



Wincle CE Primary School

Wincle School creates an enriching and outstanding rural education, nurturing the whole individual: body, mind and soul, inspiring rounded, happy, courageous children who shine in all that they say and do, exhibiting a passion for learning, a confident faith, a loving concern for community and an inclusive respect for all.

Wednesday 6th September 2023

A message from the Headteacher, Mrs Smith:

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a lovely summer holidays, spending time with loved ones and enjoying some well-earned rest. All of the staff here at Wincle are excited to get started with the new school year and are looking forward to helping our pupils have an enriching and engaging education over the next year.

We will begin our new year focus with our motto 'Shine Like Stars'. In their classes, the pupils will identify how they can shine in their behaviour, their relationships and in their learning. The classes will create a Class Code of Conduct and these will be shared with parents at our forthcoming Parent Information events. We will also spend some time in worship identifying people who have shone like stars: people who have shown compassion, persevered etc and we can't not focus on the England Women's football team and how they shone like stars in the World Cup. We will find examples of 'stars' in our school community, further afield in our local community, celebrities and of course, examples from the Bible.

Moving on from this, we will look again at the Wows and Ows of life. We will share special events and discuss how we feel looking forward to and taking part in a Wow moment. We will also consider the impact these moments have on us longer term. Together, we will look at how we feel during an Ow moment: who we can ask support from and again, the longer lasting feelings associated with these. This year, we will turn our focus to also look at the Now moments. If we are always looking forward to and planning the next big Wow moment or struggling to move on from an Ow, we will not appreciate the here and now - what we are blessed with and the satisfaction that we are ok.

At the end of last term, we sent out our parents' questionnaire and we were very pleased to receive 48 responses which were overwhelmingly positive. As a staff, we have considered all comments and have a number of actions for this school year. Many parents had some excellent suggestions for parent workshops and so we have planned out a year's worth of activity for parents. Please look out for the dates in our newsletters, but we are going to start with our Parent Information evenings, which will take on a different format this year following the feedback we have received.

One area that was highlighted in the responses as requiring action, was ensuring homework is beneficial for our pupils and equally manageable for parents. Staff have spoken to a number of parents and also considered what is going well for homework and what is not and we have decided to spend some time this autumn term getting it right for our families. We need to find an approach to homework that suits the majority of families at Wincle and that is effective for the pupils and not excessive for teachers' workload. **To enable us to do this, we would like all parents to complete a homework consultation for each of their children. We will then be holding a parents' forum, which will also include staff, in order to find a solution on Monday 25th September at 9am. Please return your homework consultations as soon as possible.**

It was great to hear all of the positive comments about our school and gain an understanding of the impact of our hard work and dedication. Throughout the year, we will be collecting parents' voice but please may I remind you that we run an open-door policy. If you have a worry, no matter if it is big or small, please do get in touch. We can't change anything if we don't know about it.

Best wishes,
Sarah Smith

New information:

Harvest Service

This will take place on Friday 22nd September, but the church are actually holding their service the Sunday before. Therefore, please can we ask for our Harvest donations for Friday 15th September. Please can parents bring their donations straight to church if they are coming for Celebration Worship and we are looking for a team of volunteers to decorate the church with our offerings. If you are able to help after Celebration Worship, please let Mrs Smith know.

Our Harvest Service will include all pupils and begin at 9am.

New School Year Permissions

Previously, we have collected data from parents regarding permissions. If any of those permissions have changed, please the office know immediately.

For all school trips, you will be asked to sign to give your permission when the trip details are released.

Homework

Whilst we collect parents' views through the homework consultation over the next few weeks, we are asking parents to focus on setting up a good reading routine and read with their children as often as possible.

Parent involvement in their child's education is crucial. Children with involved parents, irrespective of income or background, are more likely to have higher academic achievement, better social skills and behaviour, greater confidence and self-esteem.

Reading

There is so much more to reading than just being able to read words.

The Five Pillars of Reading:

(1) Phonemic Awareness: Your child's ability to hear, recognise and manipulate sounds. It is one of the earliest predictors of reading ability.

