





NEWSLETTER | 10/7/25

Bravo, Year 6!

Miss McNally and I would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Year 6 pupils for their incredible efforts in bringing their recent production of Bugsy to life.

The performance demanded a high level of commitment, with pupils taking on multiple roles, mastering complex dialogue, and managing numerous costume and prop changes. Their confidence on stage was a true testament to the hard work and dedication they poured into the rehearsal process.

It was a joy to see each and every one of them shine, and we hope this experience stays with them as they move on to their next schools.

A special thank you also goes to our fantastic Year 5 children, who supported the show beautifully as the ensemble. Your energy and enthusiasm added so much to the success of the production.

Well done, everyone!

Mrs Gallant



Dear Parents and Carers,

The summer term is always a demanding one, past few weeks, we've staged Bugsy Malone, taken part in life-saving sessions at the beach, held our Sports Day, visited the Apple Store, completed our Biathlon, enjoyed the Summer summer break brings a chance to relax, switch off the alarms, and continue learning in new and different ways.

Time spent with family is invaluable. It creates lasting memories, strengthens bonds, and these moments together and make the most of the summer break.

It has been a real pleasure to work with such a warm and welcoming school community this and continuing to build on the many wonderful things happening at our school.

To those children who are moving on, I wish you every success in the future. I hope you leave Windlesham proud of who you are and all that you have achieved. Remember the 'Windlesham Way'—and show your new schools just how brilliant you are.

Wishing you all a restful and joyful summer.

Kind regards,

Nick Matthews

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



GENERAL NEWS

Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Wednesday 9th July 2025):

Lower School

Felix G, Benjamin, Cameron, Osian, Will, Kai, Isaac, Sorrel, Reuben H, Kit, Nico M, Halle, Ayda, Alfie, Freya, Finn, Zoey

Upper School

Rocco, Jack SL, Louis, Dylan, Lara, Michael C, Akira, Mia, Felix B, Rebecca, Feliks, Zoe M, Rosalena, Timothy, Reuben B, Jude, Annie, Joe, Jay, Phoebe W, Afie, Diego, Rumi, Zane, Ernie, Justin, William, Michael O, Abe

Summer Term Owls

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

Osian, Luna, Benjamin, Huxley, Halle, Nico M, Freddie, Carles, Kitty HG, Nico B, Indi, Schroeder, Jack B Yr2, Edward, Toby W, Toby P, Siena, Matilda, Siyoo, Willow, Etta, Levi, Delilah. Eli, Essi, Justin, Diego, Joe, Sebastian H, Theo, Carmen, Zachary, Elodie P, Felix B, Guin, Ernie



Huge congratulations to Dylan and the Brighton & Hove Under 11s Schools Football Team, who were crowned National Champions at The One tournament.

After winning the South Region round in Southampton on 21st June, the team travelled to Warwick University for the national finals on 28th June. They battled through nine matches in 30°C heat — and came out on top



Ballet Success for Georgie

A huge congratulations to Georgie, who received a Distinction in her Grade 2 Ballet exam at Dance Art Studios.

This is a fantastic achievement and a reflection of all her hard work, dedication, and love for dance. Well done, Georgie!

Oral Health Week - Can You Help?

We're planning to celebrate Oral Health Week this Autumn and would love to invite a dentist or dental nurse to visit and speak with the children about the importance of looking after their teeth.

If you are a parent who works in dentistry, or know someone who does and might be willing to help, please get in touch with the office.



RWI Books - Please Return

We're currently missing a number of Read Write Inc. (RWI) books that have been sent home. If you have any at home, perhaps tucked away in a book bag or on a bookshelf, please could you return them as soon as possible.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Timothy Shines at the Cambridge Spelling Bee Challenge

Timothy recently took part in the much-anticipated Primary Spelling Bee Challenge which took place in the University of Cambridge, and I am proud to say that Timothy gave it his all and worked tirelessly on his words in preparation for a very competetive day.

