



Friday 4th April 2025

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 take this opportunity to reflect on a busy and successful few months at Winslow CE School. It has been wonderful to see the hard work, enthusiasm and achievements of our children across all areas of school life. Thank you for the continued support you give to your children and the staff in school; the children have flourished academically, socially and emotionally through the strong partnerships between home and school that we work hard to develop. The children's ambition and determination to 'let their light shine' is a credit to them and their families – staff, children and parents are definitely ready for a well-earned rest!

Next term brings many more exciting opportunities, including trips, Sports Days and Winslow's Got Talent! 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 Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

Mrs Samantha Dumbleby

Headteacher

Learning Snapshot

Rainbows



This term in Rainbows the children have been developing their skills in language and communication, listening to an author reading a new story called 'Are You a Hungry Monster?' which then led on to making a lot of monster food outside! It was scrumptious! One of the books the children read was 'The Bear and the Piano.' They invited a guest in to play the piano like the bear in the story which was very exciting. The children listened to a range of music representing different emotions: happy, sad, scary, loud, quiet, surprised and friendly. They also had a try at playing Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star on the piano and were shown what the inside of the piano looks like.

The children always love going to the library and it was particularly special this term to have a pancake snack with our librarian. The children have also loved taking part in Science week where they learnt about germs, oral hygiene and how to make a rainbow.

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Reception

Reception have been busy exploring living things in their overarching topic 'How Does Your Garden Grow?' this half term. They have explored spring flowers, identifying the parts of a flower, understanding the life cycle of a Daffodil and how they can care for plants. The children have also thrived exploring minibeasts! They have been identifying different minibeasts, digging for them, making homes out of leaves and sticks and exploring the life cycle of a caterpillar.



Alongside this, the children took part in the Buckinghamshire Early Years Communication Week which promotes the values of *'engage with chat, explore with play and read together'*. They enjoyed live author readings for 'The Bear and The Piano' and 'Are You a Hungry Monster?' which involved them listening and taking part in live drawings linked to characters in the book. They also visited Winslow Library as a year group which they thoroughly enjoyed!

Year One

This term, Year One have been learning all about spring and used their new learning to write a non-fiction report which they then published and read very proudly to Year Two. While in PE the children have been learning a fairy tale dance, moving in different ways to represent a fairy tale characters before performing to Rainbows.



Maths has seen the children challenged to understand numbers to 50, and enjoying lots of hands-on learning about measuring length and height, mass and capacity.



In History the children have learnt about Ice Explorers such as Ernest Shackleton, Tenzin Norgay and Sir Ranulph Fiennes, bring learning to life through acting out their journeys in groups. The children have also developed their geography skills, looking at the United Kingdom, the four countries and their capital cities and the surrounding seas and oceans – what a busy term!

Year Two

This term in Year Two there has been a wide range of learning opportunities including writing for a range of different purposes. The children have written biographies about Malala Yousafzai and posted them to her, non-chronological reports about the Pacific Ocean and the Borneo Rainforest, and some fantastic setting descriptions.

In Design Technology, the children loved their unit about healthy, balanced foods and all enjoyed the process of designing, making,



and eating their own balanced wrap. It was lovely to see all the children have a go at trying some new foods.

When learning about the 'Emergency Services' in History, it was wonderful to see the children making so many connections to their autumn term learning about 'The Great Fire of London'. They explored how the fire service has changed from the past to now, and then went onto to explore nursing, learning about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. The children were fascinated by their stories and determination.



Geography has really inspired the children this half term as they have become 'Champions of Antarctica'. The children were set a mission to learn as much as they can about Antarctica, understanding why it is so important to protect it for future generations. In this unit the children have drawn maps, made comparisons to Winslow, identified human and physical features, and even used digital maps! They have been in awe of Antarctica and truly accepted their mission.

Year Three

Year Three have continued to develop their love of reading this term with two visits from authors. Their first author visit was Jenny McLachlan who spoke about her new book, 'Dragon Riders of Roar' which was due to be released the next day. The children really enjoyed this online interactive session where they created their own dragon drawings, came up with names for their creatures and even added in details about the dragon's personalities and characteristics. The author was really inspirational and helped the children unleash their imaginations. They were very excited to find the first book in this series was available to borrow from the school library.

They also welcomed Dr Jess French; TV presenter, Zoologist and Vet, who shared her new book 'Beast Lands' with our school! The children were absolutely thrilled to hear about the author's creative journey, how she uses her knowledge as vet and zoologist to help create fantastical beasts using different parts of animals to create brand new creatures. During the visit they had the opportunity to ask questions, create their own fantastical beasts, and even get some tips on how to become young authors themselves. A huge thank you to Dr Jess French for making this such a memorable experience for Year Three.



