



Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

*Our vision is 'Let your light shine'. The rainbow symbolises God's unconditional love for each individual. We seek to reflect that light in all we do: in our community, both local and wider, in our communication, both word and action, with curiosity and courage, and with care and compassion for everyone, inspiring a love of learning.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of term I would like to begin by thanking you all for the continued support you give to your children and the staff in school. It has been wonderful to see the children develop and flourish academically, socially and emotionally, demonstrating the school values enthusiastically. The children's ambition and determination to 'let their light shine' is a credit to them and their families.

Staff and children have been working incredibly hard and are definitely ready for a well-earned rest. Some of the great achievements this term are highlighted in this edition of the newsletter. We have made some significant changes and improvements to the curriculum to ensure that it meets the needs and interests of our children. Overviews and progression have been developed for each year group to ensure clarity of coverage with a strong emphasis on progression of knowledge and skills. Carefully selected enrichment opportunities are key to enhancing the children's learning and I know that the children in Key Stage One thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Science Oxford this week. Information about our curriculum can be found on our school website. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Today we said to goodbye to Mrs Wiltshire, one of our dedicated Learning Support Assistants who is leaving to return to a role as a classroom teacher. I would like to thank her for her commitment to the children at Winslow School during the last two years and wish her every success for the future.

We are already looking forward to a busy summer term and I have included some key dates in the calendar of events at the end of this newsletter so that you can prepare in advance of the new term.

On behalf of all the staff at Winslow CE School, I would like to wish you all a restful Easter break. I hope you all take the time to unwind and enjoy some precious family time. We look forward to seeing all of the children back in school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

*Mrs Samantha Dimbleby*

**Headteacher**

## **Learning Snapshot**

### **Rainbows**

This term in Rainbows, the children enjoyed taking part in a variety of whole-school activities including in Science Week, World Book Day and the school Art Exhibition. In Communication week a group of Year 6 children came to Rainbows to read stories. It really inspired the children and they are looking forward to doing this again next term! The children enjoyed listening to live stories with an author and making sandwiches for their teddy bear's picnic.



We are very lucky to have the school grounds to explore and it has been lovely to see how much interest the children have taken in looking for signs of spring and things work and solving problems, especially when through exploration during Science Week.

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## Reception



Throughout the overarching topic 'Once Upon a Time', Reception have been learning about traditional tales, exploring and creating their own maps based around the traditional stories as well as map skills to identify the polar regions as part of learning about Arctic and Antarctic animals and, China when learning about Lunar New Year. Within this, they have been exploring and investigating whether materials are hard or soft and the process of freezing and melting. The children celebrated the National Bird Watch and made their very own bird

feeders whilst learning about the life cycle of a robin.

The children have also enjoyed the topic 'How Does Your Garden Grow?' this term where they have been learning about spring - the season of new life. They have explored different flowers and plants and their parts; planted seeds and explored the life cycle of daffodils and beans. The children also explored spring animals, matching them to their young as well as the life cycle of a caterpillar. When learning about Easter the children particularly enjoyed acting out the story of Palm Sunday. In a visit to St Laurence Church the children were able to observe the different features a church and learn about the different services in church including what happens over the duration of Easter.



## Year One

Year One have been very busy and excited by their learning this term but the children have been particularly inspired by the Ice Explorers topic in History. They recreated Shackleton's journey and were very imaginative when hot seating Tenzing Norgay. In Science, they have been exploring animals including humans with a particular highlight being the opportunity to explore the different habitats within our school grounds.



The children have made so much progress in their writing since the start of the academic year. They have all written incredible information texts about spring using ambitious vocabulary to interest the reader. Exploring capacity in Maths has provided the perfect opportunity to take their learning outside, developing understanding of the concept through practical hands-on activities.





## Year Two



From making dips and dippers, to sending their writing to Malala Yousafzai, to learning about the importance of Antarctica, the children in Year Two have had a busy term! In the first half of the term, they really enjoyed learning about the emergency services in the past in History, making some fantastic connections to their previous unit on the Great Fire of London! They also completed a

design and technology project making dips and dippers. The staff were so impressed with the children's engagement in this and their confidence in trying new foods.

