this term:

Luna, Osian, Kai, Huxley, Kit, Suri, Paolo, Ayda, Felix PG, Jack B, Finn, Seb PN, Ethan, Kitty G, Afie, Elodie C, Feliks, Willow, Marina, Ariana, Jack, Michael C, Zoe, Justin, Siena, Kyra, Tia, Rosie I, Zachary, Carmen, MJ, Olive, Lucas, Eve



### Taigh Shines at the Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Winter Sussex Open

We are thrilled to share that Taigh won a silver medal in the Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Winter Sussex Open.

We are incredibly proud of him and can't wait to see what he achieves next. Keep up the great work, Taigh!



Congratulations to Ariana for winning her age group in the Drama – Prepared Prose Reading category at the Worthing Music and Arts Festival on Saturday.

Competing against students from schools including Lancing College and Sompting Abbots, she performed exceptionally well and secured the top spot.

Well done, Ariana!



## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Owlets: A Healthy Smile and Frogs' Lifecycles

This term, the Owlets have been learning all about how to keep their teeth clean and healthy. They've had fun using foam "toothpaste" to practise brushing model teeth with different toothbrushes and tools. The children also shared their morning and bedtime routines for brushing their teeth and discussed how eating nutritious foods helps their adult teeth grow strong and healthy.

In addition to dental care, the Owlets have been exploring the fascinating world of frogs and their lifecycles. They've observed frogspawn and have loved singing the song "Five Little Speckled Frogs" with puppets. As they sang, they counted how many frogs were left on the log and how many had jumped into the pond, reinforcing their understanding of numbers and totals as the frogs disappeared one by one.

Reporter: Mrs Older



### Reception's Amazing Bear Habitat Dioramas

This term, the Reception children have been busy crafting incredible bear habitat dioramas. As part of our exploration of the Learning Journey 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' the children learned about different types of bears and their geographical environments.

Using shoeboxes as a base, they brought their habitats to life with tissue paper forests, material rivers, and snowy cotton wool landscapes. The highlight of the project was sculpting their own bears from clay, carefully shaping them to fit into their handmade environments. Some bears were placed inside cozy caves, while others stood by rivers or among bamboo forests trees made from twigs and paper.

This creative project helped the children develop fine motor skills, imagination, and an understanding of how animals rely on their habitats for survival. They worked together, shared ideas, and took great pride in their finished dioramas. The children wrote a detail fact file to accompany their diorama.

The completed projects are now on display in our classroom. We cannot wait for our next exciting project in the Summer Term.

Reporter: Mrs Mills





## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Year 1 Get Creative with Chromatography

During Science Week, Year 1 pupils had a fantastic time exploring the fascinating world of chromatography. They used coffee filters and washable felt-tip pens to create beautiful flowers while learning about the science behind separating colors.

The children demonstrated real creativity and reflection throughout the activity, experimenting with different designs and adapting their work as they saw the colours blend and separate. It was a wonderful hands-on way for them to see how science and art can come together to create something truly unique!

A big well done to all the children for their curiosity and creativity during this fun science experiment.

Reporter: Miss Jarman



### Year 2's Castle Adventures

This half term, Year 2 have enjoyed their cross-curricular topic on castles. In English, we have been studying the book *The Dragon Snatcher*, which has inspired some fantastic writing.

The children created detailed character descriptions of the wizard, using expanded noun phrases and ambitious adjectives to bring their ideas to life. Here are a few wonderful snippets from their work:

"His twisted beard flicked as he walked." – Zoey

"His toothless grin." – Kitty

"His nose is very curvy, and his eyes are like saucers." – Alfie

"The wizard has a frosty, white beard." – Indi

"He has a tiny, little robe that glows in the moonlight." – Sorrel



The children also wrote their own endings to the story, focusing on varying sentence starters to create different effects in their writing.

In our topic lessons, we have been exploring how castles changed over the centuries, looking at their evolving designs and the different types of weapons used in battle.

Reporter: Mrs Jeffery



# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



## Year 3 - From Volcanoes to the Stage

As well as rehearsing for our Easter play, we've also been busy making the props. Here we are painting cardboard grass for the stage. We applied our Science Week learning about tints and shades, mixing different greens to add texture and depth.

In Geography, we've been exploring volcanoes. We discovered how they are formed and put our knowledge to the test by creating our own erupting models. Using mod rock or newspaper, we built and painted our volcanoes before combining vinegar, baking soda, and washing-up liquid for a thrilling explosion.

Meanwhile, in English, we've been diving into playscripts inspired by The Wild Robot. After learning about key script features, we wrote our own, complete with stage directions and dialogue.

