



NEWSLETTER | 12/12/24

Windlesham's Got Talent

What an incredible afternoon filled with talent and joy!

From sensational singers and hilarious comedians to dazzling dancers and a Rubik's cube wizard solving it in under a minute – our pupils truly amazed us.

A massive WELL DONE to all the brave and talented children who performed. Your courage and creativity lit up the stage and filled the room with smiles and cheers. It was an unforgettable event that brought our school community together.

We are excited to share a short video of the event with you soon – keep an eye out!

Reporter: Miss DJ



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is no better place to feel the excitement of Christmas than in a school in December. Each day brings a new festive treat and experiencing these things alongside the children brings back the real magic of the season. The children's excitement is infectious! From the Christmas fayre, Christmas dinner and Christmas parties to the Christmas House meetings, the children have thrown themselves into each and every festive opportunity.

As a family school, it has been a real pleasure to open our doors and share our Christmas events with parents and carers in recent weeks. Our school hall was packed full during the Reception and Owlets Christmas performance as well as at the Year 1 and Year 2 nativity and it was so heart-warming to watch the children perform with pride in front of their families and loved ones. Your support at these events as well as at the absolutely superb Upper School church service is what makes them so special. Thank you. Particular thanks must also go to the Friends of Windlesham who once again gave up their time to decorate the school as well as organise another fabulous Christmas fayre. It's such a highlight of the year.

There is no better place to feel the excitement of Christmas than in a school in December but it's probably also fair to say that there is no better place to feel the exhaustion of children and teachers who have thrown themselves into teaching, learning, socialising and celebrating at such a busy time of year. We are so proud of the children's progress and achievements this term which have been borne out of hard work. They deserve a well-earned rest, as does the wonderful Windlesham staff team. On behalf of us all, I wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on January 7th.

Katherine Croucher

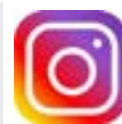
Acting Headteacher

We all know that nothing influences people more than a recommendation from a friend. We would be really grateful if you could 'like' and 'share' our posts on Facebook & Instagram. To find us, just search for Windlesham School or click on the icons here.

Google reviews also raise our profile tremendously and help us to continue to be the best school we can be. So please do get involved in liking, sharing and reviewing!



Windlesham School & Nursery



Preparing children for life

GENERAL NEWS

Merits

The following children are to be congratulated for their tremendous effort or positive attitude (as at Wednesday 11th December 2024):

Lower School

Rosa, Finn, Aylin, Freya, Freddie, Reuben H, Ivy, Edward

Upper School

Matilda, Diego, Mia, Indy, Guin, Jude, Essi, Zak, Lucas, Louis, Dylan, Kyra, Elodie, Lottie, MJ, Theo, Rebecca, Olive, Phoebe, Nathaniel, William

Autumn Term Owls

OWLS are awarded for outstanding work and learning. Congratulations to the following pupils who received an OWL this term:

Elijah, Freddie, Huxley, Felix G, Kai, Cameron R, Isaac, Aurelia, Suri, Lotta, Rosa, Kitty, Schroeder, Seb PN, Toby H, Lara, Zayn, Afie, Toby W, Elodie C, Marina, Felix L, Daniel, Ariana, Rocco, Sophia, Rosie, Thomas, Rumi, Joe, Carla, Olive, Lucas, Jay LL, Jing Shuen, Selin, Theo, Phoebe, Elodie P, William, Rebecca, Dylan, Georgina, Letty



Windlesham in the Community

Windlesham was invited to create a display for the Hove Field notice board as part of our continuing collaboration with Brighton Permaculture.

The display can be enjoyed after the Christmas period.

We are very proud to be part of this community project and we look forward to contributing to the local community in the future.



Please join us in supporting Mrs Smallwood, who will be taking part in the Brighton Half marathon next year.

Mrs Smallwood is raising funds for Amaze, a local charity who help parents of autistic children. They are a charity very close to her family's hearts.

If you would like to make a donation, please use the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/maliwan-triggs-1728840315908>

Best of luck with your training Mrs Smallwood!



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Anti-Bullying Week - Creating a Culture of Kindness at Windlesham Primary School

Windlesham Primary School embraced Anti-Bullying Week with an exciting focus on kindness and celebrating individuality. Throughout the week, pupils actively engaged in activities that built a culture of respect, compassion, and inclusivity across the school community. This year's theme, "Choose Respect" was launched on Odd Socks Day, where pupils and staff wore mismatched socks to symbolise the beauty of diversity and being unique.

