



NEWSLETTER | 22/10/25

Celebrating the European Day of Languages

What a fantastic day we had celebrating the European Day of Languages at our school! Every child joined in the fun, exploring languages from across Europe through music, stories, and actions.

Our German singers brought the day to life with songs accompanied by glockenspiels, filling the hall with beautiful melodies. The French learners had everyone joining in with songs and lively actions, while our Dutch activities introduced the children to the world of windmills.

Even our youngest learners got involved—Year One practiced “Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes” in Croatian, giggling as they learned the new words. The Spanish storytellers enchanted listeners with colourful tales, while others explored the Greek alphabet, discovering its unique letters. Finally, we ended the day with an Irish poem with actions, making language learning fun and memorable for all.

It was amazing to see every child engaged and excited to learn about languages, cultures, and traditions from across Europe. What a wonderful day.

Reporter: Madame Flynn



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the first half term concludes, the school celebrates a positive and promising start for pupils, marked by new friendships and enriched learning experiences. The arrival of new students has added vibrancy to the community. A key highlight has been the successful implementation of a whole-school focus on emotion regulation, fostering emotional literacy and wellbeing. I have enjoyed engaging with pupils and observing the dedication of teachers, especially during Black History Month, where children have explored the lives of influential historical figures.

It has also been a pleasure to meet so many prospective parents and children during our school tours over the past seven weeks. The level of interest in our school has been remarkable, and I must admit that I have spent more time showing families around than in my office recently. Many of these visits have led to taster days and new enrolments, which is wonderful news. We look forward to welcoming new pupils after the half term break, and others who are preparing to join us in September. It is wonderful to be this busy and for so many people to want to come and see us.

I hope you enjoy reading more about the exciting activities and achievements featured in this newsletter. They offer a wonderful glimpse into the vibrant life of our school.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break—I look forward to seeing you in November.

Nick Matthews

Headteacher

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!

Preparing children for life



Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Wednesday 15th October 2025):

Lower School

Huxley, Osian, Felix PG, Luna, Benjamin, Suri P, Aurelia

Upper School

Justin, Delilah T, Matilda, Willow, Etta, Afie, Jude, Rocco, Elodie, Rosie W, Ethan, Leo, Zoe, Rosie I, Theo, Kyra, Simona, Eleanor, Joe, Lucas

Autumn Term Owls

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

Rory M, Elijah, Arlo, Zeffie, Otis, Benjamin, Cameron, Luna, Apollo, Osian, Mona, Harry K, Aurelia. Lotta, Maxim, Zoey W, Indi H, Ivy, Toby W, Felix L, Marina, Toby P, Elodie, Daniel, Feliks, Jessica George F, Jack SL, Ethan, Harrison, Siena D, Rosie W, Sophia, Taigh, Essi, Annie, Leo, Guy, Zachary, Alex, Seb H, Jay, Simona, Mia, Joe

Etta's Fundraising Journey

Etta has shown extraordinary compassion and determination by tirelessly fundraising to support children affected by the war in Gaza.

Over the past year, Etta held regular jumble sales outside her home to selling her own belongings. Thanks to her dedication, Etta has raised over £400 — a truly inspiring achievement that reflects her generosity and commitment to making a difference.

We're incredibly proud to have such a thoughtful and driven young fundraiser in our community.



Celebrating Success: Congratulations to Coach Luke Rutherford

We're delighted to celebrate a remarkable achievement by our lunchtime chess coach, Luke Rutherford, who has been crowned Brighton Champion for the 8th consecutive year!

Luke also earned the trophy for Best Individual Score in Sussex, showcasing his exceptional skill and consistency.

We are proud to have such a talented mentor leading our lunchtime enrichment activity.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



The Owlets Develop Numeracy and Wellbeing Skills Through Play

The Owlets have had a wonderfully active and engaging half term, filled with imaginative play and hands-on learning.

The Owlets have been enjoying a delightful role play game with five currant buns. The children took turns as shopkeepers and customers, pretending to buy buns and practise counting. The children sang along and counted down each time to see how many buns were left in the shop. The children matched up numbers to the correct amount of buns to boost their number skills during this fun game.

The Owlets participated in an exciting and busy Wow day, thinking about ways to look after ourselves and be healthy. They discussed how they need to eat well and the children helped to make delicious fruit and vegetable smoothies which they all enjoyed drinking. The children also thought about how they can stay happy by making breath boards which they used to breathe in and out as they moved the beads along the pipe cleaners. The Owlets also joined in some yoga and played football and basketball to keep their bodies physically fit.