Reporter: Mrs Smallwood



## Year 4 Design Technology: Greek Temple Project

This term, Year 4 had the exciting opportunity to design, plan, and construct their own Greek temples in Humanities, using their woodworking skills. It was fantastic to see them apply their knowledge of ancient Greek architecture while developing practical woodworking techniques.

The project encouraged collaboration, with pupils working in teams to solve problems and communicate effectively. Their ability to combine history, design, and craftsmanship was impressive, as they worked through each stage of the construction process.

This hands-on project was a wonderful example of cross-curricular learning, highlighting the pupils' growing woodworking skills and their ability to collaborate and support each other. We are proud of their hard work and look forward to showcasing their finished temples.

Reporter: Miss DJ



# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



## Year 5 Beach School

With the weather on our side, Year 5 headed off to Rottingdean for a fabulously creative learning experience at Beach School. Together in partnership with Year 4 we enjoyed building 'Towers for Tides' and inspired by World Book Day they wrote comic strips on the rocks.

In Carmen's 5OD words:

"At Beach School, we got to partner up with Year 4 and build a stone tower. Our tower got second place in height but first place for being the sturdiest. When the towers got washed up by the tide we got to explore and make comic strips with our special pens on rocks. When we went exploring I got a prime spot among the rocks and got to sunbathe, as it was sunny. When it got windy I explored around the rocks and found millions of tunnels. All in all it was a really great day!"

Obviously, the heart and imagination of all pupils was captured at our fun Beach Day.

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd



## Year 6 Fiver Challenge

Wow! What an incredible lunchtime event we had in the Heritage Hall, where our Year 6 pupils showcased their entrepreneurial skills through the Fiver Challenge. The atmosphere was filled with creativity, enthusiasm, and teamwork as the pupils ran their mini businesses.

From bookmarks and friendship bracelets to plants, slime, fidget toys, painted models, rock characters, and even mystery boxes, the variety of ideas was truly impressive. Pupils from across the school flocked to explore the diverse offerings, eagerly deciding what to purchase.

We were genuinely blown away by the commitment and initiative demonstrated by our Year 6 pupils and how they engaged with the entire school community.

We are thrilled to announce that through the generous support and participation, we successfully raised just under £500. The money raised will be donated to Cancer Research, Four Paws, Albion in the Community and Dementia UK.

Donations from Easter Service will be added to what they raised

Reporter: Mrs Mack





# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## Windlesham Celebrates 40 Years of Comic Relief

On Friday 21st March, we celebrated 40 years of Comic Relief. It was fantastic to see everyone getting involved, dressed in various shades of red, and bringing so much energy and enthusiasm to the celebration.

We are thrilled to announce that we have raised approximately £260, with donations still coming in.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and contributed—your generosity helps make a real difference.

It was truly special for Windlesham to be part of Comic Relief's 40th anniversary, marking four decades of laughter, fundraising, and life-changing support for those in need.

Reporter: Ms Groves

## UK Primary Maths Challenge: Award Winners Announcement

The UK Primary Maths Challenge is renowned as "a wonderful opportunity to extend and challenge our most able mathematicians."

This November, three of our talented pupils took part in the challenge and qualified for the Bonus Round of the Primary Maths Challenge 2025, held in February.

I am thrilled to announce the exceptional achievements of our pupils, Jing Shuen, Timothy and Abraham.

Each of them was awarded a Silver Award for their outstanding performance in the challenge.

A huge congratulations to Jing Shuen, Timothy, and Abraham! Your hard work, dedication, and mathematical brilliance have certainly paid off.

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd

### Windlesham's Philosophy corner

This half term's topic is **Money** and the question we asked pupils was:  
**Do we need money to be happy?**



No, because money doesn't get you friends. You can be rich with no friends or poor with friends. I think friends are better.  
- Levi Yr 3

No, you don't need money to do amazing things like go on a walk or see family. Money isn't everything.  
- Zane Yr6



Yes! So you can buy things!  
- Freya Yr 2



## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



### World Book Day- A Celebration of Imagination

World Book Day was more than just a fun event—it was a reminder of the power of books to spark imagination, foster creativity, and build a lifelong love of reading.

We were thrilled to welcome the talented author Lucy Ann Unwin to our school for a special assembly and workshop! Lucy captivated our students with her engaging talk about the power of storytelling and the creative process behind writing her books.

A huge thank you to all the staff, children, and parents who helped make this year's World Book Day such a fantastic success! Your creativity and enthusiasm were evident in every part of the day. We can't wait to do it all again next year.