Spreading Kindness Across the School

Our Anti-Bullying Week included a variety of heartwarming and thoughtful activities designed to promote kindness in everyday school life. Here are some of the highlights:

- **Circle Time Discussions**

In each class, pupils participated in Circle Time, where they discussed challenging situations and explored how kindness can be a powerful tool in handling conflicts. Through role-play activities, pupils practised empathy and understanding, gaining confidence in facing difficult social situations.

- **Special Assemblies**

Assemblies focused on the power of words and actions, reinforcing how even small, positive gestures can make a big difference. Through interactive discussions and stories, pupils were inspired to be mindful of their words and consider the impact they have on others.

- **Team-Building in PE**

In PE, pupils worked in teams to design and present their own games, promoting collaboration and mutual respect. They then taught their classmates how to play, strengthening friendships and demonstrating the value of working together toward a common goal.

- **Cupcake Decorating Workshop**

A special highlight was the cupcake decorating workshop led by the school's talented chefs. Pupils designed cupcakes and created cards for their school buddies, a fun activity that allowed them to show appreciation and spread kindness through thoughtful gestures.

- **House Meetings and Kindness Postbox**

During house meetings, pupils learned about World Kindness Day and shared kind words in a school-wide "kindness postbox." These personal messages uplifted spirits and reinforced the idea that kindness can start with something as simple as a note.

- **Secret Kindness Missions**

Pupils took part in "secret kindness missions," a playful activity encouraging gratitude and acts of kindness. These missions helped students understand how being kind can make a lasting positive impact on others.

- **Reception Superhero Day**

Reception children dressed up as kindness superheroes, proudly showcasing their "kindness powers" around the school. This imaginative activity encouraged our youngest students to feel empowered to help others.

At Windlesham School, we believe that by teaching kindness and empathy from an early age, we're creating a welcoming and supportive school environment where every pupil feels valued and respected. Anti-Bullying Week has been a memorable celebration of these values, and we look forward to seeing our pupils carry forward this spirit of kindness throughout the year.

Reporter: Miss DJ



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Owlets Christmas WOW Day

The Owlets enjoyed a fun Christmas themed morning making gingerbread biscuits and creating sparkly pasta decorations to hang on their Christmas trees at home.

The children made festive pictures while listening to Christmas music and they also listened to a story about Mog the cat at Christmas.

Reporter: Mrs Older



Autumn Term in Reception

The Reception class has had another busy half term. We explored Anti Bullying week by celebrating the story 'Supertato' by Sue Hendra. The children wrote about how to be a respectful superhero, made their own real potato superhero characters, followed instructions to make jelly to capture the Evil Pea and they especially enjoyed dressing up on Superhero Day.

The children also enjoyed reading the classic text 'Don't Forget the Bacon' by Pat Hutchins and were inspired to write shopping lists for the ingredients needed to bake fairy cakes. We learned about the value of coins and off we went to Tesco to buy the items on the lists. Guess what, the children did not forget a thing.

The children learnt about different types of houses, read different versions of 'The Three Little Pigs' books and they talked about their homes. We explored 2D and 3D shapes to construct houses and tested straw, sticks, bricks and concrete to discover which would make the strongest building material.

This fantastic term has finished with the AMAZING Early Years Christmas performance.

A huge well done to everyone. We wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Reporter: Mrs Mills





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Year 1 Topic

Year 1 have been learning about the 7 continents. We have learned about where the continents are and some of the countries that can be found in each continent. We have also been learning some facts about each continent.

The children really enjoyed making balloon globes to show the location of each of the continents. They were very proud of their work. Well done, Year 1.

Reporter: Miss Jarman

Lower School Nativity

Year 1 and 2 children brought the festive spirit to life with their delightful performance of Straw & Order. With bright smiles, enthusiastic performances and a sense of wonder, the children transported the audience back to the very first Christmas night.

The play featured all the beloved characters from the gentle Mary and Joseph to the wise kings, innkeepers, and adorable animals. Our young stars sang beautifully and filled the hall with warmth and joy.

The children worked incredibly hard to perfect their lines, songs, and actions, and it truly paid off.

A huge thank you to all the children for their hard work and dedication, as well as to the parents who supported us with costumes and line-learning to bring the production together. It was a performance we all thoroughly enjoyed! We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

Reporter: Mrs Coego





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Art in Year 3

In Year 3, we have continued our learning of portraits by studying Pablo Picasso and Cubism.