(2) Phonics: Phonics is the matching of sounds with correct letters and letter patterns. Your child will learn to visualise and verbalise these sounds, letters, and words, which is the foundation for reading.

(3) Vocabulary: A strong vocabulary helps your child identify and understand more complex words, building upon previously learned words and acquiring new ones.

(4) Fluency: Fluency is your child's ability to read accurately, expressively, and at a rhythmic pace. As your child develops fluency, they will naturally increase reading comprehension.

(5) Comprehension: Comprehension is your child's ability to understand and retain information to create meaning from the written text. This pillar is the final stage and the accumulation of the previous four pillars. As your child develops their comprehension skills, they will also become more able to read objectively and critically across various topics and genres.

Reading Books

All children, across the school, will be given a school reading book. This is different from previous years as the junior children are no longer permitted to bring in books from home. This is to ensure all pupils are reading books at the appropriate level.

Pupils in preschool will be given stories to share with their families. Once a child has started on our Bug Club Phonics programme, they will be allocated a phonetically decodable reading book. All pupils in reception and year one will have a book linked to Bug Club. Once a child is competent with the phonics programme, they will move to our book banded system for their remaining time at Winkle. This does not stop families sharing and reading other books of choice at home and we will happily receive recommendations for books for the school to purchase.

Reading with your child

- 1) Reading out loud is really important for all pupils in primary education even if they are fluent and competent readers. Where possible, we would strongly encourage parents to ask their child to read out loud.
- 2) It is also important that parents support their child to develop a reading stamina. This can be achieved by reading for at least 15 minutes a day in a quiet and calm environment. We know that families have busy lives outside of school and sometimes, asking your child to read whilst watching a sibling swim, or in the car to an activity, is all that can be achieved. This will help your child practise their reading, but will not build up their stamina to read at length and understand the text. Last term, we sent parents examples of the Y2 and Y6 reading assessments to demonstrate to parents how much reading is required in one hour. This can be achieved with a good reading stamina.
- 3) A child can only understand a text and answer comprehension questions on it when they have read it fluently. Therefore, asking your child to re-read texts is vitally important. In Mars Class, we ask that pupils read their Bug Club Phonics book three time before it is changed. Once your child moves off Bug Club and onto a book banded system, it is still important that children re-read sections or even whole chapters to gain a good understanding of what they are reading.
- 4) It is important to read as often as possible. We ask that children read a minimum of three times in a week and once at a weekend.

We have provided some support for parents to help set up a good reading routine - please see attached to this newsletter

Parent Information Meetings

These will take place on **Thursday 28th September** at the following times.

5.30pm-6.15pm - Preschool

6.00pm-6.45pm - Mars

6.30pm-7.15pm - Saturn

7.00pm-7.45pm - Jupiter

There will be a creche available for all children, led by school staff. This will enable all parents to be able to receive all of the information and enjoy the refreshments we will serve.

Each class teacher/teachers will introduce parents to their child's new year group by presenting information about the rules and routines of the class, expected outcomes and how parents can help at home. We will also announce the new homework routine following the consultation and parent forum.

These presentations will last for 30 minutes and then there will be a 15-minute question and answer session after each one. If you need to move to the next presentation, you can do so during the Q&A sessions.

Family Read

Preschool and Mars Class will be holding their Family Read sessions on a Wednesday morning at 8.55am. These will begin straight away. This is a fantastic opportunity for parents to come in and work with their child on reading. The teachers will be available to support you with how you can help at home with your child's reading, and you can ask any questions you may have. Please note that if you are unable to attend, the children will read to buddies and school staff.

Author focuses

Reading is a wonderful gift and we are going to be working hard this year promoting and encouraging the pupils to read widely. To support this, each class have chosen an author to be their focus for the year. Over the year, they will read books by this author, as well as others and begin to identify how their author writes: their skills, use of language etc. please do support us with this by reading books at home by your class's author.

