

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 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,

This term has been full of achievements for our children both inside and outside the classroom. From academic progress to outstanding performances, our children have demonstrated resilience, determination and teamwork. We are immensely proud of their hard work and the positive attitudes they bring to school every day.

As always, it was wonderful to see such overwhelming support for the Christmas performances; watching our children stand on stage and perform with such confidence was a real privilege - well done to all involved and thank you for your continued support.

Thank you for your generous donations to our chosen charity, Medical Detection Dogs. We have raised an amazing total of £598.71. Earlier on in the term, the children also raised £493.46 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £424 for Children in Need and £118 for Save the Children. Supporting charities is an important part of our wider curriculum, helping children to learn about compassion, empathy and social responsibility. Working together in this way provides valuable opportunities to show them that they matter, and that they have the power to make a difference, no matter how big or small.

As we look forward and prepare for the spring term, we are excited to continue building on our successes. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all our parents and carers for your unwavering support this term. Whether through attending events, volunteering or supporting learning at home, your partnership is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

With the end of term upon us, I hope you have some time to enjoy some well-deserved rest and time with your loved ones this Christmas break. The spring term promises to be another exciting one and the calendar of events is included at the end of this newsletter with some key dates. Please keep an eye on our website and newsletters for further details and important dates.

On behalf of all the staff at Winslow CE School, I would like to wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year! We look forward to seeing all of the children back in school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Merry Christmas!

*Mrs Samantha Dumbleby*

**Headteacher**



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

## Learning Snapshot

### Rainbows

In Rainbows, this term has been all about getting to know each other, learning classroom rules and routines and building friendships. It's been lovely to see how the children have learned to work in a team, how caring they are towards each other and how they have shown inquisitiveness and perseverance in their learning. Our themes have offered lots of opportunities for the children to learn about nature, using our school grounds to enhance activities. We have also been lucky to have some amazing visitors to help the children learn more about other countries and how to keep safe in case of a fire.

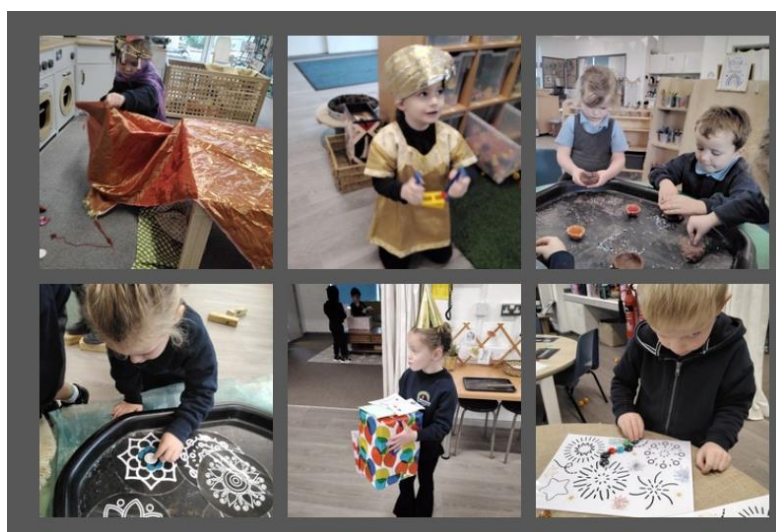
We are always looking for volunteers to come in to school and enrich our children's learning. If you have something to share, please do let us know.



### Reception

This half term, Reception have thrived whilst exploring our overarching topic 'A Dazzle and a Sparkle!' Within this topic, the children have learnt about festivals of light including Bonfire Night; Diwali; Birthdays and Christmas. They have loved creating their own fireworks and Rangoli patterns using loose parts, chalks and sequins; creating their own Birthday and Christmas cards, wrapping presents and exploring music for different celebrations! The children have enjoyed comparing their own experiences of the past throughout this.

Reception worked incredibly hard to learn the songs and their lines for our Nativity 'Shine, Star, Shine!' They were incredible and most certainly did let their lights shine throughout their performances!



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

## Year One

We have had a very busy autumn term in Year One. From rehearsing and performing in our Christmas play to writing poems in English, the children have really let their light shine!

In English we have written wonderful autumn and winter poems, written instructions on how to get to the church and fantastic descriptions using adjectives. We have learned how to use conjunctions, adjectives, time adverbs and imperative verbs to make our writing exciting.

