



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

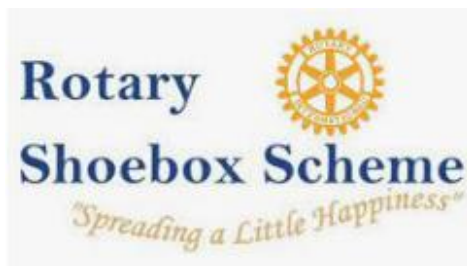
*Our vision is 'Let your light shine'. The rainbow symbolises God's unconditional love for each individual. We seek to reflect that light in all we do: in our community, both local and wider, in our communication, both word and action, with curiosity and courage, and with care and compassion for everyone,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

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have been joyfully celebrating autumn and the season of Harvest. As part of our discussions and reflections, the children have been encouraged to give thanks for the abundance of food and crops we are fortunate to enjoy. This morning, the children shared the spirit of the season by performing a variety of songs and poems for one another during our special Harvest Service. Their performances were a joyful and heartfelt celebration of this meaningful time of year.



The Harvest Festival is always a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the bonds within our community. In the spirit of gratitude and giving, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of the food donations received. These will be delivered today by our Year Six children to local senior citizens living in the bungalows and flats on Lowndes Way and at Scott Evans Court today. Thank you to everyone who contributed—your kindness is truly appreciated and will make a real difference to others in our community.



Earlier this week, representatives from the Rotary Club visited to speak with the children about the **Rotary Shoebbox Scheme**—a charitable initiative designed to support vulnerable individuals in countries such as Romania, Moldova, and Ukraine. In these regions, many people—especially children—face significant hardship and live without access to basic necessities. Some reside in orphanages or care homes, while others live in communities struggling with poverty.

The Shoebbox Scheme brings hope by delivering thoughtful gift boxes filled with essential and enjoyable items. These packages serve as a powerful reminder that someone, somewhere, cares.

Over the coming weeks, we will be sharing more information about how you can get involved. We hope that you will consider supporting this important cause by filling a shoebox with small gifts, toiletries, and school supplies.

By taking part, we are truly putting our school's vision—"**Let your light shine**"—into action. Each shoebox becomes a small beacon of light, carrying a message of hope, kindness, and connection from our community to another. Together, we can show that even the smallest acts of generosity can have a lasting impact—bringing warmth, joy, and a sense of belonging to those who need it most.

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

*Mrs Samantha Dumbleby*

**Headteacher**

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## Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.



The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

As parents and carers, we all want our children to be happy, resilient, and confident as they grow. But just like physical health, mental health needs attention and care from an early age. The good news? Early support can make all the difference in helping children navigate life's challenges and build emotional strength for the future.

### Why Acting Early is So Important

Half of all lifetime mental health conditions develop before the age of 14 (Kessler et al., 2005). This means that the earlier we notice and address concerns, the better the outcomes for children. Signs that a child might need extra support can include:

- Sudden changes in behaviour or mood
- Struggling with attendance or participating in activities
- Concerns from teachers, family or friends

Ignoring these signs won't make them go away—but taking action early can prevent small worries from turning into bigger challenges. Research shows that early intervention reduces the risk of long term mental health issues and helps children build skills that set them up for success. Learning how to manage emotions, cope with stress, and ask for help should be as normal as learning to read or ride a bike.

By talking about mental health openly and early, we help children to:

- Develop confidence in expressing their emotions
- Build healthy coping skills for life

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- Strengthen their social and academic success

### Let's Work Together to Support Your Child

We're here to work alongside you to help your child thrive emotionally and mentally. If you have concerns about your child's wellbeing do not hesitate to ask about the support our Mental Health and Wellbeing Team can offer. Together, we can make sure that every child gets the tools and support they need to grow into a happy, resilient young person.

If you or your child is struggling, remember that it's okay to ask for help. Talking with a friend, taking a break, or reaching out to someone in your support network can ease mental strain. Please see our school website for more information about how we support and promote emotional wellbeing by clicking [here](#).