Preschool: Julia Donaldson

Rec/Y1: Eric Carle

Y2: Tom Fletcher

Y3/4: Dr Seuss

Y5/6: Malorie Blackman

After-school Clubs for this half term

Starting on Thursday 14th September, there will be a Judo club for pupils in reception to year six from 3.30pm till 4.30pm. The normal £2 charge will apply as the school is using its sports funding to cover extra costs.

More after school clubs will be announced shortly.

Y6 Maths Booster

This will take place on a Thursday after school and will be led by Mrs Roberts.

Both clubs will finish at 4.30pm. Please collect your child/children promptly.

Football coaches

Football is a sport that many of our pupils adore and we have enjoyed entering teams into the Macclesfield Town competitions as well as playing other schools in ad hoc football matches.

We are looking for parents to volunteer as football coaches to support the following teams at for this academic year.

As a school, we invite all pupils to have a go and ensure that all pupils enjoy time on the pitch playing. We are looking for coaches who will support this and manage the teams on match days.

Y3/4 girls

Y3/4 boys

Y5/6 girls

Y5/6 boys

If you are interested in supporting us, please get in touch with Mrs Smith.

The dates for the Macclesfield Town Competitions are below.

	BOYS YEAR 5&6	GIRLS YEAR 5&6	BOYS YEAR 3&4	GIRLS YEAR 3&4
AUTUMN TERM 1	20th SEPT	27th SEPT	4th OCT	11th OCT
AUTUMN TERM 2	8th NOV	15th NOV	22nd NOV	29th NOV

SEN Coffee Afternoon

Many parents found our SEN coffee afternoons helpful, so we would like to continue running them this year. If your child is on our SEN register, you are welcome to join us at **2.30pm on Monday 18th September, in church**, for tea, biscuits, and a good catch-up with parents in a similar boat. We look forward to seeing you there!

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

In every force. In every school. For every child.

Our school is part of Operation Encompass which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse.

As a school we have ensured that a member of our staff, (Mrs Smith) known as a Key Adult, has been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's** responsibility in school. **Everyone** who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all practitioners in this school make sure their approach is child centred.

Through our day-to-day contact with pupils and direct work with families, staff take notice of indicators of possible abuse or neglect and consult with Children's Services in Cheshire East (or in neighbouring authorities dependent upon the child's area of residence). We recognise that we form part of the wider safeguarding system for children. This responsibility also means that we are aware of the behaviour of staff in the school; we maintain an attitude of '**it could happen here**' where safeguarding is concerned.

In our school we ensure that:

- All children, regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, are treated equally and have equal rights to protection
- All staff act on concerns or disclosures that may suggest a child is at risk of harm
- Pupils and staff involved in Safeguarding issues receive appropriate support
- Staff adhere to a Code of Conduct and understand what to do in the event of any allegations against any adult working in the setting
- All staff are aware of Early Help and ensure that relevant referral, assessments, and interventions take place
- All staff are aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label; they recognise that, in most cases, multiple issues will overlap with one another
- All staff understand that children's poor behaviour may be a sign they are suffering harm or that they have been traumatised by abuse.

For more information, please see our school's Safeguarding Policy. Our Safeguarding Policy is available on our school website and printed copies of this document are available to parents upon request

Parent Workshops

In our end of year questionnaire, we asked parents to list focuses for future workshops. We have taken all responses into consideration and put in a plan for this academic year.

Focus	Led by	When
Supporting children with additional needs	Miss Jones (SENCO)	SEN coffee mornings/afternoons, once a term
How best to enable my child to reach age related outcomes/help with homework How to set up a good homework routine.	All teachers	Parent Information Meeting in September
Encouraging writing at home	All teachers	Spring Term
Phonics and Early Reading Reading after phonics	Mrs Gilman Mrs Wilson	Spring Term
How best to encourage children to build, maintain and navigate friendships	Miss Jones	Autumn Term
Managing emotions in children	Miss Jones	Spring Term
Support with children using mobile devices	PC Andrew Cornall	To be confirmed
How to teach maths and formal written methods	Mrs Smith	Autumn Term
Spelling	All teachers	Spring Term
Transition to high school	Mrs Smith	Summer Term

PTA Events this term

Friday 22nd September - Autumn disco pm

Friday 3rd November - Bonfire celebration/sparkle disco

Saturday 18th November - family quiz

Saturday 9th December - Christmas Fayre

More details will be sent closer to the time of each event.