Reporter: Mrs Older

Pattern Detectives at Work in Reception

Reception have been busy exploring the wonderful world of repeating patterns. The children have discovered that patterns are all around us, and they have enjoyed spotting them in shapes, numbers, and the environment. They have experimented with Numicon, beads, shapes and natural materials to create their own sequences.

Music and movement has brought patterns to life too. The children have joined in with clapping games and simple movement, repeating steps and rhythms together.

The Reception children also created their own wrapping paper, carefully designing repeating patterns with solid 3D shape and paint. The results were bright, imaginative, and beautifully unique, showing just how confidently the children are developing as creative problem-solvers and pattern spotters.

Reporter: Mrs Mills





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Mr Cross Brings Geology to Life for Year One

Year One were really fortunate to have a visit from Apollo's dad this half term. Mr Cross is a geologist and he explained to the children about the different fields of Geology that are studied, including his own speciality which is volcanos.

Mr Cross also discussed how different scientists learn about dinosaurs from fossils and compare them to animals alive today. We even got to see one of Mr Cross's own dinosaur fossils, which sparked lots of excitement and curiosity in the classroom.

A big thank you to Mr Cross for coming into class and sharing his knowledge with Year One. We really enjoyed your visit!

Reporter: Miss Jarman



Seaside Stories & Number Fun in Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic few weeks full of exciting learning and hands-on activities.

In Maths, we revisited place value and showed off our understanding by running our very own 'Number Shop'. We sorted and represented numbers using partitioning and Dienes blocks—it was a brilliant way to bring our learning to life. We've also been on a shape hunt around school, spotting and identifying 2D shapes hidden in our surroundings. The children were amazing detectives and discovered just how many shapes are part of our everyday world.

In English and Topic, our WOW Day was inspired by Brighton and Hove. The children enjoyed a jam-packed day of seaside-themed fun, including pebble drawing, reading The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, and even creating their own versions of the story—complete with imaginative new twists and characters.

In Religious Studies, we began our introduction to Judaism. The children learned about Jewish beliefs and traditions, explored special symbols and artefacts, and listened to stories from the Torah. They were fascinated to discover how Jewish people celebrate important festivals such as Shabbat and how these traditions help bring families and communities together.

It's been a brilliant start to the term—well done, Year 2

Reporter: Mrs Smallwood



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

From Vikings to Mandela in Year 3

It's been a wonderfully busy start to the term in Year 3.

Our study of the Vikings is in full flow, and the classroom looks fantastic with a fleet of beautifully decorated Viking boats proudly on display – all created as part of our fabulous grid homework.

We recently began learning about Nelson Mandela to celebrate Black History Month. In keeping with our ongoing art focus on portraits, the children have spent time carefully drawing Mandela's portrait, showing great attention to detail and creativity.

It's been an exciting and inspiring few weeks – well done, Year 3!

Reporter: Mrs Slater



Year 4 – Ancient Greece

Year 4 have absolutely loved diving into our Ancient Greek topic this term.

During our WOW Day, the children immersed themselves in Greek culture by making their very own Gorgonian amulets, just as the Ancient Greeks once did for protection and good fortune.

In English, we have been exploring a range of myths and legends, learning what makes them so powerful and memorable. The children even invented their own mythical creatures and are now busy weaving them into their very own Greek-inspired myths.

It has been wonderful to see such creativity, imagination, and enthusiasm shining through in their work.

Reporter: Miss DJ



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Year 5 - Exploring Emotions and Self-Regulation

Year 5 have been busy developing their understanding of the Zones of Regulation through creative and reflective activities. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed designing their own original Emotional Emojis, which helped them explore and express a range of feelings in a fun and meaningful way.

In addition, the pupils created and shared their personalised Self-Regulation Toolkits, a collection of strategies and resources they can use to manage their emotions and maintain focus throughout the school day.

These toolkits are already being used effectively across the classroom, supporting a calm and productive learning environment.

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd



Beach School Enrichment – Year 6 & Year 1 Buddies

As part of our ongoing enrichment programme to nurture friendships and good relations across the school, we were blessed with glorious autumn sunshine for a very special day at the beach.

Year 1 were already eagerly waiting, buckets in hand, when their Year 6 buddies arrived, ready to guide them safely across the rock pools. Together, they explored the wonders of nature, treading carefully and respectfully to discover the treasures hidden beneath the water.

