

# Windmill Whispers

Issue 1 – November 2018



## Windmill awesomeness!

It has certainly been an awesome start to the school year. So much going on already here at Windmill; the learning never stops! We want our children to have amazing opportunities all the time and are very proud to say that we do this. I would like to welcome our new children and parents to the school. We are delighted that you have chosen us as the school for your child and as a school we will endeavour to make their time here simply superb! I'm so privileged to have the 'job' that I do and I know that all the staff here feel exactly the same; we love working with your children and developing them as individuals. 2018/2019 is going to be the best yet! *Mr Coleman*

## Year 3 Art Gallery!

As part of our Ancient Greek history topic, Year 3 children proudly held an Art Gallery for their Fab Finale at the end of last half term. Inspired by the Archaic period (750- 500 BC) in Ancient Greece, our carvers worked extremely hard to reproduce their original sketch using clay. Their attention to detail was fantastic! Thank you very much for being part of our day, we hope you enjoyed yourselves. *Miss Bacro*



## Girls Football Team

On Wednesday 17th October the Year 5/6 Girls Football team took part in a tournament at The Ferrers School. The girls were amazing and showed fantastic unity throughout! The team placed 4th out of 11 teams. Well done! Don't forget to check out the Windmill Sports blog to keep up to date with all sporting events and competitions going on! *Miss Mawby*



## Out Of This World

Year 6 had a very strange start to the new term when they were called out of assembly by Mr Bateson, to find a large crater on the mound. It was being investigated by the local fire brigade who brought their thermal imaging camera. Apparently there had been a sighting of bright lights and then a fire, which was reported by the public. When the children were allowed to approach the site, there was green slime on the trees and a selection of shiny stones in a target formation near the crater. The fire brigade also dealt with a strange object that produced smoke. What could have happened? We decided to write to The National Space agency to inform them of suspected extra-terrestrial activity!! We are awaiting their response...



*Mrs Travers*

## Year 2 Fab Finale

Thank you to all of the parents, carers and family members who attended the Year 2 Fab Finale before half term. The children loved sharing photos, playing games and listening to the stories you had of growing up in our local area. It was a lovely end to our Now and Then theme. We are really looking forward to becoming weather experts this term! *Miss Mawby*

### **A Fab Firework Finale!**

During the last week of term, Year 4 were very busy preparing for their Fab Finale. First, they baked delicious cheese pastry Catherine Wheels, and then they dipped apples into melted chocolate to make chocolate toffee apples. The children had also created some fantastic pieces of firework art which had moving parts to make their drawings pop up. Everything went on display and they invited their grownups to come along to see their work and taste their delicious bakes! There were other fun activities such as building a Guy and decorating firework biscuits (which got a bit messy!). Lots of fun was had by all and we raised lots of money towards future enrichment activities in Year 4.

Thank you so much to everyone who came along to show their support. We really appreciated it and we hope you all had fun!

*Miss Davies*



### **Planetarium visit**

On October 31st Year 6 went into the Planetarium, where we learnt about planets, constellations, stars and more fascinating things. When we first walked in it was dark but after a few minutes it lit up with stars! We saw all of the types of constellations and learnt the story behind them including that the north star is part of a constellation too. We saw what the Milky Way looked like close up. We all found out something new today, even the adults! At the end we listened to an inspirational speech by the one and only Tim Peeke. We would like to say a big thank you to Dave for letting us have a chance to experience this. *Year 6*

### **Year 1 Dreams and Bedtime Stories.**

The children were amazed to find a giant dreamcatcher in their classroom. We got the chance to share our dreams and placed them in our very own dreamcatchers that we made. We are keeping our fingers crossed that our dreams may come true. We also got to share our favourite bedtime stories. We have started reading our class story and finding out about the little owl Plop who was afraid of the dark. We are looking forward to finding out all about the night time, the things we can do now that its getting dark outside and the animals that come out and about when the sun goes down. *Miss King*

### **Year 6 Football Awesomeness!**

Our wonderful bunch of Year 6 footballers played their hearts out last week in our cup fixture versus South End Juniors. They may not have won, but my goodness did they give it everything! The unity, commitment, resilience, togetherness but most of all respectfulness of themselves, their own team-mates and the opposition. Refereeing that game last week was an absolute pleasure. The most fun I have had 'at work' for a very long time. A group of children who were prepared to take risks...for themselves and each other...and boy did they unite as a group! Well done guys! *Mr Coleman*

### **Wrap-Around Care – Wide Awake Club and After School Club**

17,000 That's how many breakfasts or after school snacks we served up last year to our children – as Mr Coleman might say – AWESOME!! And this year we are already on track to exceed that - we have already served up 3521 breakfasts and/or snacks in the first term compared to 2648 during the same time last year. No wonder Mr Coleman is ensuring he is towards the front of the queue. Great work from all involved – if your child isn't part of this fantastic wrap-around provision why not come and see what you're missing?