We looked at what makes a good cubism portrait and created our own versions. First, we used bold colours in blocks to colour a face, and then we created our own designs. We did this by rolling a dice and playing a game to draw strange shapes, placements and proportions.

Reporter: Mrs Slater



Year 4 Puppet Show

The children in Year 4 have been working hard in their topic lessons. They worked in groups to research different parts about Henry 8th's life. After researching their area, they came back together to create a puppet show to demonstrate their learning.

We invited our wonderful buddies in Owlets to come and watch us perform our Tudor puppet shows. Not only was it fun to watch, we all learnt a lot about Tudors.

Ask your children about their favourite facts.

Reporter: Miss DJ





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Year 5 Maths

Year 5 enjoyed using tools to model finding fractions of amounts.

The children used bar models to represent and explain their calculations.

We then challenged our knowledge of fractions further by playing several rounds of Fractions Bingo.

Reporter: Ms O'Dowd

PSHE in Year 6

Year 6's focus in PSHE this term has been all about rights and responsibilities. They started by learning about the UN Charter of Children's Rights. In groups, they explored how the different articles could be separated into three main categories- Basic Needs, Safe From Harm. Express Themselves.

The theme continued during Black History month, where we learned about Ruby Bridges and how hard her family fought for her to have the right to an equal education without being segregated. In Anti-Bullying week we looked at how we can be responsible for helping to solve conflicts respectfully.

Our unit of learning ended with discussing legal rights. As a class, Year 6 debated several different topics, such as being allowed to vote at 18, drive a car at 17 and marry at 18. Throughout the debate, the children shared different viewpoints and shared their reasoning clearly, demonstrating the Windlesham values of Good Listening and Respect. To finish, they selected one legal right and wrote a persuasive argument, explaining the reasons behind their point of view.

Reporter: Mrs Mack





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Tree Festival at The Church of the Good Shepherd

We had a wonderful visit to the Church of the Good Shepherd to take part in their Tree Festival. We were adding the final touches to our "Stars of Windlesham" tree, which features star decorations created by the children at the school. Indy, Akira, Thomas, and Feliks generously assisted Mrs Farnell and Mrs McNeill in decorating the tree, and we think the result is truly beautiful! The Tree Festival will be open to visitors on the weekends of December 7th-8th and December 14th-15th.

Reporter: Mrs Farnell



FOOD SOS CAMPAIGN

The Brighton & Hove Food Partnership has revealed that more than 6,300 people rely on food banks, social supermarkets, and community meal providers each week. This includes working adults, 1,400 children, and nearly 660 pensioners.

Join us in supporting our community as part of the city-wide #FoodSOS campaign to increase donations to local food banks and projects.

For more information on how to support the FOOD SOS campaign, please visit <https://bhfood.org.uk/foodsos/>. If you are experiencing food insecurity, please visit <https://bhfood.org.uk> and go to our 'Emergency Food' page for a list of helpful links and contacts to support you through this challenging time.

The Primary Maths Challenge November 2024

Windlesham School is very proud of all our pupils who took part in this year's Primary Maths Challenge. In Year 6, three of our pupils: Timothy, Jing Shuen and Abraham will be called to compete in the Primary Maths Challenge Bonus Round-to be held in February 2025 as all three scored 24/25 earning them a very well-deserved Gold Certificate in the first round. Phoebe and Nathaniel achieved a Silver Certificate. Eve secured a Bronze Certificate. I am delighted with the resilience and enthusiasm of all the pupils who took part.

By special invite, pupils in Year 4 and Year 5 took part. Their courage and determination must be commended as this competition is normally reserved for Year 6 pupils. Thomas in Year 4 achieved a Bronze Certificate.



Reporter: Ms O' Dowd





SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Warhammer Club



This term, our club offering included something new and exciting: Warhammer Club. Mrs Croucher had promised that we would introduce this club which was requested by pupils, but was a little hesitant since surprisingly, she isn't an expert in tabletop war games. However, there was no need to worry - Abraham in Year 6 heard wind of the plans and being an experienced and enthusiastic Warhammer player himself, stepped forward and offered to lead the club. What fantastic leadership skills he showed, planning the sessions, providing the full set of kit and running the game each week.

We've had a highly competitive term with Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils battling it out for victory every Tuesday after school. The pupils' creativity and strategic thinking were wonderful to see and there was a lot of laughter and good sportsmanship along the way too. Mark in Year 5 ended up being the most successful player in terms of wins whilst the competition for the best painted Warhammer figure ended up being too close to call so Abraham and Mrs Croucher ended up awarding prizes for Best Technical Details in a Figure (Mark), Best Independent Craftsmanship (Joe), and Overall Winner (Georgie).