Timothy showed great determination and focus throughtout the day. He may not have taken home the big prize, but he put up a valiant effort, translating his way through some tricky words with confidence and composure.

After all the brainpower and bravery standing in front of hundreds of contestants and their teachers and families, we enjoyed a well-deserved stop at the infamous Jack's Gelato, it was the perfect way to cool down and celebrate a job well done. We are very proud of Timothy representing our school at such a prestigous event.

Reporter: Mme Flynn

Congratulations to Year 4 pupils who sat The First Maths Challenge 2025 this term. Certificates are as follows:

Thomas -Gold, Sophia-Gold Justin-Gold , Essi -Silver, Jack-Silver Diego-Bronze.

What did the pupils do?

This is a U.K. and worldwide challenge.

There are 20 multiple-choice questions in this Challenge. The questions will begin with easier ones to boost the students' confidence in their abilities and gradually increase in difficulty. Students will have 45 minutes to complete all the questions.

This will have whetted the pupils' appetite for the Primary Maths Challenge 2026 held in November.



Reporter: Miss O'Dowd

Year 4 Electricity - Making Circuits

Year 4 have been diving into the world of electricity by creating complete circuits using a variety of components, including bulbs, buzzers, and motors.

Before building, pupils carefully checked each piece of equipment to ensure it was working correctly. Once everything was ready, they began constructing their own circuits, experimenting with different combinations and learning how each component functions.

It's been a brilliant opportunity for them to apply their scientific

knowledge in a practical way.

Reporter: Mrs Colley



















Owlets Explore Maths the Sweet Way

The Owlets transformed their role play area into a bustling sweet shop. Using play money and tills, the children took turns being shopkeepers and customers, practising their counting and communication skills in a fun, imaginative setting.

They also explored how scales work, adding different items and discussing whether they were heavy or light. It was a fantastic hands-on way to learn about weight and comparison.

To top it all off, the children shared their favourite ice cream flavours and created a colourful chart to see which one was the most popular.



Reporter: Mrs Older







Reception Class Butterfly Life Cycle Project

This term, the Reception children have been taking part in a truly magical mini project exploring the life cycle of a butterfly. As part of our Learning Journey on "Down on the Farm," we received a very special delivery, real caterpillar eggs.

The children have been fascinated watching the tiny caterpillars grow day by day. They have learned all about the stages of metamorphosis, from egg to caterpillar, then to chrysalis, and finally to beautiful butterflies. The children have enjoyed making observations and keeping simple diaries, drawing what they see and learning new vocabulary like "larva," "cocoon," and "emerge."

The most exciting moment came when the butterflies began to hatch from their chrysalises. The children were amazed to see their delicate wings unfold and dry. After a day of feeding them with fruit and nectar, we gathered next to the stunning school flowerbeds to release our butterflies into the wild. It was a joyful moment as the butterflies fluttered off to explore the flowers around our school site.

This hands-on experience has not only supported our understanding of nature, science and understanding of the world but also encouraged wonder, care, and respect for living things. We hope the children have shared their excitement with you at home, and we hope that you can foster this love of nature-based adventures in the summer holidays.

Reporter: Mrs Mills









SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Baking History: Year 1 Explore the Great Fire of London

As part of our exciting topic on London, Year 1 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. The fire famously began in a bakery on Pudding Lane, so to bring history to life, the children had the opportunity to bake their own bread with Chef Rob



During the session, the children learned about the ingredients used in bread-making and discovered how yeast helps the dough to rise. They thoroughly enjoyed mixing the ingredients and decorating their very own small loaves.

A huge thank you to Chef Rob and his team for making this memorable activity possible.

Reporter: Miss Jarman

Art in Year 2

Year 2 have enjoyed learning about different artists this year and reflecting on their different styles and techniques.