Year Four

Year Four have enjoyed mastering fractions in maths this term and are continuing to work hard to recall their times tables ready for the Multiplication Check in June. In English, they have written a Roman diary as a slave entering an amphitheatre to watch a gladiator fight and written a non-chronological report about Pompeii. This linked to learning in History about the Romans, the warrior Boudicca and what made the Roman army so successful.

In Geography, the children have compared Winslow to the city of Copenhagen, Denmark where they completed a traffic survey on Winslow High Street, comparing results to Copenhagen and creating posters stating how Winslow could become more sustainable. In Book Talk, they have been reading 'The Race to the Frozen North' by Catherine Johnson and discussing how Matthew Henson showed resilience and determination to reach the North Pole against all odds.



Science Week was a lot of fun in Year Four as the children built bridges out of spaghetti, developing a range of scientific enquiry skills. With weekly swimming lessons at Swan Pool, Bikeability and a Residential Trip to Rock UK to finish the term, the children have definitely experienced a range of learning opportunities and experiences!

Year Five



Year 5 began another busy term with a 'Victorian Day.' Dressed as Victorian school children, they experienced lessons and tasks typical of the era such as sewing, handwriting with the use of a copperplate or ink, and even made their own thaumatrope – a popular optical illusion game at the time. As you can see from the photos, they took their roles very seriously!

In English the children have written biographies based on the inspiring life and achievements of Katherine Johnson. Through the book 'Hidden Figures,' they explored themes of racism, sexism and the power of following your dreams. They continued to explore these themes through studying *Maya Angelou's* powerful poem, 'Still I Rise.' From here, the children wrote their own emotive poems inspired by overcoming bullying and showing strength and resilience in adversity.

It was wonderful to see the amazing work the children produced for their 'Super Science Week' projects – from investigations, presentations, live demonstrations and fantastic displays – we were very impressed by their hard-work and creativity. In our investigation in class, we explored the effects of evaporation, observing the process of condensation and evaporation on a number of liquids including diet coke and orange juice.

The children's key question in RE has been, 'What do Christians believe about the death of Jesus?' They have examined the Biblical evidence that Jesus predicted his death and have thought about how Jesus' death and resurrection influences the lives of Christians around the world. Our visit to St Laurence Church provided the opportunity to speak to Derry about how her faith impacts her life. They then welcomed a school visit from Colin Poyntz from Winslow

Christian Fellowship to continue to develop their understanding of the impact of the death of Jesus on Christians today.

Year Six

This term, Year Six have been working hard in preparation for their final SATs exams, which take place at the start of the summer term. Their dedication and focus has been impressive, and they should be very proud of their efforts so far!

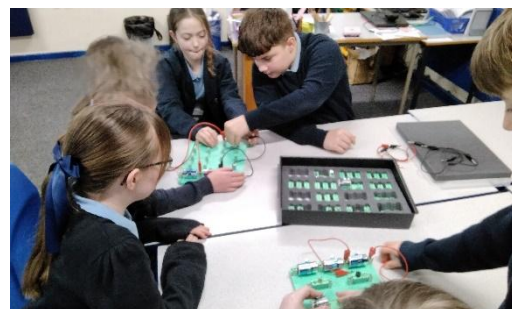
In History, their topic 'Across Stormy Seas,' has explored the theme of migration. The children have gained an understanding of why people migrate, the challenges they face, and the impact of historical figures such as Jayaben Desai, who fought against racism and discrimination and championed workers' rights during the Grunwick Strikes. This learning seamlessly connected with their learning in Art, where the children created striking activism posters. They demonstrated great creativity and learned the technique of printing using stencils, producing fabulous pieces of work.

In English, learning has delved into *The Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah. Inspired by the story, the children designed imaginative monuments to honour the Windrush generation and wrote persuasive speeches aimed at convincing the local authorities (metaphorically) to have these monuments erected. During the second half of the term, the children embraced a thrilling shift in theme with *Thornhill* by Pam Smy, which led the children to craft their own engaging and spine-chilling horror narratives.

Maths has been equally exciting, with the children developing their understanding of ratio, decimals, percentages, and fractions. They have been applying their knowledge of times tables to consolidate these concepts with growing confidence and skill.

In Science, with a focus on Electricity, the children have explored circuits and investigated questions that sparked their curiosity, such as, "Does the number of batteries affect the brightness of a lightbulb?" We ended the term with an exciting Science Week, where the children explored water density and created their own lava lamps!

It's been a term packed with learning, creativity, and curiosity. Well done to all of Year 6 for their hard work and enthusiasm – we can't wait to see what the next term brings!



