



All Individuals Matter

Winchelsea News

November Newsletter

I hope everyone has had a lovely half term break and enjoyed some family time together. As we face darker and colder days we look forward to lots more exciting learning opportunities and the fun of some special events and preparations for Christmas!

Children in Need



On Friday November 17th it is Children in Need Day. As is the tradition at Winchelsea, the staff and children will be invited to wear their pyjamas for the day and have breakfast together and to take part we ask for a donation of £1. There will also be a chance for children to pay to have their face painted on the day. FOWS will be organising the event. There will be a raffle for Pudsey merchandise by the school council and tickets will be on sale in school in the days leading up to the event. If you have any spare copper coins or other loose change, we will be attempting to cover our large Pudsey boards throughout the day too.

Poppies for Remembrance

As usual, Winchelsea will be commemorating Remembrance Day and poppies will be available in school for children to wear. Children simply need to bring in a donation for the collection which goes directly to the Royal British Legion to support soldiers and their families. Poppies and other merchandise will be sold in school by Year 6 pupils every day in the days leading up to November 11th. We will be holding a special assembly in school on November 10th (as the 11th falls on a Saturday this year) and observing the minute's silence to show our respect on this significant occasion in our annual calendar. In the afternoon we are holding a special joint event with Chestnut Street primary school to which parents of choir members and Services families will be invited. Miss Stewart is planning to organise an opportunity for Services families in our own school community to meet together and will be in touch with those families very soon.



SHOW YOU REMEMBER
ON THE 11th OF NOVEMBER

Staff changes

I am pleased to introduce Mrs Alison Archer to our school. She will be working alongside Mrs Cox teaching Year 2 from Wednesday - Friday and I know you will all make her feel very welcome.

Book Fair



READING

Thank you to everyone who supported our school book fair before half term. We were overwhelmed by the number of purchases that were made and we are always thrilled to see how much the children love reading and are enthused by the books that Scholastic offer. When you purchase something from our book fair your child not only benefits directly from the purchase you made but the school earns commission which is then used to add to our school libraries. We aim to support our children to become confident readers as these skills are not only important for school work as they affect every area of the curriculum, but we also want our children to gain a love of reading which they

can carry with them through the rest of their lives.

Decades week



Before half term the children across school had a great week whilst some of the older children were away at PGL. Each class studied a decade between the 1950s and present day. They loved learning about fashion, music, pop culture, politics, historical figures or significant events and technological developments. It was wonderful to include parents and grandparents who shared stories and memories from their lives too. The week culminated in dressing up for parties where we danced to music of each decade and sampled some of the food too.



Suitable clothing



As the weather at this time of year can be unpredictable, children need to come to school suitably dressed. There are lots of children who do not have warm coats which are needed for playtimes and lunchtime breaks when children can become cold. Gloves, scarves and hats can also be worn. However, sweatshirts and hoodies that are not part of school uniform should not be worn as a substitute for a coat. Footwear also needs to be suitable for the weather conditions and whilst boots or wellies may be appropriate for walking to school they should not be worn in school all day so children will need to bring a change of footwear for the classroom. Similarly, trainers are not acceptable. A suitable PE kit for both indoor and outdoor sessions should be in school at all times. Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly named as we seem to have an ever-growing pile of lost property!

IMPORTANT REMINDER !!!!.....Parking and cars on the school site.

Parking has always been difficult around our school site, especially with the potential volume of cars that might access the through-road at any one given time. I would request that parents try to avoid bringing cars onto the school site. Winchelsea has always promoted walking, scooting or cycling to school by children where this can be done safely. St George's have asked me to request that parents do not park on their site or on the access road near their school as they also have concerns about congestion with buses and taxis and need to ensure the safety of their pupils too. If you must use your car, please think about parking beyond the school boundaries such as the Co-op which is only a short walk away and be mindful of residents living on the surrounding estate who sometimes tell me that their drive accesses are being compromised. By following these guidelines we aim to ensure our site remains as safe as possible. I have also had complaints about cars that are stationary but parents leaving their cars running while they drop off their children or wait to collect them. Please could all drivers be aware of high levels of exhaust fumes and air pollution and be mindful of others at the school gates.

No smoking site

Can I remind all visitors to Winchelsea that our site is a non-smoking site. **This includes vaping.** This means that not only are buildings smoke free but also our grounds and the surrounding paths and roadways. To comply with government directives I must ensure that children are not exposed to passive smoking anywhere on our site and this includes smoking within cars as parents and carers collect children at the end of the day. Please refrain from smoking anywhere within our perimeters until you reach the external boundaries along Sleaford Road, Rectory Road and Elmtree Road.

Dates to the end of this term

November 9th: Flu immunisations

November 17th: Children in Need Day

November 20th -24th: Assessment Week

December 11th: 9.30am Diamond Xmas Play to parents 1.30pm Y4-6 Xmas Play to parents

December 12th: 9.30am Diamond Xmas Play to parents 6pm Y4-6 Xmas Play to parents

December 14th: Newark Pantomime 'Snow White'

December 15th: Farm Kitchen Xmas dinner Reports issued to parents

December 18th: 5.30pm Y1-3 Xmas Play to parents

December 19th: 1.30pm Y1-3 Xmas Play to parents

December 20th: Term ends **(Please note this is a Wednesday)**

Future term dates for 2023/24

January 3rd: Term starts (Please note this is Wednesday)

February 12th- 16th: Half Term

March 7th: World Book Day

March 18th: Writes photographs (classes/clubs/teams)

March 28th: Term ends (Please note this is a Thursday)

April 16th: Term start (Please note this is Tuesday)

May 6th: Bank holiday (school closed)

May 27th-31st: Half Term

July 19th: Term ends

Emails and texts from school, our website and Twitter

We want to ensure that information can be received by parents efficiently so we use our school email system to send out letters and other correspondence. Please make sure school have your correct contact details and those of your emergency contacts. We also use a texting service to get information to you e.g. when clubs have had to be cancelled at short notice. Our school website: www.winchelsea.lincs.sch.uk is designed both to promote the school in the wider community and give information to parents who are selecting a school for their children, but also to provide information for you. Information sent out from school is published on our website along with school documentation and policies. If you love seeing photos of what your children are getting up to in school then please follow us on Twitter. Each teacher has a Twitter page and I am also regularly tweeting! I can be followed at **@Winchelsea1**.

Once again, I hope the information in this newsletter has been helpful. Miss Helen Duckett Head Teacher