In Geography, the children have been learning about Antarctica; they have loved learning about a part of the world that is so contrasting to our local area. They even became Champions of Antarctica, as part of 2041 Schools, and learnt all about why we need to protect this incredible part of the world.

Science has enabled the children to learn all about the world around us and carry out careful, close observations of habitats in our school grounds and draw comparisons to habitats around the world (despite the rain stopping the children getting outside as much as we would have liked)!



The children have been immersed in a range of fantastic texts as part of the English curriculum and they have produced some excellent writing as a result. They particularly enjoyed '*Malala's Magic Pencil*' by Malala Yousafzai, writing biographies and sending them to 'The Malala Fund'.

## Year Three

This term Year Three have been writing a continuation of the True Story of the Three Little Pigs which they shared with Year One. It was wonderful to see how they had used their knowledge of the story to write in a way that would interest the reader. Science Week was a big hit for Year Three and they particularly enjoyed testing their Egg launchers. During the week the children were visited by an ear, nose and throat doctor who talked to them about what he does. It gave the children opportunities to ask many questions and find out more about the importance of science in everyday life.



The children have been learning about Ancient Greece in History and they have really enjoyed getting to experience what life was like in an Ancient Greek school, learning about Greek myths and legends and researching different artefacts. In Geography, they have been learning about Brazil and the Amazon rainforest. This has provided wonderful opportunities to link their learning in English where the children have been writing setting descriptions based on the book '*The Great Kapok Tree*' by Lynne Cherry.



## Year Four

Children have been excited by learning in Year Four with a 'Roman Wow Day' to hook them in! They have enjoyed learning about Romans in both History and English, and even found a Roman helmet buried in our school grounds. This created a stimulus for writing and historical enquiry, inspiring the children to explore what the Romans did for us as well as Gladiator battles. We were thrilled to welcome Mr Parker into school for our Roman Day. He gave the children a deep insight into life as a Roman, through opportunities to handle artefacts and ask questions.

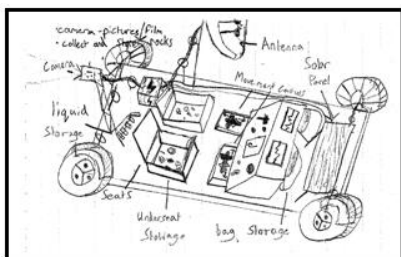
The children have learned how to classify living organisms in Science, made comparisons between Winslow and Copenhagen in geography, and have learned about Fairtrade in Design and Technology.

The highlight of the term, however, has to be their residential to Woodrow, where the children enjoyed experiences such as high ropes, nightline, shelter building and fire making. Those who stayed in school investigated the Ancient Greeks' Olympic Games, comparing these to the modern games; they even created their own medals and invented new Olympic sports!



## Year Five

It has been a rewarding term for Year Five as they have produced some exciting work in all subject areas. Children have enjoyed a term of exciting Geography topics. During the first half of the term, they explored the United States of America and found out about its different biomes, the extreme weather Americans experience and the country's economy. They are now learning about Milton Keynes and how it has changed over the years. Science has taken the children on an adventure into our solar system. To complement their learning, they have also taken part in two interactive space workshops which have focused on the moon and mars.



