



Friday 26th September 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 September, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support during the first weeks of the new school year. It's been wonderful to see our children settle in so positively and embrace the exciting opportunities ahead. We are looking forward to meeting many of you at the upcoming Parents' Evenings on Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd October. You should have received a Parent Mail earlier this week with details of how to book an appointment.

Today, our school proudly celebrated the European Day of Languages, a special occasion that highlights the rich linguistic diversity across Europe and fosters greater awareness and appreciation of different cultures. Marking the 25th anniversary of this event, the theme for this year was "**Languages open hearts and minds.**"

All the children enthusiastically participated in a variety of engaging activities tailored to their year groups. These activities explored the food, history, languages, and artwork of numerous European countries, offering a wonderful cultural experience.

This celebration provided a great opportunity for our pupils to discover how languages can build friendships and

deepen understanding between different countries and communities, truly embodying the spirit of connection and unity.



We were delighted to welcome parents and carers of children in Year One and Year Two for 'Stay and Read' on Tuesday and look forward to welcoming Reception parents into school in a couple of weeks for their 'Stay and Read' session.

Thank you for your continued support – have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Samantha Dumbleby

Headteacher

Christine Vallance

We are deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of Mrs Christine Vallance. Mrs Vallance was a dedicated teacher at Winslow CE School for 27 years, teaching during the years 1990 - 2017. She had a true passion for teaching, and her patience and gentle kindness touched the lives of countless pupils and families. We hope her warmth and dedication will be fondly remembered by all who knew her. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this sad time.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Staffing update

Mrs White, our school librarian has made the decision to retire at the end of the autumn term. Mrs White has been part of Winslow CE School for 25 years and has inspired many generations of children with a love of reading. While it is with sadness that we say goodbye, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for Mrs White's dedicated service to the school community. Her commitment, care, and passion for fostering a love of reading among generations of children has left a lasting impact that will not be forgotten.

The library is a treasured part of our school and therefore we will be looking to appoint a new librarian to start at the beginning of the spring term. This vacancy will be advertised on our school website.

Rainbows



Our Rainbow children have settled well into preschool, enjoying exploring the environment and making new friends. They've been taking full advantage of the sunny weather to play outside, as well as engaging with the wide range of resources available in their classroom.

Rainbow is now open all day Monday - Thursday, plus Friday mornings. There are still spaces available, so please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to arrange a visit.



Visiting Author – Nat Harrison

On Thursday, our school was delighted to welcome author Nat Harrison, who captivated the children by bringing Jules Verne's classic *Around the World in Eighty Days* to life in a fresh and exciting way. Her new version tells the story of Maggie Appleton, a brave young girl who, after losing her mother, sets off on an incredible adventure with the mysterious Passepartout. The children were fascinated as Nat shared her inspiration for the book and guided them through fun, interactive activities. To end the session, she signed copies of her book, making it a truly memorable and inspiring visit for everyone.

Well done to all the children who have been reading lots at home and school and taking their Accelerated reader tests. This month we have collectively read: Keep up the hard work - remember every page makes a difference!

Our School Network Reads!

In September 2025, students have read...

65 Books

1,304,908 Words

for **21 minutes/day!**

(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader*

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Reader of the Week

Each week, teachers will nominate a child who has shown fantastic effort and progress in their reading — whether through home reading, Accelerated Reader, phonics, or class work.

This week's Readers of the Week are: Rex S, Michael W, Ruben F, Faith H, Imogen C, Zayne W, Morgan HH, Ben R, Fletcher D, Stanley M, Shonel N and Benjamin G.

Well done to all our readers! Keep enjoying your books and sharing stories at home.



Child of the Week

All our children seek to 'Let their light shine' as they reflect our Christian values in their daily life. Many congratulations to the following children this week who have shone particularly brightly and been awarded 'Child of the Week':

Reception: Florie & Benjei
Year 1: Albert & Zion
Year 2: Eva & Freddie
Year 3: Rubie & Denys
Year 4: Caleb & Lola
Year 5: Josh & Bella
Year 6: Sean & Lucy



Accelerated Readers

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

3CC
4VK
5RS
6MP



What is Accelerated Reader?

When children have finished the reading schemes, they become 'library readers' and are allowed to borrow two books. At this stage they will start to use 'Accelerated Reader' to help them choose a book. When they have read it they will complete a quiz to check that they have understood it.

Children who use Accelerated Reader (mostly Y2 upwards) can now do their quizzes at home. Please use this link: [Accelerated Reader Quiz](#) Children login using their first initial and first four letters of their surname as their username and their library number as their password.

