

Windmill Whispers

Issue 2 – February 2019



Hi everybody! I can't believe that we are already well into 2019...where on earth has that time gone? It's been a great start to this calendar year here at t'Mill – so much going on for our wonderful children and community. As always, we are grateful for your support in all that we do. I'd like to take this opportunity to publically thank the team of adults here at Windmill. We have a fantastic team of staff who are wholly committed to doing the very best for each child here at our school; although no two days are the same and life here isn't always a walk in the park (!), the amazing team here turn up with smiling faces and a desire to make a difference to each child here. Thank you! *Mr Coleman*

Year 4 WOW Day!

Year 4 have had a great start to the new term finding out how Sheherazade managed to convince the sultan to keep her alive so he could hear her next story. We have created some amazing silhouette pictures and explored the different features of Islamic art. Panto preparations have also begun and everyone is excited to learn their lines and the many amazing songs.

Mrs Brightwell

WOW Day in Year 6

In Smith class we are learning about crime and punishment. On Thursday 3rd January we were investigating a suspected break-in. The police were involved to help us along the way. We discovered a muddy footprint, an open window, a broken clock and a missing printer. We also looked at our fingerprints with ink. PC Butler showed us how to wrap the criminals' leftover evidence, wearing gloves. He told us how to find evidence and what you do to be a policeman/woman. We helped each other along the way. All in all it was a fantastic day!!

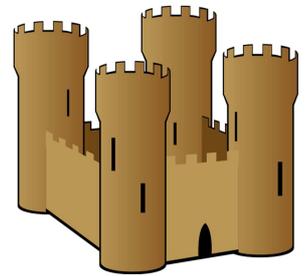
Year 6 Pupils

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Congratulations Windmill School we raised £306.64!

Oakham Castle Year 2

Year 2 were most certainly 'wowed' on their recent trip to Oakham Castle. On arrival the children were greeted by a Knight and a Lady who led them to the Great Hall. Within 5 minutes of being there the children had learnt many elements of a traditional castle, such as, the moat, drawbridge, a curtain wall and a gatehouse! They were hooked! The rest of the day continued to be filled with interesting and new information as well as fun. The children were taught how to make gingerbread and dance, Medieval style. They dined at the banqueting table and discovered all the extravagant food that would have been eaten 800 years ago. Later in the day, the children were transformed into a Norman Army and became experts in following a shield drill. They absolutely loved charging at the Saxon Knight! They all had a go at making a wooden King or Queen poppet and learnt some fantastic facts along the way. At the end of the day the children were buzzing. We are in for an awesome term! *Mrs Ames*



RWSA Christmas Fayre

A fantastic amount of £1182 was raised by you all for our school.

Thank you to the members of the RWSA for all their hard work.

Year 3 - Raiders and Invaders

In Year 3, we had an amazing start to our Raiders and Invaders theme as we travelled back over 2000 years ago where the Viking age began. We started our journey studying what life was like in a Viking village. It was clear to us how different life was compared to now, especially clothing! We spent time looking at traditional Viking brooches, their significance and attention to detail. From this, we used our craft skills and designed our very own brooches. It was awesome! We are now looking forward to the visit from the drama hut for our fab finale to find out more interesting facts about the Vikings.

Miss Clent and Miss Bacro

Ocean Waves Year 1

Year 1 have had great term exploring Life on the Ocean Waves. We have enjoyed following in the footsteps of Charles Darwin and using our classifying skills to recognise which group an animal belongs to - mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. We have also found out about the damage we can do when we do not think carefully about our plastic use. The children had some great ideas about how we could look after the planet better such as reusing and recycling our plastic. They also have been thinking hard about a machine that could collect the plastic that is already there. We may have some budding designers!

Year 1



Year 6 welcome Magistrate

We were very pleased to welcome a magistrate into our class to fit with our theme of 'Crime and Punishment'. We were fascinated to find out about how the court system works and we held a mock trial in our classroom. It was really interesting to see what happened as the trial progressed, and we all agreed with the jury in the end. Some of us have now decided that we might like to work in the law courts or police force when we are older, as we have a keen eye for justice!

Year 6

Young Voices

30 of our children took part in the Young Voices 2019 Concert at Resorts Arena in Birmingham on 22nd January. Over 25,000 children took part in the concert, over 4 days, performing a diverse range of music, including songs from Disney's "Moana"; American folk songs; a "pop classics medley"; concluding the concert with a rousing selection from "The Greatest Showman".

Mr. Bason, music teacher at Windmill Primary, writes: "The Young Voices concerts provide incredible opportunities for children to take part in stadium concerts. The creative team at YV put a lot of effort into arranging great "medleys" and solo items for the 'choir' to sing, and their choices EVERY year are a real hit with the children".

This particular concert saw 6501 children singing as a choir, and also as 'backing singers' to the guests artistes: Tony Hadley (lead singer of Spandau Ballet), Sharlene Hector (international jazz vocalist) and 15-year old Beau Dermott (a 'golden buzzer' favourite from 'Britain's Got Talent 2016') "There were moments where children didn't need to sing, so listened attentively to the other musicians," says Mr. Bason.

"The children from Windmill were transfixed with the entire performance, and showed great respect to the soloists by listening attentively, and resilience and unity – working well together and with the other schools to make some great music – all of which reflects our values at Windmill. What may appear to have been a 'daunting' experience (an arena concert) was, to be honest, like 'water off a duck's back' for the Windmill singers. I am incredibly proud of them".

Such values and experience is echoed by Libby, a Year 6 child, "This was an amazing experience. Children and staff working as one as we sang," adding, "this was the best opportunity of my life!" Sarlotte, also in Year 6 adds "The lighting was beautiful and the voices were amazing and bright. I loved it so much!"

Matthew Bason, Music Teacher

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

Reception Wow Day

We were excited as we came back to school to discover footprints in the classroom! We were wondering who had been here as they led to the outside.... We then found a letter from a Mummy Dinosaur telling us to go and look in the sand! We were very intrigued to find a dinosaur egg! Wow! A dinosaur egg of our very own to look after! We had to put it in water and watch it hatch!! It was awesome!

Mrs Frost and Adams Class.

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

RWSA Bingo Night	Friday 8 th February 2019
Drama Hut in to Year 3	Wednesday 13 th February 2019
Year 4 Panto Aladdin 6pm	Wednesday 13 th February 2019
Year 1 to Sealife Centre Birmingham	Thursday 14 th February 2019
Year 4 Panto Aladdin 6pm	Thursday 14 th February 2019
Term ends	Friday 15 th February 2019

Term 4

Term starts	Monday 25 ^h February 2019
Wow Days!	Mon 25 th & Tues 26 th Feb 2019
World Book Day	Thursday 7 th March 2019
RWSA Bake Sale	Friday 8 th March 2019
Pupil Learning Conferences (late)	Tuesday 12 th March 2019
Pupil Learning Conferences (early)	Wednesday 13 th March 2019
Year 3 Residential Information Evening	Tuesday 2 nd April 2019
Easter Bonnet Parade (RWSA)	Friday 5 th April 2019
Term ends	Friday 5 th April 2019

Term 5 Summer 2018

Term starts	Tuesday 23 rd April 2019
Wow Days!	Tues 23 rd & Wed 24 th April 2019
Year 5 Trip to Everdon	Wednesday 24 th April 2019
Bank Holiday School Closed	Monday 6 th May 2019
Year 3 Residential – Sanders Class	Tues 7 th & Wed 8 th May 2019
Year 3 Residential – Nichols Class	Thurs 9 th & Fri 10 th May 2019
SATs Week	w/c 13 th May 2019
RWSA Race Night	Friday 17 th May 2019
Term ends	Friday 24 th May 2019

Term 6

Term starts	Monday 3 rd June 2019
Wow Days	Mon 3 rd & Tues 4 th June 2019
Year 6 Trip to Matilda	Wednesday 5 th June 2019
RWSA Discos	Friday 21 st June 2019
Careers Week	w/c Monday 1 st July 2019
Shuffle-Up Day	Friday 5 th July 2019
RWSA Summer Fayre	Saturday 6 th July 2019
Year 6 Production 6pm	Dates to be confirmed
Leavers Assembly	Friday 19 th July 2019
Break for Summer Holidays	Friday 19 th July 2019