Congratulations to our Competition Winners:

Costume Winners: Freddie, Toby H, Levi, Essi, Alex and Griffin

Diorama Winners: Kitty and Lucy

How Do You Read Yours? Winners: Seohui & Seohua, Freya Whitfield and Carmen

### Spring Concert: A Celebration of Young Talent

On Tuesday 18th March, we hosted our Spring Concert in the New Hall, where thirty-three talented performers from Years 2-6 showcased their musical abilities to a packed audience.

These young musicians played with confidence and resilience, delivering an impressive performance across a variety of instruments, including piano, violin, vocals, and flute.

Each performer should be incredibly proud of their achievements, and we look forward to seeing an even broader range of talents in our next concert. A big congratulations to all the young musicians for their hard work and dedication.

Reporter: Mrs Gallant





# SCHOOL TRIPS

## Year One's Art Day @ Dyke Road Park

On Tuesday 11th March, Year One had a fantastic outdoor learning experience in Dyke Road Park with Caroline from Schools Without Walls.

The weather was dry but very cold—not that it stopped the children from enthusiastically engaging with nature. They used their senses to discover different wildlife and learned all about the stages of the plant life cycle.

The children crafted various artworks using natural materials found in the park. By the end of the day, we were all happily exhausted from the adventure.

Reporter: Miss Jarman



## Year 4 Trip to The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Our recent trip to see The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe at the Theatre Royal was truly a magical experience. Watching the beloved story come to life on stage captivated both students and staff alike, bringing our English learning to an entirely new level.

The children had thoroughly enjoyed studying this classic tale, and witnessing it unfold before their eyes made it even more special.

The performance sparked their imaginations, and they have since created outstanding work inspired by the show—ranging from creative writing and artwork to thoughtful discussions on its themes.

Reporter: Miss DJ



## Year 3's Trip to The Komedia to see The Wild Robot

Year 3 had a fantastic time at The Komedia, enjoying a private screening of The Wild Robot. The film follows Roz, a robot who finds herself stranded on a remote island and must learn to survive by adapting to nature and forming bonds with the local animals.

This experience enriched the children's learning by reinforcing our discussions on survival, adaptation, and emotional intelligence. Roz's journey sparked meaningful conversations about empathy, perseverance, and community while inspiring curiosity about nature and technology.

Reporter: Mrs Slater



## SCHOOL TRIPS

### Our Trip to Take Shelter

To support our topic of World War Two, we visited Down's Junior Air Raid Shelter. As soon as we arrived, we went down into the shelter with our tour guide who was so knowledgeable.

They explained that this air raid shelter was one of the two which were active in the UK. What an experience!

It felt so authentic that this was used by the school in the war and we were now visiting it as school children. We experienced a mock air raid, we felt the vibrations of the bombs dropping around us, the intense noise and directions from our 'teacher' at the time.

After this exhilarating experience, we were lucky enough to experience time with 3 war veterans who shared their stories on gas masks and rationing. We feel so lucky to have brought our topic to life and experienced something so special in our local area.



Written by Phoebe and Indy

### Reception's Bear Hunt Forest School Day

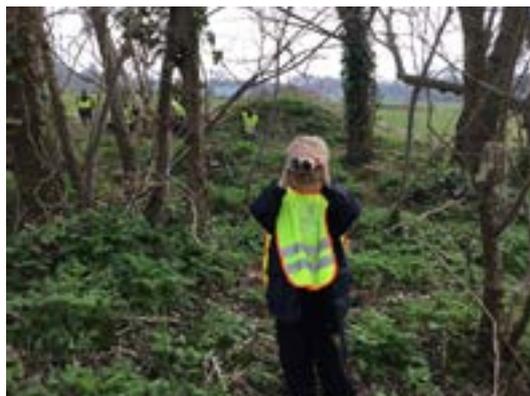
The Reception children had the BEST DAY EVER at Mrs Gomez's Forest School.

The day's adventures were inspired by the theme of "We're Going on a Bear Hunt," allowing the children to expand their already extensive knowledge about bears and nature. The children enthusiastically built shelters for their teddy bears, using sticks, logs, and leaves, they crafted cozy homes and added beautiful accessories made from flowers and grass.

Next, the children created binoculars, using natural materials as camouflage and set off to observe birds and other creatures. The children also reenacted Michael Rosen's famous story and contributed to a collaborative story map before making their own sequential 'Bear Hunt' story crowns.

To wrap up the day, the children crafted lovely pine cone bird feeders to take home, perfect for attracting birds to their gardens or nearby parks.

Reporter: Mrs Mills



# SPORTS NEWS

## Year 3 & 4 Hockey Triangular @ Lancing Hove

On Thursday 13th March, Year 3 and 4 took part in an exciting hockey triangular against Lancing Prep Worthing and Lancing Prep Hove, with over 70 pupils involved in a fantastic afternoon of sport. Everyone showcased brilliant dribbling and passing skills, making it a great experience for all.