Afterwards, the children took part in a beach clean, showing great care for our environment, before turning their creativity to designing incredible 'beach museums.' These displays were bursting with collaborative ideas and innovation. Teamwork, imagination and artistic flair shone through as pupils produced some truly impressive examples of land art, crafted entirely from natural resources.

Finally the children enjoyed a well earned picnic lunch, where Year 1 and Year 6 enjoyed each other's company, immersing themselves in the spirit of community. It was a time of bonding and growing friendships. It was so wonderful to see our buddies spending time together in such a meaningful way – creating memories that will be cherished long after the tide has gone out. It's as certainly a day for them all to remember.

Reporters: Miss Thompsett, Mrs Colley and Mrs Jeffrey



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Drama Club

Our Drama Club for Years 4–6 has gotten off to a fantastic start. The children have been exploring their imaginations by using everyday props as a springboard to create unique characters and exciting scenes. A hat becomes a crown, a scarf becomes a magic carpet, and suddenly we're whisked into whole new worlds.

Through games, improvisation, and plenty of laughter, the group are already building confidence, teamwork skills, and creativity. We can't wait to see where their ideas take us next.

Watch this space for more drama magic.

Reporter: Miss McNally



Year 4 Engage with Literary Imagery through Art

Year 4 explored the work of illustrators Cressida Cowell and Quentin Blake, focusing on how they use materials to create atmosphere and movement.

Each child was given an image by the artists to stick in their sketchbook and as a group we looked at Cressida Cowell's range of use of black on white and Quentin Blake's use of watercolour in his work – and the minimal amount of detail he uses to sometimes make a suggestion of atmosphere or weather. Pupils studied examples in their sketchbooks, noting techniques like Cowell's bold black-on-white and Blake's expressive watercolour.

The children then had an opportunity to explore charcoal and watercolours in a similar way as the illustrators had. They divided their paper into four sections and I gave a series of words for them to explore with the drawing materials: stormy sea, bleak forest, lightening etc. Together we discussed the use of materials to suggest movement and atmosphere as well as expressing the elements that the children were depicting.

Later, we introduced Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky. After discussing the poem's imaginative language, pupils chose a verse to illustrate. Using foliage, clay, toy animals, and torchlight, they created shadowy scenes and then drew them, combining image and text to resemble a storybook page.

Reporter: Mrs Gomez





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Textiles Club: Creative Projects and Future Plans

Members of the Textiles Club have been busy expressing their creativity by designing unique pieces of artwork using fabric scraps. Through cutting, layering, and stitching, the children explored texture, colour, and composition, transforming everyday materials into imaginative textile art.

Our future plans include exciting new projects such as fabric printing onto t-shirts, where children will transfer their designs onto wearable items, and learning embroidery techniques.

Reporter: Mrs Mack



Macmillian Coffe Morning

Money is still coming in, however, to date we have collected over £400 in cash. The total donated via the QR code will be forwarded to us in due course. Huge thanks to our two new charity reps, MJ and Harry, who worked extremely hard and helped to make a successful event.

Reporter: Mrs Groves



Early Years Learn About Teeth and Health

The Early Years children enjoyed a fun and engaging Oral Health Week, learning the importance of caring for their teeth.

Each day during Oral Health Week, the children explored activities that helped them understand how to keep their smiles bright and healthy. They examined real animal teeth, practised brushing model teeth, and even became dentists themselves with a playdough dentist kit. Visual cards, games, and our daily "Question of the Day" about oral health kept curiosity and conversations flowing.

The children also discussed which foods are "tooth-friendly" and which can be harmful, discovering that crunchy fruits and vegetables are great choices, while too many sweets and sugary drinks can damage teeth. The week ended with a very special visit from a real dentist Dr Seema Yousef, who answered questions and showed the children how to brush properly. It was a fantastic week of learning, supporting the children to understand about oral hygiene.

Reporter: Mrs Mills





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Black History Month at Windlesham: Honouring Legacy and Leadership

Throughout October, we have been proudly celebrating Black History Month across the school. This has been a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn about and reflect on the lives, achievements, and legacies of significant individuals who have shaped history and continue to inspire us today.

Our celebrations were proudly launched by our Humanities Prefects, Jay and Seb, who led a thoughtful and engaging assembly to introduce the importance of Black History Month to the whole school. Their leadership set a fantastic tone for the month ahead.