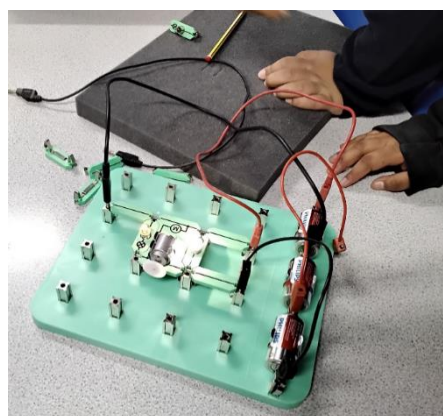
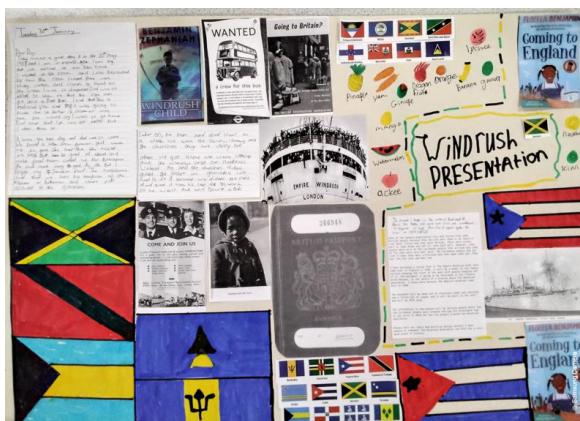
Other exciting projects have included building a lunar rover during Design Technology and pupils have also created their own zines to illustrate a poem about the stars. During writing this term, they have written a biography about Katherine Johnson which also related to our space theme. Then they worked on a setting description using Pandora as their inspiration. Currently, children are completing their prose writing, a retelling to the well-known Highwayman poem. Our class reader, a space adventure called 'Orion Lost', is set in the future and has kept everyone hooked with every clever twist and unexpected turn.

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## Year Six

The spring term has been more than just SATs preparation in Year 6! The children started off the term by learning about the Windrush Generation: the men, women and children who came to our country from the Caribbean islands in the wake of World War 2 to help rebuild Great Britain. They took a deep dive into the topic, reading books such as *'The Windrush Child'* by Benjamin Zephaniah and *'Coming to England'* by Floella Benjamin, listening to the music of Lord Kitchener as well as discovering the impact of other Caribbean natives on the country. On top of completing two separate pieces of English writing on the topic, the children then brought all of their learning and research together to produce presentations which were displayed for the whole school to appreciate.

In Science, with thanks to the Royal Latin Secondary School, the children enjoyed investigating electrical circuits: the elements required to make a simple working circuit, the effects of adding more/less power to a simple circuit and how adding extra electrical appliances to a circuit impacted on the brightness of a bulb or loudness of a buzzer. This had cross-curricular links with our Design Technology unit in which the children used the electrical circuits to create alarms which would alert the owner that the door of a vehicle was open. It has been a term full of learning and discovery.



## World Book Day Competition.

It was incredibly difficult choosing between the excellent entries in our World Book Day 'Potato Book Characters' Competition. Please see the next Reading Newsletter to view photographs of the entries. The children have enjoyed admiring each other's creations which were all displayed in our main entrance hall

All the children have now been presented with their certificates. Congratulations to Sophia B in Year Three who was the overall winner and has been invited to visit Buckingham University Bookshop to choose a book of her choice. Runners up, Henry S and Florence L, were chosen to help Mrs White order new books for the school library which they will get to read first.

Well done to everyone for taking part!

Please click [here](#) for this term's Reading Newsletter.



## Attendance

Well done to 2AA who had the best whole class average attendance this week with 98.77%. Our average whole school attendance this week is 95.31%.

Thank you for your support in encouraging good attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance or punctuality, please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Dimbleby.

## Termly Values Awards

Each Term we choose children who have displayed all of the School Values throughout the term to be awarded the Values Cups. Each Values Cup winner is awarded with a lovely trophy that they are able to keep at home for the next term. Congratulations to the following children who are a good example to others to follow and admire:

Year 1: Denys & Anna  
Year 2: Darcey & Milena  
Year 3: Fletcher & Sebastian  
Year 4: Storrn & Arbie  
Year 5: Sybil & Jowan  
Year 6: Amelia & Charlie

## House Points

Congratulations to Wiltshire House who have earned House Mufti day in the first week back after the Easter Break on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Parks	Barnardo	Wiltshire	Anning
4536	4869	5475	4914

## Accelerated Readers

The following classes have been awarded the Reading Trophies this week for completing the most Accelerated Reader Quizzes:

2AA
3AP
4SW
5FG
6CM



## Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for the role of a Parent Governor on our Governing board. The school's governing board is responsible for providing confident and strategic leadership, and creating robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the school's educational and financial performance. As a parent governor, you will work with the board to ensure it effectively carries out the duties referred to above. Like all other governors, you will also play a vital role in maintaining effective relationships with school staff, parents/ carers and other stakeholders from the local community. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity please contact the school office to request a candidate form or further information.