This half term, we have been focused on Wassily Kandinsky, a pioneering artist in abstract art. He is known for his groundbreaking approach to painting and colour theory. We delved into the world of colour theories and mixed both warm and cool colours to adopt his style in our own versions of Concentric Circles. You can see our very own final versions on display in the Year 2 classroom.

Reporter: Mrs Coego















Year 3 Learning - Summer 2025

One of the most exciting events in Year 3 this term was a thought-provoking debate held by the children on whether P.E should be removed from the timetable to make space for more STEM learning. The discussion caused quite a stir across the year group - and even beyond. We're pleased to report that Year 3 presented such a compelling argument in favour of keeping P.E that it will remain on the timetable for another year. Well done, Year 3!

In Maths, we stepped away from our books and had fun becoming a human clock – a hands-on activity that helped bring our learning about time to life in a memorable and enjoyable way.



We were also thrilled to be invited to a special workshop, thanks to the kind offer of a pupil's relative, Mr Morrin. The children learned all about how Vikings used to cut up real silver to trade for clothes, weapons, and food. It was a fascinating insight into Viking life that really captured their imaginations.

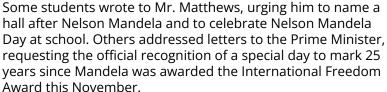
We've also been exceptionally lucky to welcome both an author and an illustrator into school this term. Their visits were hugely inspiring and offered the children a glimpse into the worlds of writing and illustration, sparking plenty of ideas for their own stories and drawings.

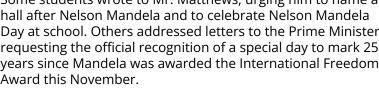
Reporter: Mrs Slater



Year 4 Embrace the Legacy of Nelson Mandela

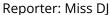
Year 4 pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their studies about Nelson Mandela, so much so that their learning has been extended over two weeks. During this time, the children explored persuasive writing, giving real purpose to their work by writing letters to different people about why Nelson Mandela is such an inspirational figure.





To complete their project, the children visited the local post office to post their letters, filled with excitement and hope. They are now eagerly awaiting responses.

It has been truly inspirational to see the children demonstrate such knowledge, fairness, and understanding throughout this project.















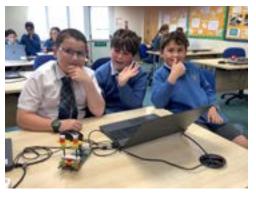
Year 5 Computing: Building and Programming Interactive Models with Lego Wedo

Year 5 have been busy learning to build and control models in their Computing lessons. Using the Lego Wedo software, they have followed tutorials to use motion, sound and sensor blocks to write simple programmes.

Once the simple programmes were written, the children experimented with different speeds and timings to make the models move in different ways. They particularly enjoyed trying out different sounds and using the sensor block to make the crocodile snap down on a finger.

Our final challenge of the term will be to try and create our own models and apply our programming skills to make these move.

Reporter: Mrs Mack



Year 6's Final Beach School

The sun shone brightly for our final Beach School, making it a truly special day for Year 6. We spent a glorious morning exploring the rock pools, discovering sea creatures and learning more about the fascinating coastal environment. After that, we rolled up our sleeves and took part in a thorough beach clean, doing our bit to protect the shoreline and its wildlife.

Following a well-earned picnic, we turned our creativity to the natural world, designing towers and museum pieces using the resources around us. A highlight of the day was spotting two curious seals bobbing in the water—perhaps they were checking out our beach creations or saying thank you for our clean-up efforts!

It was a day filled with fun, learning, and laughter. We made wonderful memories in the fresh sea air and treasured each other's company in our stunning coastal surroundings. What a fantastic way to round off our Beach School adventures!

Reporters: Mr Wilkinson and Miss Thompsett















Reading Celebration with Guest authors: MG Leonard and Nila Aye

We had such an amazing time during our Reading Celebration, especially getting to meet the incredibly talented author MG Leonard and brilliant illustrator Nila Aye. It was inspiring to hear about MG Leonard's journey as a writer — from her first ideas to becoming a published author. She reminded us that dreams can come true with creativity, determination, and a little bit of bravery!