Enormous thanks to Abraham and his family for putting together the full set of equipment and donating it to the school for future pupils to use and enjoy.

Reporter: Mrs Croucher

Year 6 French Spelling Bee Competition



We are delighted to announce that this year Windlesham will be participating in the National Primary Bee French Language Spelling Bee competition.

The aim of the Primary Bee is for pupils in Upper KS2 to practise and improve their vocabulary, pronunciation and memory skills in a language they are learning.

There will be 3 heats: the first in school the first week in January - the second a regional heat and if we succeed the final will take place at Cambridge University in the summer term.

Year 6 only will be participating in this event this year. Bonne chance Year 6!

Reporter: Madame Flynn



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Year 6 Trip to Waterstones

As part of enriching the roles of our Library Prefects and Science Prefects, we set off to Waterstones in Brighton to meet and interview accomplished and published children's authors and illustrators. How wonderful it was to spend so much time with Nick Sharrat, Jamie Littler, Lauren Ellen Anderson; they even enjoyed experiments with Science with Steve! The children took part in an array of reading, illustrating activities and scientific experiments.

They loved interviewing such an inspiring line-up of authors which will be reported on our 'Wall of Fame' in our school library. As if that wasn't enough, the children were treated to hot chocolate and festive treats. The children represented all our school values whilst out and about and I am incredibly proud of them all.

Reporter: Miss Thompsett



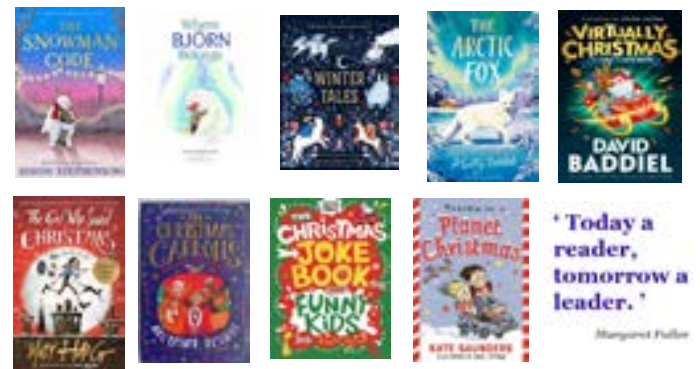
Christmas 2024 Suggested Reading List

Reception, Years 1 & 2



Christmas 2024 Suggested Reading List

Years 3 & 4



Years 5 & 6





SCHOOL TRIPS

Year 4 British Film Institute Trip

On Tuesday 19th November, Year 4 enjoyed a trip to London. The children had a fantastic time at the British Film Institute, taking part in a workshop titled 'The Diary of an Upstander'. The day focused on important PSHE themes which allowed the children to explore different bullying scenarios and learn strategies to promote respect and kindness.

Our pupils showed incredible confidence, sharing their opinions on a microphone in front of other schools—a brave and proud moment for everyone. Their thoughtful contributions and exemplary behaviour demonstrated their excellent PSHE learning.

Well done, Year 4, for representing Windlesham School so beautifully.

Reporter: Miss DJ



Year 5 trip to Herstmonceux

Year 5 visited Herstmonceux Science Observatory in November - a wonderful, interactive trip involving many indoor and outdoor exhibits that enhanced and complimented our Autumn term topics of Forces and Earth and Space. Luckily the sun was shining on us, so the children were able to get outside and get investigating!

The children also took part in 2 workshops - Destination Space and Earth, Moon and Sun and a telescope tour, where they demonstrated fantastic knowledge and enthusiasm for the demonstrations that took place.

We were sad to discover that the centre is due to close next year as their lease is up - as we have visited there many times over the years.

Reporter: Mrs Colley



SPORTS NEWS

Netball at Brighton Girls - Wednesday 27th November

On Wednesday 27th November, two netball teams made their way to Brighton Girls School to take part in a tournament.

Team Black displayed their much improved netball skills across the court, making for some competitive matches. Carmen and Kyra stood out for their use of space and ability to pass the ball down the court!

Team Yellow played some impressive netball, securing three wins and a draw against a strong Lancing College team. There were some incredible interceptions from the defensive unit with a selection of shooters combining well to score multiple goals. Eleanor's shooting and Simona's pick ups were particularly impressive! A great way to end the Autumn netball season. Well done to all!