We all walked to the church in Winslow to learn about Baptism. Derry showed us what happens during Baptism and we got to have a look around the church. The children had so many interesting questions and demonstrated real curiosity and interest.

We have loved our learning maths this term, using different equipment to add and subtract and are looking forward to building on this next term.



## Year Two



We have had a fantastic start to Year Two, full of learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. In Science, we have investigated the suitability of different materials for a given purpose which included lots of practical investigations. It has been great seeing the children apply their understanding to the practical tasks. We also got to attend a live stream event by Science Oxford which the children loved. This included lots of experiments and the children were in awe!

Our History topic 'The Great Fire of London' really captured the children's curiosity and thirst for knowledge. Even though this was in the first half term, they still talk about it now. It is lovely to see how engaged and interested they were in this topic.

Geography has taken us all around the world as we explored the seven continents and five oceans. We have been especially impressed with the children's knowledge of the world and interest in it. Some children were able to identify features such as the Taj Mahal and Statue of Liberty without any prompting from us. Our next Geography topic focuses in on Antarctica, and we are really looking forward to this!



In Design Technology, we learnt about linkages, levers and pivots and used this learning to create amazing moving monsters! This was quite challenging at times but the children demonstrated real resilience and determination.



Our Outdoor Learning Day was a particular highlight! The children enjoyed demonstrating their understanding of addition and subtraction out on the playground using natural resources to represent tens and ones.

Overall it has been, a brilliant start to Year Two and we can't wait to see where the rest of the year takes us.

## Year Three

We have had a busy autumn term in Year 3 starting with learning about the Stone Age to Iron Age. The children were able to identify which period of time they would have preferred to live in and explain their reasoning linked to the tools, food, clothes and housing of the different periods. Our history linked into our English work on the 'Stone Age Boy' book and they then wrote their own adventure stories and read these around a camp fire.

The children have enjoyed learning to multiply and divide by grouping and sharing a variety of objects practically and using number lines and bar models. They especially enjoyed finding different ways to share real cookies!



There have been plenty of opportunities to learn outside too, including carrying out an experiment in Geography to see what causes rivers to flood – luckily everyone managed to stay dry! The children particularly enjoyed planning and carrying out a science investigation linked to our topic skeletons and the human body.

The term has ended on a high, with our Year 3 children supporting Year 4 with the Christmas play. We were so proud of their singing voices and we hope you enjoyed it too!

## Year Four

Year Four have been learning about mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes in Geography this term. The children particularly enjoyed observing a 'volcano' erupt and had some interesting questions and thoughts. In History, the children became immersed in their learning about the Ancient Egyptians when we had our 'wow' day; they explored the process of mummifying and even got to make Egyptian flatbread - yum!



Our focus text this term has been 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C S Lewis and the children wrote beautiful setting descriptions which were presented in handmade wardrobes. They continued to be creative when making torches in Design Technology, using their knowledge from their electricity unit in Science.

A highlight of this term has most definitely been their performance of their nativity 'Straw and Order' where they had the opportunity to act, sing and dance, demonstrating talent and confidence. We were so proud of them all!

## Year Five

Year 5 have had a very busy term exploring 'Forces' in Science, through a series of hands-on investigations. They began by making paper straw rockets to observe the effects of gravity before moving on to investigate air resistance involving the creation of parachutes, water resistance and friction. Much of this has involved working in small groups where the children have demonstrated fantastic cooperation and communication skills.



Also this term, the children have created informal letters based on the story 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. The story is based on Jim Jarvis, who alerted Dr Barnardo to the plight of destitute children in Victorian London. The children have really enjoyed learning about the historical context of the story and the awful conditions children in workhouses were subjected to. They used this new knowledge to write moving and powerful letters from the perspective of Jim.

We ended our autumn term's learning with a beautiful 'Celebration of Christmas' service at St Laurence's church where the children took part in a series of carols and readings, sharing the Christmas story and the significance of Christingles. Well done Year 5 – a wonderful way to end 2024.

## Year Six

Year 6 have had a very busy and productive autumn term, kicking off with their 11+ exams just one week into the start of term. Not long after, we embarked on an exciting trip to PGL, where the children tackled challenges like building towers out of crates and whizzing down zip lines. Meanwhile, those who stayed at school had a fantastic time making dragon eyes out of clay and decorating the cones for our sensory garden!