We also loved learning from Nila Aye, whose illustrations bring stories to life in such a magical way. Seeing how words and pictures work together really opened our eyes to the power of storytelling. One of our favourite parts of the day was spending time with the younger children, listening to them share their reading journeys with so much pride. It was lovely to see them so excited to talk about books and it reminded us how important reading is at every stage.

By Elodie, Guin, Georgie, Indy and Miss Thompsett

Lower School Carousel Afternoon: A Storytelling Adventure

Our Lower School Carousel afternoon was a celebration of storytelling, creativity, and teamwork, bringing together the children from Nursery to Year 1 for a delightful journey through much-loved tales and rhymes. The children from Owlets, Reception and Year 1 were mixed into three groups and took it in turn to experience each carousel activity.

In Year 1 with Miss Jarman, the children channelled their imaginations as they designed and assembled storybook character stick puppets. The children brought their favourite characters to life and enjoyed sharing stories using their new puppets.

Mrs Mills used the lawn area to introduce parachute games inspired by classic rhymes such as Wheels on the Bus, The Grand Old Duke of York, and the Popcorn Poem. The children loved the interactive games brought to life with story props.

Meanwhile, in Nursery, Mrs Older planned for the children to have the opportunity to explore the tale of The Three Billy Goats Gruff through fun team-building activities. Working together to 'cross the bridge' and outwit the troll, all the children showed fantastic teamwork.

The children had a well-deserved treat halfway through, a refreshing ice lolly break that was enjoyed by all.

It was a brilliant afternoon filled with laughter, learning, and lots of storytelling fun. The children were so enthusiastic and creative. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the power of stories.

Reporter: Mrs Mills















SCHOOL TRIPS



Year 3 Explored Nature at Lewes Railway Land

Year 3 enjoyed an exciting trip to Lewes Railway Land Nature Reserve this half term. As part of our science topic on rocks and soils, the visit provided a brilliant opportunity to bring our classroom learning to life.

The children explored how different types of rocks are formed and had the chance to investigate soil first-hand, identifying the different materials and ingredients it contains. A fun nature relay helped us think about the plants and wildlife that rely on healthy soil.

A particularly memorable part of the day was creating leaf prints using a method called 'leaf bashing' – a creative and hands-on way to explore patterns in nature and make something beautiful to take home.

It was a full and fascinating day of learning in the fresh air, and although everyone was a little weary by the end, the trip left us with wonderful memories and plenty of inspiration for our work back in the classroom.



Reporter: Mrs Slater

Year 5's Brilliant Day at the Apple Store - Exploring Spreadsheets and Designing Our Own Apps

Year 5 had an amazing opportunity to visit the Apple Store at Churchill Square for a hands-on workshop all about spreadsheets and app building—and what a morning it was.

The friendly Apple team welcomed us and guided us into the workshop space, where iPads were ready for us to dive into the world of digital design and data. First, 5OD explored spreadsheets—a fun and useful way to organise and understand information. We created colourful charts, sorted data, and even learned how to use simple formulae.

After that, it was time to get even more creative—5FL learned how to build our own apps using Apple's tools - Swift. We designed buttons, added images, chose colours, and some of us even recorded our own sounds to include. The room was buzzing with imagination.

Some apps were games, others were learning tools or creative stories with interactive parts. We even had time to show our creations to each other at the end. The Apple staff were incredibly helpful and inspiring, and they showed us how technology can help us bring our ideas to life. Everyone left the workshop with a certificate and a big smile.

Repoter: Orla Flynn













The Owlets' Forest School Adventure

The Owlets had an exciting day investigating the Forest School area here on the school grounds.

Mrs Gomez set up a variety of interesting activities such as creating bees using pine cones and wool, going on a bug safari and making paint using charcoal and chalk. Each child had the opportunity to use tools to cut a piece of wood to be made into a woodland friend and there were numerous opportunities to climb over the bridge, dig in the mud and even make a band using various pots and pans.