Across the school, children have explored the stories of Rosa Parks, Mary Seacole, Nelson Mandela, Benjamin Zephaniah, Martin Luther King Jr. and Ruby Bridges. These remarkable figures have helped us understand the importance of courage, resilience, justice, and the power of standing up for what is right.

We were also lucky enough to take part in an inspiring workshop, kindly funded by the Friends of Windlesham. These sessions brought history to life and gave our pupils the chance to engage with key themes through drama, storytelling, and discussion.

Our learning has taken many creative forms, from interactive workshops and thought-provoking discussions to artwork, writing, and drama performances.

We are incredibly proud of the thoughtful and enthusiastic way our pupils have engaged with this important topic. Together, we continue to learn from the past to build a more inclusive and compassionate future.

Reporter: Mrs Lilley



Mowden Cup Fixture

Our first fixture of the academic year was a superb day competing in the Mowden Cup. This is a fantastic tournament promoting mixed gender football and everyone put in a valiant effort the whole day.

There was some fierce competition this week, and it was wonderful to see all our pupils remain positive throughout the games. Their encouragement and support for one another truly stood out, making for a fantastic atmosphere.

We had some great goalkeeping displays from Jay who produced some epic saves, whilst Lucas and Kyra demonstrated great determination in defence. Theo, Eleanor, Mia and Olive showed great dribbling and passing in attack, whilst Seb was a force up front, hitting a stunning freekick off the crossbar.

Well done to all the pupils involved.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



Under 11's football tournament at Lancing Prep Worthing

Windlesham produced a stunning tournament performance at Lancing Worthing's annual Under 11's football tournament. The day consisted of a group stage followed by knockout rounds. Windlesham started brightly with a 3-0 win against Lancing Prep Worthing, with Sophia, Diego and Zachary all scoring superb goals. We followed this up with a hard-fought 2-0 win against Shoreham with Leo and Michael getting on the scoresheet. This included perhaps the best team goal of the day, with one touch passing starting on the half way line and ending with a tap in. These great wins meant that Windlesham topped their group and advanced to the quarter finals.

In the quarter final, Windlesham hit another level and won 9-0 against Lancing Prep Worthing Bs with everyone playing superbly together with Diego and Zachary each scoring, whilst Sam scored two and Sophia scored a hat-trick! Sam scored the goal of the tournament with a first time shot from outside the box curling into the top left corner.

Windlesham faced Lancing Prep Hove in a tense semi-final, with both teams having won one final each in past tournaments. Sophia scored early, but LPH equalised, leading to a 1-1 draw and a dramatic penalty shootout. After sudden death, Windlesham were narrowly knocked out, an impressive effort from the whole team. In the 3rd/4th place playoff, Windlesham showed great resilience, bouncing back to beat Shoreham 3-0 with goals from Sam and Sophia. A fantastic end to a competitive tournament.

A big shout-out to Rumi, our captain for the day, who led by example throughout, and to Alex in goal—conceding just one goal all tournament! Well done to the whole team for their superb play and outstanding sportsmanship.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson





SPORTS NEWS

Football Triangular vs Lancing Hove & St Christopher's

Windlesham Year 5 & Year 6 pupils were involved in a superb triangular fixture with St Christophers and Lancing Hove, where we fielded three teams for the day. All teams showed great teamwork and spirit throughout their games, each experiencing a great win and hard-fought loss.

The highlights included a huge 8-0 win against St Christophers with Theo, Lucas, MJ, Mark and Taigh all scoring, plus another 2-0 win against St Christophers with Seb and Zachary both scoring. Additionally, we also had an exciting 4-2 win against Lancing Hove with Sophia, Sam, Diego and Leo all scoring too.

Well done to all pupils involved in a very enjoyable day.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



Netball Fixture Against Shoreham College

On Wednesday 9th October, Windlesham had their first netball match of the year against Shoreham and what a match it was!

New combinations gelled quickly and it was clear to see the team demonstrating skills that we have been practising since the start of term. Confident centre passes, swift movement into the circle and excellent defensive work from the whole team saw us finish the first quarter 3-0 up. For the second quarter we switched players and positions. Once again, we gave a strong performance in defence but couldn't quite get on the scoreboard. The score remained 3-0 at half time. In the third quarter our defenders picked up lots of ball and we passed confidently to convert three more goals! We took a 6-0 lead into the final quarter where the players continued to keep composed and show good decision making skills. This led to an impressive final result of 8-0 to take the win. Shoreham gave their player of the match award to Kyra.