A special mention to Jack and Michael for their incredible skill throughout the games, and a big congratulations to Thomas and Rosie, who were named Coach's Players of the Day by the Lancing Hove staff.

Well done to all the players for their effort and enthusiasm.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



## Year 5 & 6 Football & Hockey @ Lancing Hove

On Wednesday 12th March, the Year 5 and 6 girls took part in several exciting football matches at Lancing Prep Hove, displaying fantastic enthusiasm and energy throughout. It was a superb experience for everyone involved, with great teamwork and determination on show.

The Year 6 boys played brilliantly in some highly competitive hockey matches against Lancing Prep Hove and Lancing Prep Worthing. The boys showed great teamwork and grew in confidence as the fixture progressed.

A special shout-out to Dylan and Theo for scoring some fantastic goals, and to Ernie, who made Windlesham proud by stepping up as a hockey goalie for the first time.

Well done to all the players for their hard work and commitment on the pitch.

Reporter: Mrs Wilkinson



Exciting news for any keen netballers.

Why not catch a Netball Super League match at the Brighton Centre over the Easter Holidays.

Mrs Mack is going, so she hopes to bump into some of you there!





# FRIENDS OF WINDLESHAM



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well! It has been a fantastic term for our school community, and we're excited to share some highlights with you.

### Lower School Movie Night

Our recent movie night featuring Cars was a huge success! It was wonderful to see so many of our younger students, including little Owlets, enjoying the film, laughing with friends, and sharing popcorn. They loved the chance to feel grown up by buying extra snacks from the tuck shop too.

A big thank you to Chef Rob for the tasty burgers, and to all the volunteers and teachers who helped make the evening run smoothly. We couldn't have done it without you.

### Spring Stroll

A huge thank you to all the families who joined our Spring Stroll last weekend! It was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the fresh air, connect with fellow parents, and watch the children have fun together. We loved seeing so many smiling faces along the route, in the playground and during den building!



We were delighted that Mr. Matthews and his family, including a star appearance by Bailey the dog, could join us. Mrs. Croucher's dog, Margot, joined the stroll too - we loved having our four legged friends along! Thank you to all the staff who joined us, it's fantastic to see you outside of school.

### Get Involved

As always, we welcome new ideas and extra hands to help with future events. If you'd like to get involved with the FOW, please reach out - we'd love to hear from you.

### Coming Up Next Term

We have some exciting events planned for next term, including the Beach Clean for World Ocean Day in June and, of course, the much-anticipated Summer Fayre! Stay tuned for more details.



Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a fantastic Easter Holiday!

Best wishes,

The Friends of Windlesham Team



# COMMUNITY & EVENTS



## Mrs Smallwood's Half Marathon Update

I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude to everyone who generously donated to my half marathon fundraiser. Thanks to your incredible support, I raised an impressive £955 for the Amaze charity – a cause that means a lot to me.

It was truly uplifting to see so many familiar faces cheering me on from the sidelines. Your encouragement made all the difference and pushed me to go the extra mile.

Now that I've caught the marathon bug, I'm thrilled to share that I've already signed up for next year's marathon.

Mrs Smallwood

Theatretrein is coming to Brighton! As an introduction I will be running an Early Bird Summer Musical Theatre week from 14-18th July 2025 at Windlesham school. Children aged 7-11 are being offered an exciting week of West End fun with a final performance to parents on the final afternoon.

Spaces are limited so please book your child's place early to avoid disappointment by following the link and scrolling down to the booking form and choosing your class(es) on the dropdown:

<https://www.theatretrein.co.uk/brighton/new-customers/>

Price per week : £195 per child  
25% sibling reduction of above rate  
£50 deposit

A second week (July 21-25) is available at a different venue (BHASVIC)

# TERM DATES

## Provisional Term Dates 2025 - 2026

### Autumn Term 2025

#### Staff Inset days

Monday 1st September & Tuesday 2nd September

#### Term starts

Wednesday 3rd September

#### Half Term holiday

Monday 20th October - Friday 31st October inclusive

#### Term ends

Thursday 11th December 2025

### Spring Term 2026

#### Staff Inset Day

Monday 5th January 2026

#### Term starts

Tuesday 6th January 2026

#### Half Term holiday

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February inclusive

#### Term ends

Friday 27th March 2026

### Summer Term 2026

#### Staff Inset day

Monday 20th April

#### Term starts

Tuesday 21st April

#### Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May

#### Half Term holiday

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May inclusive

#### Term ends

Thursday 9th July

#### Staff Inset Day

Friday 10th July

## 2024 - 2025 Term Dates

### Spring Term 2025

#### 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