We enjoyed a picnic lunch and returned to the Forest School area for more play and exploration before home. It was a fun packed day that allowed the children to visit new areas of the school and try out different activities.

Reporter: Mrs Older



Year 5 Beach School June 2025

Year 5 had a fantastic time joining Year 6 for Beach School. It was a great chance to mix in cluster groups, build friendships, and take on fun challenges together. The teamwork and energy were brilliant to see. Here's a snapshot of the day in the pupils' own words:

"Whilst we were making museums using materials from the beach, we spotted seals playing in the water. I thought they were cute. MJ



"I was really happy on the Summer Beach Day Trip because I found a giant crab. Also, Jay and I found a fish, which we named Tim Cheese." Isabella

"My favourite part of Beach School was when we went swimming in a rock pool in our P.E. kits. Luckily, it was a hot day and we dried out in the sun." Delilah

"The best thing about Beach Day was when my group found twenty-five crabs. Also, I made the 'Mona Lisa' out of rocks, seaweed, and sand." Alex



"Even though I couldn't wade far into the sea because of my broken wrist, I managed to persevere and catch not one, not two, but three fish." Jay

"My group went into a mini pool. Delilah and I became sand mermaids!" Olive

"We jumped from the nearby rocks into the rock pools. We had a fun pool party. The sea water was like a hot tub." Mia

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd





SPORTS NEWS







Windlesham's Sports Week 2025

This year's Sports Week at Windlesham was truly something special, a vibrant celebration of athleticism, teamwork, and school spirit. The week was packed with exciting events, including fantastic swim festivals, challenging biathlons, and our much-loved Sports Days for both Upper and Lower school.

It was a thrill to watch all our pupils compete across such a wide range of events, showing boundless energy and enthusiasm throughout. Even more impressive was the outstanding sportsmanship and team spirit on display — a true reflection of Windlesham's values.



The swim festivals were closely contested, with Arundel emerging victorious in both the Year 3 & 4 and Year 1 & 2 events. Meanwhile, Bodiam triumphed in a fiercely competitive Upper School Sports Day, with Lewes finishing a very close second.

A special mention goes to our three superb Sports Captains — Theo, Nathaniel, and Dylan, who led by example all week. They opened and closed both Sports Days with confident and inspiring speeches, guided the Lower School events with maturity and care, and demonstrated excellent technique and spirit in their own athletic performances.



Well done to all the Windlesham pupils who took part. Your energy, effort, and enthusiasm made this Sports Week a truly memorable one. All the teachers are incredibly proud of you

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson













Year 4 Cricket Trip to Sussex County Ground

In June, our Year 4 pupils enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Sussex County Cricket Ground, where they had the exciting opportunity to watch England U19s take on India U19s. The atmosphere was electric, with many other schools in attendance for a special Schools Day, creating a fun and lively environment for all.

Both teams batted incredibly well with multiple 4s and 6s for the Windlesham pupils to shout and cheer about, whilst there was also superb bowling and fielding witnessed which contributed to multiple wickets throughout.

The pupils were treated to some future stars with Rocky Flintoff getting a half century and 14 year old cricket sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi demonstrating his batting skills just before we left. All the pupils enjoyed the match and learning a little bit of Sussex cricket.

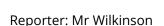
Reporter: Mr Wilkisnson

Year 5 Trip to Yellowave

Our Year 5 pupils had a superb trip to Yellowaye, where they were lucky enough to be coached by the lead Yellowave instructor in the exciting sport of beach volleyball.

The session began with fun and engaging drills, where pupils learned how to dig and set the ball to one another — all while running and diving through the sand! They then put their new skills into action with some lively volleyball matches, resulting in plenty of entertaining rallies and laughter.

