



Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to 2024 from Windlesham!

As always, it was lovely to welcome your children back to Windlesham and they tackled yesterday with such enthusiasm. Although, waking up early this morning did not sound like such an enjoyable experience for many! As we embark on a new calendar year and term, I am filled with enthusiasm and optimism for the possibilities and opportunities that lie ahead for our children and our school community.

One of my favourite parts of the day is being able to greet the children in the morning when they arrive to school. Having welcoming staff on the gate I believe contributes to their emotional wellbeing, sets a positive tone to their day and of course it strengthens the relationship between children and adults here at Windlesham. I hope you have all felt that by having our staff meet and greet at the beginning of the day has then opened up channels for communication which allow our children to express their thoughts, concerns or excitement about the day ahead to us.

Research has shown that a cheerful morning greeting boosts a child confidence and self-esteem making them feel capable of facing the day's challenges. It also has shown to teach politeness and helps children learn manners and social etiquette. We will continue to sets a positive tone for the day, making the Windlesham children feel loved and valued right from the beginning of term.

Staffing

With Mrs Card having departed Windlesham at the end of the autumn term, Mrs Caterina Petronella has smoothly taken over in Year 4 thanks to a thorough handover last term.

Key Dates - Spring Term

Please do keep your eye on the Calendar section in order to keep up to date with upcoming events. I would like to draw your attention to the main events this term and whole school events through to the end of the school year (Please see below) - please do support the children and staff wherever possible.

School Communication

As part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing our school community, I wanted to announce some changes aimed at streamlining communication between the school and our valued parents/carers. Our aim is to make communication as user-friendly as possible. Effective from the beginning of February, we're implementing the following changes:

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Preparing children for life



Centralised Communication Platform: We are introducing a centralised communication platform to serve as the primary channel for all school-related information (the weeks ahead). This platform will house announcements, updates, calendars and essential resources, ensuring that you have easy access to all pertinent information in one place. This will be sent to parent / carer email addresses on Thursday after school. Any key communication on an individual pupils' basis will continue to be sent out when needed. The Thursday mailing will provide all that you need on one communication 'hit'.

We are in the process of redeveloping our school website and this includes improving our parent portal - This will also be an area where parents can access important information and where we will archive important documents that you may need to refer back to. In making communication as user-friendly as possible, investing in our website platform and technologies will mean that they are easier to navigate, ensuring that you can access relevant information with just a few clicks. To also make planning easier for you, we will integrate important school dates and events directly into digital calendars when the website is relaunched in the late spring. This feature will help you stay organised and ensure that you never miss a school-related activity.

We have also been trialing with a junior class an app called Classlist which has given a window of opportunity for parents to be able to enjoy the wonderful work that has been taking place in the classroom. We will also look to widen this across other areas of school early in the spring term.

We believe that these enhancements will create a more streamlined and transparent communication experience for everyone involved.

For your information we have uploaded your child's spring term curriculum summary on the school website so you can access information on this term's learning content and objectives.

Thank you for your continued trust in our school community.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Leggett'.

David Leggett

Headmaster