*Mr Bateson*

*Lead for Inclusion and Provision*

### **Safeguarding our School Community**

The return to school in September is a busy time for children, parents and schools. We see the children resplendent in new uniform as they arrive, perhaps for the first time at their new school, meeting their new teacher and moving to their new classes but there is so much going on behind the scenes too.

For staff not only are there coat pegs and trays to label, books, pens, pencils and white board pens to organise (those whiteboard pens are protected and cherished like you cannot imagine!) but a whole new raft of advice, legislation and support around safeguarding is released by the DfE and other organisations such as the local authority or NSPCC. All staff, not just those in the classrooms, have their annual Safeguarding Training where the latest information is shared and they are reminded of the correct actions and processes involved in keeping all children (and adults) safe in school.

Parents and carers are, of course, a vital part of this work and can access the same information through links on the school website where you can find school information and policies and a separate page with useful links to specific webpages – the 'hits' show that this is a well-used source of information to parents (and staff) alike.

We take this role extremely seriously at Windmill Primary; the role is very demanding both physically in terms of the hours of work involved and emotionally at times. In order to support the team of Designated Safeguarding Leads (Simon Bateson, Matt Coleman and Amanda Cowley) Michelle Brett and Kirsty Durrheim have joined the team since September 2018. This will add extra capacity during this period of transition into the new academy trust.

If you have any questions or concerns around safeguarding please contact school – no concern is too small or silly.

You can of course report any urgent or serious concerns outside of school hours via the school website or through calling the local authority's Multi Agency safeguarding Hub (0300 126 1000) or in emergency to 999.

*Mr Bateson*

### **Book Fair**

A great big thank you to each and every one of our parents who took time to visit the Book Fair during the Pupil Learning Conferences this week, we really appreciate it. We managed to make over £750 which will mean we have nearly £400 to spend on new books for each of our Libraries. WOW!

*Mrs Robinson*



**Please remember P E Kits should  
be in school for the whole term!**

**Dates for your Diary – This is subject to change and will be updated in every issue so please keep checking!!**

**Term 1**

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Sock Day
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need 'Spotty Day'
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Rounds Christmas Lights switch on
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Class Photographs

**Term 2**

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Panto to whole school
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2pm	Reception Nativity
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 6pm	Reception Nativity
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 5.30pm	Mayor's Carol Concert
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm	Windmill Christmas Carol Concert
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Break up

**Term 3 Spring 2018**

Wednesday 2nd January	Training Day for staff
Thursday 3rd January	Children return to school
Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th January	Wow Days!
Friday 8th February	RWSA Bingo Night
Wednesday 13th February	Year 4 Panto 6pm
Thursday 14th February	Year 4 Panto 6pm
Friday 15th February	Break for half term

**Term 4**

Monday 25th February	Children return to school
Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th February	Wow Days!
Tuesday 12th March	Pupil Learning Conferences (late)
Wednesday 13th March	Pupil Learning Conferences (early)
Friday 5th April	Easter Bonnet Parade (RWSA)
Friday 5th April	Break for Easter

**Term 5 Summer 2018**

Tuesday 23rd April	Children return to school
Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th April	Wow Days!
Monday 6th May	School closed – Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th May	Year 3 Residential – Sanders class
Thursday 9th & Friday 10th May	Year 3 Residential – Nichols class
W/c 13th May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 17th May	RWSA Race Night
Friday 24th May	Break for half term

**Term 6**

Monday 3rd June	Children return to school
Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th June	Wow Days!
Wednesday 5th June	Year 6 Trip to Matilda
Friday 21st June	RWSA Discos!
W/c Monday 1st July	Careers Week
Saturday 6th July	Summer Fayre
July – dates to be confirmed	Year 6 Production 6pm
Friday 19th July	Leavers' Assembly 2.00pm
Friday 19th July	Break for Summer