It was wonderful to see everyone so enthusiastic about trying a new sport, especially one that many had never played before. With Yellowave just around the corner, we hope this trip has sparked a lasting interest and that pupils will return to develop their skills even further.









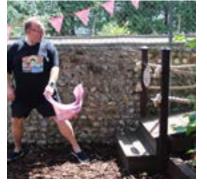








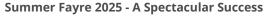






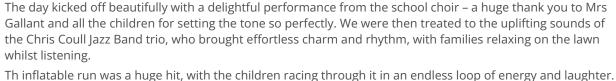
FRIENDS OF WINDLESHAM







We hope you had a fantastic day at the Summer Fayre. With the sun shining, and the atmosphere buzzing with excitement, it was a wonderful day of fun, laughter, and school community spirit.





"Splat the Teacher" was popular as ever, with both children and adults eager to take aim at our willing teachers. In the activity zone, the House Captains led inventive and colourful house stalls which were teeming with activity, from the hotly contested Hook-a-Duck to the creative Rainbow Throwing game and the Water Gun Target challenge, all proved a huge hit.

Our live auction was full of excitement, with hotly contested items and fierce bidding, and Mr Matthews channelling his inner auctioneer in style. A huge thank you to all the sponsors, local businesses and families who kindly donated to this.





The success of our Summer Fayre wouldn't have been possible without the phenomenal support and dedication of our volunteers, parent helpers, and school staff. From the early-morning setup crew to the lateafternoon cleanup team, thank you. Your time, energy and enthusiasm are what made the day truly special. The day perfectly captured the spirit of our school - bringing families together, creating lasting memories, and raising vital funds for our children's education and activities. Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated, and supported the FOW Summer Fayre. It was a huge success, and I'm delighted to say that together we raised over £4600!

As mentioned in Mr Matthews' recent newsletter, the funds will support a number of areas to enrich our children's school experience. A full breakdown will be shared next term.





And to every parent who gave their time, donated cakes, hung decorations, ran a stall, or simply turned up with a smile - thank you. Being part of the FOW is a team effort, and I'm proud of what we've built together. Here's to the next chapter and more fantastic Windlesham events to come.

With gratitude,

Clare



End of year review:

Total funds raised in 2024/25 - over £11,000

Funding - academic enrichment activities in class, forest school, outdoor space updates, gazebo, Y5/6 production contribution and refreshments for sports day

Events - September Stroll, Upper School Movie Night x 2, our first ever Lower School movie night, Upper School disco, Lower School party, Christmas Fayre, wreath decorating evening, multiple Preloved Uniform sales, Spring Stroll, Easter egg hunt, Summer Fayre, Frozen Friday and a welcome coffee morning for new parents



COMMUNITY & EVENTS



Theatretrain 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:

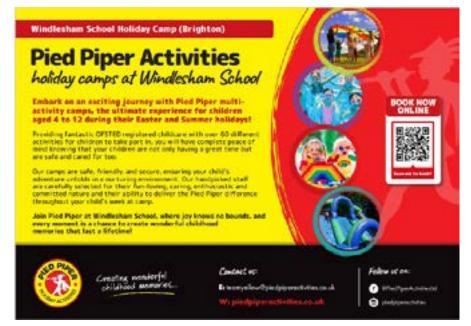
https://www.theatretrain.co.uk/brighton/new-customers/

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

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

Staff Inset Day

Friday 19th June

Term ends

Friday 10th July

2024 - 2025 Term Dates

Summer Term 2025

Term ends

Thursday 10th July

Staff Inset Day

Friday 11th July

Our City Transport Plan Survey

Brighton & Hove City Council is currently running two transport-themed consultations. The first is about the city's long-term vision for transport over the next 10 years.

The Council is keen to gather feedback from a wide range of voices, including young people and their families. A dedicated youth survey has been created to make it easier for under-18s to share their views. The second consultation seeks views on the proposed roll-out of new electric vehicle chargepoints across the city.

Please use the QR codes to complete both surveys by Sunday 10 August 2025