## FOWS – Doughnut Friday



FOWS are delighted to announce the return of Doughnut Friday. This will be starting on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April @3:00pm on the Key Stage Two playground. All sale proceeds will go towards supporting the school.

Thank you for supporting the Mother's Day 'Someone Special' sale. This event raised a total of £474.67.

## Safeguarding

If you have a concern about a child please contact Mrs Samantha Dimbleby, Mrs Katie Epps or Miss Allen via the School Office on 01296 712296 or alternatively if out of school hours, weekends or holidays visit <http://www.bucks-lscb.org.uk/concerned-about-child/> to report your concerns.

<b>Mrs Samantha Dimbleby</b> Designated Safeguarding Lead	
<b>Mrs Katie Epps</b> Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
<b>Miss Daisy Allen</b> Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
Child Protection Governor <b>Mr David Shaw</b>	

## What can we do even better as a school?

If you have any comments or suggestions, please do get in contact with Mrs Dimbleby via the school office, or better still, come and chat to her at the start or the end of the day on the playground. We are always keen to listen to your feedback.



## Diary Dates

Please find below our summer term calendar of events for your immediate attention. This will be published on our school website and updated as appropriate over the coming weeks.

Date	Event	Year Group
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school	Whole School
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	House Mufti Day	Wiltshire House
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April (4:30pm – 5:30pm) (5:45pm - 6:45pm)	FOWS Disco: Year 1 and 2 Year 5 and 6	Years One, Year Two, Year Five and Year Six
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May (2:45 – 3:15pm)	Year One Phonics Screening Check Information Meeting for Parents	Year One
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May (4:30pm – 5:30pm) (5:45pm - 6:45pm)	FOWS Disco: Reception Year 3 and 4	Reception, Year Three, and Year Four
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School Closed	Whole School
wc Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATS Week	Year Six
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May (3:30 – 4:30pm)	Y5 Relationships and Sex Education Meeting	Year Five
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Royal Latin Science Festival	Year Five
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	FOWS Break the Rules Day	Whole School
HALF TERM HOLIDAY (Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May)		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	INSET Day	Whole School
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Children Return to school	Whole School
wc Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication Checks	Year Four
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Church Festival at St Laurence Church	Whole School
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	11+ Meeting for Year 5 Parents	Year Five
w/c Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check	Year One
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Bridgebuilder – It's Your Move Y6	Year Six
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	FOWS 'Someone Special Shop' for Father's Day	Whole School
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception Trip to Hogshaw Farm	Reception
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June (am)	EYFS and KS1 Country Dancing	Rainbows, Reception, Year One and Year Two
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Pupil Fundraising Day	Whole School
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception Vision Checks	Reception
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS and KS1 Church Worship with parents	Reception, Year One and Year Two
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Trip to Waddesdon Manor	Year Two
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	FOWS Mufti Day	Whole School
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	FOWS Summer Fair	Whole School
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July (3:30pm)	Transition meeting for parents of children moving into Years 1, 3 and 5	Reception, Year Two and Year Four
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July (3:30pm)	Transition meeting for parents of children moving into Years 2, 4 and 6	Year One, Year Three and Year Five
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Whole School Transition Day	Whole School
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Y6 Buckinghamshire Transition Days	Year Six

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Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year Reports to Parents	Whole School
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Production (Evening performance)	Year Six
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	EYFS and KS1 Sports Day (am)	Rainbows, Reception, Year One and Year Two
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Production (Afternoon performance)	Year Six
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Sports Day – Y3 & Y4 (am), Y5 & Y6 (pm)	Year Three, Year Four, Year Five and Year Six
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July (Time TBC)	Y6 Leaver's Service at St Laurence Church	Year Six
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last Day of Term	Whole School
SUMMER HOLIDAY Children return on Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2024		

*This Term's Value is:*

***Honesty***

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God"*

*Matthew 5:8*

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