Reporter: Mrs Mack

Brighton & Hove Football Tournament - Monday 25th November

Windlesham played in the Brighton & Hove district football tournament where they played numerous games in a league format to decide who would go onto qualify and compete in the county tournament in January next year.

Windlesham went unbeaten throughout the whole tournament thanks to excellent efforts from our goalkeeper William, as well as great defence from Zane, Abraham and Timothy. We won three games and drew three games. The goal of the tournament was perhaps from Dylan where he dribbled the whole length of the pitch before striking past the goalkeeper. The attack was helped by excellent passing and work rate from Louis who like William, was playing his first tournament for Windlesham.

Windlesham qualified the league format and advanced into the semi-final stage. The two winners of the semi-finals would advance to a finals day played a week later to determine who would qualify for the county tournament.

In a very tense semi-final, Windlesham battled to a hard-earned 0-0 draw, and it was decided by penalties. As a result, Windlesham will play in a finals day. Superb effort from everyone involved - well done, Windlesham!

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



Football at Lancing Worthing - Wednesday 27th November

We had a fantastic football fixture at Lancing Worthing Prep where we also played against Shoreham College.

Everyone showed great teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the matches, which was lovely to see. All pupils grew in confidence as the games progressed and we saw some great passing, defending and dribbling during the games. Well done to all the pupils involved.

Reporter: Mr Wilkinson



FRIENDS OF WINDLESHAM



What a busy and exciting term it has been. We kicked things off with our first-ever wreath making workshop, led by the talented Sarah from Lush Floristry. It was a wonderful evening spent together being creative, and everyone came away with stunning handmade wreaths.

The Christmas Fayre was a true highlight, with so many families joining us for the festivities. The beautiful carol singing that opened and closed the event set the perfect tone, our heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Gallant, the children, and Louise Dearman for leading the carols.

The children loved exploring all the different activities, and Santa's Grotto was a particular favourite! A huge "Well done" to the Year 6 House Captains for their fantastic stalls, which were a BIG success, and to everyone who contributed to the success of "Croucher's Vouchers" which were very popular. Chef Rob was a star, with his food drawing a long queue across the hall!

This year's bumper raffle was a resounding success. Thank you to all the families and businesses who donated prizes and everyone who bought tickets! Your generosity helped make it one of our best raffles yet!



None of this would have been possible without the incredible support of our community. Thank you to all the class reps and volunteers who decorated the school, ran stalls and helped with the set up and clean up. Special thanks to Mrs Mack, Miss Kidney, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Farnell, Miss Dean, Mr Kerr and Chef Rob for going above and beyond, as well as to all the staff for their outstanding efforts.

I am delighted to announce that the fayre raised just over £3500! This incredible achievement reflects the generosity and spirit of our school community.

As I write, we are gearing up for our final event of the term - the Christmas parties and disco! We hope the children have a fantastic time.

A huge thank you to the FOW team for their phenomenal work and to everyone who supported us throughout the term. Wishing you all a happy, peaceful holiday season.

With gratitude,
Clare and the FOW team



TERM DATES

Provisional Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Staff Inset days

Monday 1st September & Tuesday 2nd September

Term starts

Wednesday 3rd September

Half Term holiday

Monday 20th October - Friday 31st October inclusive

Term ends

Thursday 11th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Staff Inset Day

Monday 5th January 2026

Term starts

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Half Term holiday

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February inclusive

Term ends

Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Staff Inset day

Monday 20th April

Term starts

Tuesday 21st April

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May

Half Term holiday

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May inclusive

Term ends

Thursday 9th July

Staff Inset Day

Friday 10th July

2024 - 2025 Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Staff Inset Day

Monday 6th January

Term starts

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Half Term holiday

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February inclusive

Term ends

Friday 28th March

Summer Term 2025

Staff Inset day

Tuesday 22nd April

Term starts

Wednesday 23rd April

Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May

Half Term holiday

Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May inclusive

Term ends

Thursday 10th July

Staff Inset Day

Friday 11th July



Young Engineers Christmas Workshops

Age 6-11 years

BOOK HERE

YOUNG ENGINEERS
01273 807328

Dates: 17th, 18th Dec @ Windlesham Sch.
23rd & 24th Dec @ Stanford Amsr.
Time: 9:00 am - 3pm
Price: £48 per child
Use SAILING for 20% online discount

Book at:
<https://bookwhen.com/brightyoungengineers> or use QR code