Reporter: Mrs Mack

Sophia's Tennis Triumph

Over the summer, Sophia entered her first national tennis tournament and placed 10th out of 32—a brilliant result and runner-up in the consolation final.

Well done, Sophia!



FOW Update

The first half term has zipped by. We had a fantastic September Stroll with a lovely group of families joining. We had the pleasure of Mr and Mrs Matthews, Ruby and Bailey the dog, Mrs Mack and Mrs Croucher and her dog Margot coming along. The kids loved the dogs joining us and a lot of hot chocolate was consumed at the end.

We had an incredibly successful movie night for years 1-6 last week - it was the highest number of kids we've had! Thanks to Chef Rob for the delicious pizza and to the volunteers who ran the tuck shop. Thanks to the parents who joined us in the Dyke Park Cafe - it was great to see some new faces as well as some familiar ones!

Thanks to George and Kate for running the preloved sale during parents evening. It's excellent to see uniforms being used again, and is a great way to raise funds for the school.

Once we're back from half term we'll be in the countdown to, dare I say it, the Christmas Fayre! We had our first organisation meeting this week - thanks to the parents who came along. Classes have been assigned stalls, mulled wine is planned and Father Christmas is booked for the grotto.

Organising the fayre is a huge undertaking, and we urgently need more people to get involved in joining the FOW team to take part. Please email fow@windleshamschool.co.uk or talk to one of us.

Have a fantastic half term and see you in November!

Clare, George and the FOW team

FRIENDS
of Windlesham



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



THE HOLIDAY SKATE CLUB
AGES 8 - 11YRS
BRIGHTON ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY (BACA)
EASTBROOK PRIMARY ACADEMY, SOUTHWICK

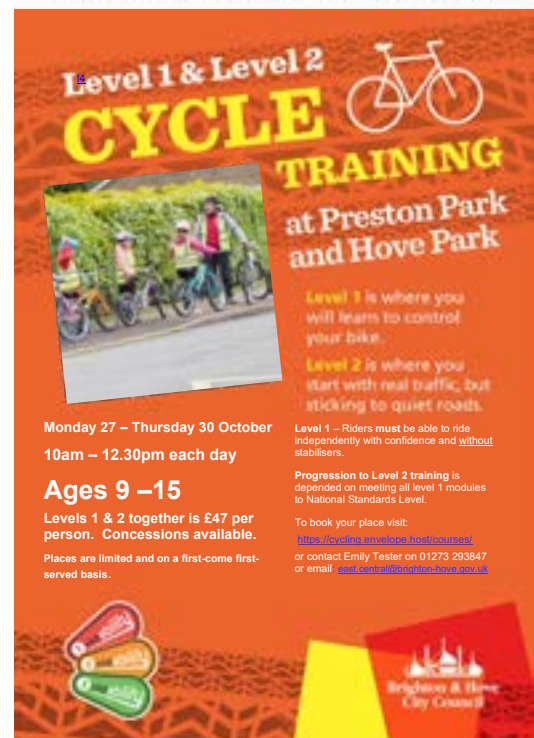
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Level 1 & Level 2 CYCLE TRAINING
at Preston Park and Hove Park

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

Level 1 – Riders must be able to ride independently with confidence and without stabilisers.

Progression to Level 2 training is dependent on meeting all level 1 modules to National Standards Level.

Monday 27 – Thursday 30 October
10am – 12.30pm each day

Ages 9 – 15
Levels 1 & 2 together is £47 per person. Concessions available.
Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.

To book your place visit:
<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cycling>
or contact Emily Tester on 01273 293847 or email: emily.tester@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Brighton & Hove City Council



Level 3 CYCLE TRAINING
at Preston Park and Hove Park

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

Training includes roundabouts, traffic lights and filtering. You must have completed Levels 1 and 2.

Monday 27 – Wednesday 29 October
1.15pm – 3.15pm each day

Ages 11 – 15
All children must have attended a Level 2 course and allow 3 months practice between levels.
All trainees will be assessed on Level 2 outcomes before progressing further.

Level 3 training costs £52 per person. Concessions available.
Places are limited and on a first-come first-served basis.

To book your place visit:
<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cycling>
or contact Emily Tester on 01273 293847 or email: emily.tester@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Brighton & Hove City Council