### Promoting a Love of Reading

At Winslow CE, we believe every child can be a reader and that it all starts with those special story times at home. Research from Farshore and HarperCollins Children's Books shows that children who are read to daily are much more likely to choose to read for fun themselves - 71% compared to just 14% of those read to less than weekly. Even ten minutes a day, perhaps at bedtime, can make a huge difference.

Reading together helps children build language skills, boosts confidence, and turns reading into something they love - not just something they do for school. Let's make story time a joyful, everyday part of family life and inspire a lifelong love of books!

### 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:** Neveah L, Matilda E, Kymani H, Jack H, Arlo B, Lewis P, Sofia O, Scarlett B, Ava-Rose M, Ethan B, Ellie R and Poppy P.

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



Every page makes a difference.

### 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: George & Roman  
Year 1: Patrick & Jacob  
Year 2: Milo & Darren  
Year 3: Fox & Adrianna  
Year 4: Jacob & Indigo  
Year 5: Primrose & Matthew  
Year 6: Jayden & Lola



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## Accelerated Readers

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

<b>3CC &amp; 3RE</b>
<b>4VK</b>
<b>5GW</b>
<b>6CM</b>



## Attendance

Well done to 2OW who had the best whole class average attendance this week with 99.28%. Our average whole-school attendance this week is 96.43%.

## Term Time Holidays:

If children are not present, they miss the potential to fully access the curriculum. Please be mindful that absence during term time cannot be authorised unless there are explained exceptional circumstances. Holidays during term time are not exceptional circumstances and in line with our attendance policy these will not be authorised.

Remember that any savings you think you may make by taking a holiday in school time are offset by the cost to your child's education.

## October Half Term Multi-Activity Holiday Club



Kidz Zone October half term Multi-Activity Holiday Club will be taking place at school from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025. If you would like your child to attend please book a place using the following link [www.kidzzoneclub.com](http://www.kidzzoneclub.com).

## 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



## 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
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Residential Trip - PGL Liddington	Year Six
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Preschool Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
wc 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Visiting Author Workshops	Whole School
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October (3:30pm – 6:30pm) and Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October (4:30pm – 7:00pm)	Parents' Evenings	Reception – Year Six
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	FOWS Break the Rules Day	Whole School
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Last day of term for pupils	Whole School
HALF TERM HOLIDAY (Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October)		
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Secondary School Application Deadline	Year Six
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	INSET DAY	Whole School
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Children return to school	Whole School
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Outdoor Learning Day	Whole School
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Pre-school Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance in Winslow	Whole School
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Service (Year 6 Parents)	Year Six
wc 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying Week/Odd Socks Day (Date TBC)	Whole School
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November (9:30am – 11:00am)	Reception Class and Rainbows Pre-school Tours (New Starters Sept 2026)	New parents
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need	Whole School
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School Flu Immunisations	Whole School
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School Photographs	Whole School
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Coffee Meeting for Parents of SEND Children	Whole School
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Assembly	Whole School
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	FOWS Christmas Tombola Mufti Day	Whole School
wc 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Book Week	Whole School
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	NSPCC Workshops	Year Two, Year Five and Year Six
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December (2:00pm) and Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (9:30am)	KS1 Christmas Performance	Year One and Year Two

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Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (2:00pm) and Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December (9:30am)	EYFS Christmas Performance	Rainbows and Reception
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	FOWS Christmas Fete	Whole School
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December (6:00pm)	Year 5 Christingle Service at St Laurence Church	Year Five
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December (2:00pm) and Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December (9:30am)	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Performance	Year Three and Year Four
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December (2:30pm)	Year 6 Carol Concert	Year Six
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)	Whole School
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch Day	Whole School
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Worship at St Laurence Church	Whole School
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December (2:30 – 3:15pm)	Carols on the Playground	Whole School
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of School for pupils	Whole School
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</b> Children return on Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> 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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# PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

**FOR SALE**

FRIENDS OF WINSLOW SCHOOL ARE SELLING GOOD  
QUALITY PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

**£1 PER ITEM**

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**[FOWS@WINSLOW.BUCKS.SCH.UK](mailto:FOWS@WINSLOW.BUCKS.SCH.UK)**



**DONATIONS WELCOME!**  
**PLEASE DROP AT SCHOOL RECEPTION**