Attendance

Well done to 5RS who had the best whole class average attendance this week with 97.58%. Our average whole school attendance this week is 93.31%.

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: Harry K & Eva

Year 2: Adriana & Ameera

Year 3: William & Finley

Year 4: Rosaleigh & Abigail

Year 5: Nathan & Isabella

Year 6: Karyss & Buster

House Points

Congratulations to Anning House who have earned House Mufti day in the first week back after the Easter Break on Friday 24th April 2025.

Parks	Barnardo	Wiltshire	Anning
4670	4941	4926	5957

Accelerated Readers

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

3RE
4DM
5RS
6MP



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.

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

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.



VE Day 80th Anniversary

Come along and join in the fun at the picnic in the park on Saturday 10th May from midday in Tomkins Park.

JOIN IN OUR WWII FANCY DRESS PARADE AT 3PM

Other activities include children's games and Carousel, live music and a junior football tournament, food and drink stalls and much more.

Don't forget to bring along chairs and a picnic!



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
Tuesday 22 nd April	Children return to school	Whole School
Thursday 24 th April	Y1 Visit to the Arboretum	Year One
Friday 25 th April	House Mufti Day	Anning House
Wednesday 30 th April	Y4 Collective Worship with parents– St Laurence Church	Year Four
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed	Whole School
Wednesday 7 th May (9:00am)	Coffee Meeting for parents of SEND Children	Whole School
Thursday 8 th May	VE Day 80 th Anniversary Celebrations	Whole School
wc Monday 12 th May	KS2 SATS Week	Year Six
Tuesday 13 th May	11+ Meeting for Year 5 Parents	Year Five
Monday 19 th May (3:30 – 4:30pm)	Y5 Relationships and Sex Education Meeting	Year Five
wc Monday 19 th May	Walk to School Week	Whole School
Wednesday 21 st May	EYFS & KS1 Country Dancing	Rainbows, Reception, Year One, Year Two
Friday 23 rd May	Royal Latin Science Festival	Year Five
Friday 23 rd May	Break the Rules Day	Whole School
HALF TERM HOLIDAY (Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May)		
Monday 2 nd June	INSET Day	Whole School
Tuesday 3 rd June	Children Return to school	Whole School
wc Monday 2 nd June – Friday 13 th June	Y4 Multiplication Checks	Year Four
Thursday 5 th June	SEND Clinic	Whole School
Friday 6 th June	Church Festival at St Laurence Church	Whole School
Tuesday 10 th June	Times tables Rock Stars Day in KS2	Year Three, Four, Five and Six
Wednesday 11 th June (9:00am)	Coffee Meeting for parents of SEND Children	Whole School
w/c Monday 9 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check	Year One
Thursday 12 th June (9:00am)	KS2 Maths Information Session for Parents	Year Three, Four, Five and Six
Friday 20 th June	Pupil Fundraising Day	Whole School
Tuesday 24 th June	Reception Trip to Hogshaw Farm	Reception
Wednesday 25 th June	EYFS and KS1 Church Worship with parents – St Laurence Church	Reception, Year One and Year Two
Thursday 26 th June	Winslow Pupil Talent Show	Whole School
Friday 27 th June	Year 2 Trip to Waddesdon Manor	Year Two
Tuesday 1 st July	Whole School Transition Day	Whole School
Tuesday 1 st July (3:30pm)	Transition meeting for parents of children moving into Years 1, 3 and 5	Reception, Year Two and Year Four

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Wednesday 2 nd July (3:30pm)	Transition meeting for parents of children moving into Years 2, 4 and 6	Year One, Year Three and Year Five
Thursday 3 rd July	Bridgebuilder – It's Your Move Y6	Year Six
Tuesday 1 st and Wednesday 2 nd July	Y6 Buckinghamshire Transition Days	Year Six
Tuesday 8 th July	EYFS and KS1 Sports Day (am)	Rainbows, Reception, Year One and Year Two
Wednesday 9 th July	KS2 Sports Day – Y3 & Y4 (am), Y5 & Y6 (pm)	Year Three, Year Four, Year Five and Year Six
Thursday 10 th July	Y6 Leavers' Service at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford	Year Six
Friday 11 th July	End of year Reports to Parents	Whole School
Monday 14 th July	Y6 Production (Afternoon performance)	Year Six
Tuesday 15 th July	Y6 Production (Evening performance)	Year Six
Wednesday 16 th July (9:00am)	Coffee Meeting for parents of SEND Children	Whole School
Monday 21 st July (Time TBC)	Y6 Leaver's Service at St Laurence Church	Year Six
Wednesday 23 rd July	Last Day of Term	Whole School
SUMMER HOLIDAY Children return on Friday 5 th September 2025		

This Term's Value is:

Honesty

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

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