



Winchelsea Primary School

'All individuals matter'

March 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we are already mid-way through March. The past few weeks have flown by, and they've been packed with wonderful opportunities for our children. We've enjoyed Elite Sports Day, celebrated World Book Day in style, welcomed families to our book fair, and taken part in a whole range of exciting Science Week activities.

Behind the scenes we have been working hard on a number of important developments across the school. This has included working alongside external moderators, Early Years specialists and the Maths Hub to strengthen our teaching and learning offer for all children and to continue developing high-quality teaching practices. We have also been busy recruiting new members of staff to further strengthen our existing team and to create new opportunities for our pupils and learning spaces. We look forward to sharing more with you soon as these plans continue to take shape.

HAF

We are excited to announce that a brand-new HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) programme will be running at our school each half term holiday, delivered by Inspire+. We have worked hard to get this for our school and hope that it will be used. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to take part in engaging activities, stay active, and enjoy a supportive environment during the holiday period. We are delighted to be able to host this programme and work in partnership with Inspire+ to enriching experiences for our pupils. Initially, this is for families who are in receipt of the HAF vouchers but we hope this will expand. For more information and to sign up, please see the attached poster.

inspire+

DfE White Paper: What Parents Need to Know

The Department for Education has released a new white paper setting out a long-term plan to help every child achieve and thrive. The DfE states that 'This white paper is not simply a vision of the change we want to bring to our schools. It's a call to parents, schools, local services, and everyone working with children and young people to join us in building a future where every child can achieve and thrive, in school and beyond.'

Our local authority has encouraged all schools to take time to read and reflect on the proposals in the new Department for Education white paper as we begin to navigate a period of change. The document sets out a long-term vision for helping every child achieve and thrive, and we will continue to explore what this means for our school community.

If you would like to read more, we have included some helpful links below so you can explore the information in your own time.

[What parents of children and young people with SEND need to know](#)

[What to expect from your child's journey through education](#)

internet
matters.org

Online safety

There has been a consultation for parents launched on measures to prepare children for the future in an age of rapid technological change. They are seeking views from everyone around potential age restrictions on social media and other services such as gaming sites and AI chatbots, restrictions on addictive design features and risky functionalities, and better support for parents and families. The consultation will close on the 26th May 2026. Click on the link below to take part: [Survey Intro Page](#) | [Survey progress 0%](#) | [Savanta Survey](#)

We are aware that, both nationally and within our own school community, WhatsApp has increasingly become a space where children may experience unkind behaviour or find themselves added to large group chats with people they do not know. This can make children vulnerable and can expose them to conversations or content that is not appropriate for their age.

We strongly encourage all parents and carers to regularly check their child's phone, including group chats, privacy settings, and contacts. Staying aware of who your child is communicating with is an important part of keeping them safe online.

In addition, I have provided a link with useful videos and information to parents on how to support children when using social media. These will support the work that we already do in school.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Dates for your diary

Thursday 19th
March School
photos

Friday 20th
March Red
Nose Day
(children can
wear
something
red or crazy
hair)

Wednesday
25th March
World maths
day activities
in school

Thursday 26th
March
Diamond
Class trip to
Belton House

Monday 30th /
Tuesday 31st
March
Parents
evenings

Wednesday
1st April choir
at Chestnut
Street care
home

Opal Class
parental
engagement
activity
2.45pm

Thursday 2nd
April Last day
of term /
Easter egg
hunt

Monday 20th
April Inset
day

Parents evenings

On Monday 30th March and Tuesday 31st March, we will hold parents' evenings. These will be either in person or on TEAMS.

You will be able to book appointments through the new Parent App. This provides a simple and efficient way to secure your slot, and appointments are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We have ensured that there are enough appointments for all parents, with additional slots available if needed. If you are unable to make any of the dates or times offered, please contact the school office so we can support you. If you experience any difficulties using the app, the office team will also be happy to help.

Staff are very much looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's achievements, attainment, progress and next steps in learning. You will also have the opportunity to view their learning during your appointment.

Sports Kit

Please could we ask families to check at home for any school sports kit that may still be in drawers or PE bags. These kits are used when pupils represent the school at sporting events, and we currently have several items missing, including socks, jackets, shorts and T-shirts in a range of sizes. Returning these as soon as possible helps us ensure all children are fully equipped for upcoming fixtures and events

Red Nose Day

We had planned to keep Red Nose Day fairly low key this year, as we've had lots of fundraising and activities recently in school and with more to come. However, the children (and staff!) have decided they would love to join in by wearing something red, crazy hair, or both.

If you would like to send in a small donation, that would be greatly appreciated, but it is completely optional. We'll also be doing some simple Red Nose Day activities in school to mark the day.

Kind regards
Mrs T Boulter
Headteacher



Tuesday 21st
April Back to
school

Forest school dates:

20th March Y3

27th March Y2

Attendance

Our
attendance is
96.3%

We are not
allowed to
authorise any
holidays
during term
time due to
the new
National
agenda to
improve
school
attendance.

If you wish to
request
leave, you
must contact
the office for
an
exceptional
leave form.

British Science Week!



Lincolnshire County Council need you!

They're
running a
quick survey
to find out
what
childcare
families need.
[Childcare
survey 2026 |
Let's Talk
Lincolnshire](#)