The children also came together to deliver a poignant and powerful Remembrance service. They shared their knowledge about key figures from the war and moved the audience with their own wartime poetry. In the classroom, Year 6 delved deeply into the history of World War II, exploring its impact on our local community of Winslow, Britain as a nation, and the wider world. This learning was woven into their English lessons, where they researched the evacuation of children to the countryside, linking to our class text, *Letters from the Lighthouse*.

In science, the children have been studying Inheritance and Evolution. They explored Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection through a hands-on investigation, testing different types of pretend beaks on a variety of foods to see which were the most effective—a fun and insightful way to bring the concept to life.



To wrap up the term with some festive cheer, the children embraced their creative side in English, crafting their own humorous sets of instructions on 'How to Steal Christmas' in true Grinch style!

## 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 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: Leandra & Owen  
Year 2: Georgie & Beatrice  
Year 3: Ila & Halle  
Year 4: Grace & Polina  
Year 5: Fearne & Ayah  
Year 6: James & Jack

## House Points

Congratulations to Anning House who have earned House Mufti day in the first week back after the Christmas Break on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Parks	Barnardo	Wiltshire	Anning
4325	4451	4266	4725

## Attendance

Well done to 5RS who had the best whole class average attendance this week with 94.72%. Our average whole school attendance this week is 88.64%.

## Reporting an absence

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school office via Parent Mail, the telephone absence line or the office email address before 9.00am. Please give full details of your child's illness/symptoms. If we do not hear from you, we will call or email you to find out why your child is not in school. If we are unable to make contact and you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

## Accelerated Readers

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

3RE
4VK
5JW
6CM



## Safeguarding

If you have a concern about a child please contact Mrs Samantha Dimbleby, Miss Daisy Allen or Mrs Katie Epps 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.



## Calendar of Events Spring Term 2025

Please see below our spring calendar of events for your immediate attention. This will be published on our school website and updated as appropriate.

Date	Event	Year Group
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school	Whole school
wc 6 <sup>th</sup> January	KS2 Swimming starts	Year Four
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	House Mufti Day	Anning House
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January (3:30pm)	Bench Ball Competition	Year Five and Six
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Knife Crime Workshop	Year Five
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Knife Crime Workshop	Year Six
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception Height and Weight Checks	Reception
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January (9:00am)	Parents of SEND Children Coffee Meeting	Whole School
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January (2:00pm)	FOWS Meeting	Whole School
wc Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week	Whole School
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February (2:45pm)	Year One Phonics Screening Information Session	Year One
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year Four Church Visit	Year Four
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Network Rail Safety Workshops	Whole School
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day	Whole School
Date TBC	Internet Safety Parent Information Evening	Whole School
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February (9:00am – 10:00am)	Maths Stay and Play Session	Reception, Year One and Year Two
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Interim Reports to Parents	Reception – Year six
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET DAY – school closed to children	Whole School
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b> (Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February)		
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school	Whole School
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February (5:00pm)	SATS Information Evening for Parents	Year Six
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	SEND Parent Clinic with SENDCo	Whole School
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March (3:30pm – 6:30pm) and Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March(4:30pm – 7:30pm)	Parents' Evening	Reception – Year Six
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Whole School
wc 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week	Whole School
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year Five Church Visit	Year Five
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Stay and Read Session	Reception, Year One and Year Two
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day – Non-uniform Day	Whole School
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Bikeability	Year Three
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Group Photos	Reception and Year Six
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year Three Church Visit	Year Three
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	FOWS Mother's Day Gifts Sale	Whole School
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April – Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Rock UK Residential Trip	Year Four
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term	Whole School
<b>Easter HOLIDAY</b> Children return on Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025		

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE





Winslow Christmas 2024

# Elf On A Shelf

Catch the elves causing mischief in Winslow...

- Pick up an entry form
- Find the 12 naughty elves
- Note the business & elf's chaos
- Hand in your completed form to Lulu's Pet Pantry by 23 Dec 2024
- Completed entries receive a festive treat & enter prize draw
- Draw winners will receive a hamper from participating businesses on Christmas Eve





# Elf On A Shelf

Complete by 23 Dec  
for a treat & entry  
into prize draw



Return to  
Lulu's Pet Pantry  
3a Market Square

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Name:  
Tel No:

