

Monday 18th December 2023



Windmill Weekly

Head Lines



Mr Gibbons, Headteacher

Firstly, a reminder that there is no school for children on Friday. It is a staff training day.

Children will return to school on Monday 8th January.

Please spend quality time with your children. It is so much more important that any gifts or presents that you give them.

And it is so much better than them just spending time on electronic devices.

I really think that in years to come, we will be looking back and saying, 'we can't believe we just used to allow children to spend so much time on electronic devices'. I think it will be a bit like looking back and saying, 'we can't believe that when smoking was first introduced in this country that everyone said it was healthy'!

Anyway, have a lovely time over Christmas. I hope you have the right amount of fun and the right amount of excitement!

Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

A highlight from last week...

Santa Claus visited Windmill to deliver presents for all the children.

Thanks to Windmill's PTA (Parent Teacher Association), who paid for every child to receive a book as a gift.

The children were very excited to see Santa and we were all very excited that children would be receiving a book to read. We think it is so important for children to develop the skill to read and then a love for reading.

Reading is the most likely way to get rich!

[Learning to Read](#)



The five strands of our strategic plan are:

- **Metacognition** (children understanding their learning journey) '**We learn well**'
- **Interaction** (all of us speaking, listening and communicating effectively) '**We speak well**'
- **Writing** (using extensive vocabulary, correct grammar and punctuation) '**We write well**'
- **Collaboration** (partnering with others to improve what we do) '**We work together**'
- **Aspiration** (bringing the best out in each other and aiming high) '**We are inspired**'



What's going on?

To help you keep up with everything, the office staff and teaching staff will use this page to remind and prompt you about school events!

Other news and notices

Free bagels in the hall starts at 8:35am - Children arriving between 8:20am and 8:35am will be charged 50p.

Lost Property - Always displayed by the main office on Tuesdays from 7:45am until 3:45pm.

End of School Day - Please do not come onto the playground or wait outside classrooms until after 3:10pm. This is to ensure the safeguarding of all children. Thanks.

ParentPay - Please ensure that you log in to ParentPay regularly to prevent missing important information.

Christmas performance dates and times are below. Parents are welcome to attend on these dates.

19th December EYFS
Performance 10:00 - 11:00 (with children who attend morning sessions at nursery) and 14:00 - 15:00 (with children who attend afternoon sessions at nursery)

20th December KS2 Carol Service (Classes 7-14) 14:20 - 15:00

Things to remember/help with

Reception

- Have a lovely Christmas. Thank you for your support this term. We return 8th Jan.

Year 1

- Try this game at home to help your child with their spelling <https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/forestPhonics/index.html> (ch, sh, th, ng, nk only)

Year 2

- Share your child's learning at home with us on Dojo, we love to see pictures of what they're doing to link it in with learning in class.

Year 3

- Please return all reading books by Thursday.

Year 4

- We raised £50.20 from our Deeper and Diverse Guide Dog Experience. Thank you for your generous, especially at Christmas time.

Year 5

- We will be making a Christmas decoration this week. Please look out for children bringing them home.



Year 6

- Merry Christmas from Year 6.

Clubs

(Priority for clubs is given to invited children, based on their needs and interests)

Monday:

- Year 3-4 Football - **CANCELLED**
- Year 1-2 Multi Skills - **CANCELLED**

Tuesday:

- Year 3-6 Choir
- Year 5-6 Football - **CANCELLED**
- Year 3-6 Dodgeball

Wednesday:

- Year 3-6 Gymfinity
- Year 3-6 mixed ability Football
- Year 3-6 Archery

Thursday:

- Year 3-6 Team Building - **CANCELLED**
- Year 1-2 Football - **CANCELLED**

Friday:

- **NO CLUBS**

CLUBS - THERE WILL BE NO CLUBS ON THURSDAY 21ST OR FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER.

Latest House Point totals:

Henmoor 2969, Cluddley 2764, Upton 2759 and Rowton 2778.

Calling All Parent Volunteers - we desperately need help to tidy our community garden. Please speak to Mrs Coles if you are able to help.

Please don't forget to connect with your child's class on ClassDojo and set up ParentPay, we use these to communicate with you all the time. Ask for help at the office if you need to.

10 things every Windmill parent/carer should know...

4. Working walls - we use working walls in each lesson so that children know the teacher's expectations and how to be successful. The working wall contains: 'what we are learning', 'what to remember', 'what the important vocabulary (words) are' and 'a model/example'