[Tips for using Accelerated Reader at home](#)

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In addition to books from school, many books you have at home may have quizzes available, just type the title of the book into the quiz search box. Children can also do vocabulary quizzes, and quizzes on the articles available on the Accelerated Reader website.

More information about our library, including how to volunteer can be found on our school website by clicking [here](#).

Attendance

Well done to 4VC who had the best whole class average attendance this week with 99.34%. Our average whole-school attendance this week is 95.25%.

We will be working with you to keep you updated on your child's attendance by sending out letters at key points to inform you of your child's attendance should it go below 95% and to invite you in to find ways to work together to support your child's attendance.

Green	Attendance above 95%
Amber	Attendance dipping below 95%
Red	Attendance falling below 90%

Open Mornings for prospective Reception or Rainbows parents September 2026

This term we will be holding Open Mornings for prospective parents to view our school during the busy hustle and bustle of the school day on **Thursday 9th October, Friday 17th October, Thursday 6th November and Thursday 13th November**. The Open Mornings will include a presentation from the Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher and a tour of the school site with some of our older children. All sessions will start at 9.30am and last around an hour. To find out more, or to confirm your attendance, please contact the school office.

FOWS

FOWS held their AGM this week and were able to share a summary of activity over the last academic year. They also discussed future fundraising plans, including the **Christmas Fair** which will take place on **Friday 5th December @3:30pm**.

The next FOWS Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th November @1:45pm in the Nurture Room at school.



Bucks Children's Choir

Bucks Children's Choir will be taking place in October half term and is for anyone who enjoys singing from years 4-8. Taking place at Buckingham School the morning will be a fun mix of styles and genres and we hope you'll support it.



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.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Diary Dates

Please find below our autumn 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
wc 6 th October	Harvest (Pupils only; collection and distribution of non-perishables to local elderly neighbours and the Winslow Food Bank)	Whole School
Tuesday 7 th October (9:00am – 10:00am)	Reception Stay and Read for Parents followed by Phonics Parent Information Session	Reception
Thursday 9 th October (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Preschool Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
Friday 10 th October	Secondary Transfer Test Results Released	Year Six
Monday 13 th October – Friday 17 th October	Residential Trip - PGL Liddington	Year Six
Friday 17 th October (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Preschool Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
wc 20 th October	Visiting Author Workshops	Whole School
Monday 20 th October (3:30pm – 6:30pm) and Wednesday 22 nd October (4:30pm – 7:00pm)	Parents' Evenings	Reception – Year Six
Friday 24 th October	FOWS Break the Rules Day	Whole School
Friday 24 th October	Last day of term for pupils	Whole School
HALF TERM HOLIDAY (Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October)		
Friday 31 st October	Secondary School Application Deadline	Year Six
Monday 3 rd November	INSET DAY	Whole School
Tuesday 4 th November	Children return to school	Whole School
Thursday 6 th November	Outdoor Learning Day	Whole School
Thursday 6 th November (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Pre-school Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
Sunday 9 th November	Remembrance in Winslow	Whole School
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Service (Year 6 Parents)	Year Six
wc 10 th November	Anti-bullying Week/Odd Socks Day (Date TBC)	Whole School
Thursday 13 th November (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Pre-school Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need	Whole School
Friday 14 th November	Whole School Flu Immunisations	Whole School
Wednesday 19 th November	Whole School Photographs	Whole School

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Thursday 20 th November	Coffee Meeting for Parents of SEND Children	Whole School
Tuesday 25 th November	NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Assembly	Whole School
Friday 28 th November	FOWS Christmas Tombola Mufti Day	Whole School
wc 1 st December	Christmas Book Week	Whole School
Tuesday 2 nd and Friday 5 th December	NSPCC Workshops	Year Two, Year Five and Year Six
Tuesday 2 nd December (2:00pm) and Wednesday 3 rd December (9:30am)	KS1 Christmas Performance	Year One and Year Two
Wednesday 3 rd December (2:00pm) and Friday 5 th December (9:30am)	EYFS Christmas Performance	Rainbows and Reception
Friday 5 th December	FOWS Christmas Fete	Whole School
Tuesday 9 th December (6:00pm)	Year 5 Christingle Service at St Laurence Church	Year Five
Tuesday 9 th December (9:30pm) and Wednesday 10 th December (2:00pm)	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Performance	Year Three and Year Four
Wednesday 10 th December (2:30pm)	Year 6 Carol Concert	Year Six
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)	Whole School
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Lunch Day	Whole School
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Worship at St Laurence Church	Whole School
Friday 19 th December (2:30 – 3:15pm)	Carols on the Playground	Whole School
Friday 19 th December	Last Day of School for pupils	Whole School
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Children return on Monday 5 th January 2026		

This Term's Value is:

Respect

"Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Luke 6:31

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