Class information:

Preschool:

The children will be coming home with a new reading diary and an 'all about me' book. The reading diary is to come to setting each day the child is present. We aim to change books for you to share with your child twice a week; however, this is dependent on how often your child attends setting. The 'all about me' book is for you to complete at home and then return to setting. It will be used with your child to have conversations with peers and adults. Please include pictures/photos if you can of family, friends, pets, favourite things, places and anything else your child likes to talk about.

Please also remember a water bottle and a coat each day, and sun cream and a sun hat while we still have this beautiful weather!

Also, please can you ensure that your children bring a set of spare clothes to setting that can be left in setting that are clearly named.

Mars:

History: Mrs Smith would like a photo of your child when they were a baby for the first history lesson on Thursday 7th September. Please send it electronically where possible.

As part of our EYFS Geography, please could the parents of the Reception children send in a photo of the front of their house and a photo of the people who live in their house (pets too). If you are unable to print it, just send it to school and we will print a copy for your child.

Saturn:

Saturn & Jupiter Swimming lessons, starting on Wednesday 13th September till 18th October 2023.

The children will have swimming lessons every Wednesday as part of their Physical Education. They will be taken by coach from school at approximately 1.25pm to Leek Leisure Centre; returning to school for 3.15 pm.

With regards to swim wear, the boys must wear trunks (not swim/board shorts) and the girls must wear a one piece swimming costume (no tank tops or bikini tops please).

At the beginning of their first lesson, the leisure centre teachers will assess children swimming, then group them. After this initial assessment, all children will be provided with swimming caps (colour coded) according to their group, which they will then wear for every lesson. If needed, children are permitted to wear their own goggles.

Girls and boys will change in different rooms with staff on hand at all times. We have sole use of the facilities throughout the time we are at the Leisure Centre.

Jupiter:

Please see swimming information in the Saturn information box.

Exciting new opportunity for Y6 pupils - We are looking for a Head Boy, Head Girl and two other pupils to be their deputies. Their roles would be to support the school staff in the running of the school, represent the school at events and meet with visitors. We are looking for pupils who shine like a star and who are positive role models to the other children. The Y6 pupils will be discussing this opportunity with Mrs Smith over the next week and find out how they can apply for the position. Please discuss this with your child at home to see if it is something they would enjoy.

KEY DATES

Friday 22nd September - Harvest Festival at 9am
Friday 22nd September - Autumn disco ran by the PTA
Monday 25th September - Parents' Forum with a focus on homework
Tuesday 26th September - Air quality workshop for Jupiter
Thursday 28th September - Parent Information meetings
Friday 29th September - Macmillan coffee morning instead of worship
Thursday 5th October - preschool parents to lunch
Tuesday 10th October - reception parents to lunch
Monday 16th October - Y1 parents to lunch
Tuesday 17th October - Vision and values morning 9.00-12.00pm across the school with parents
Wednesday 18th October - Ethos Group Trip
Thursday 19th October - Mars Autumn Walk
Friday 20th October - finish for half term
Monday 30th October - School open
Tuesday 31st October - Parents' Evening
Thursday 2nd November - Mars trip to Peak Wildlife Park
Friday 3rd November - Bonfire celebration/sparkle disco to be confirmed
Friday 10th November - Remembrance Service
Y2 parents to lunch
Tuesday 14th November - Y3 parents to lunch
Saturday 18th November - Family quiz night ran by the PTA
Tuesday 21st November - Y4 parents to lunch
Monday 27th November - Y5 parents to lunch
Tuesday 5th December - Y6 parents to lunch
Saturday 9th December - Christmas Fayre
Sunday 17th December - possible Christmas music concert with school and local community
Monday 18th December - Preschool Christmas play at 2pm
Tuesday 19th December - KS1 Christmas play at 2pm and 6pm
Wednesday 20th December - KS2 Christmas play at 2pm and 6pm
Thursday 21st December - Christmas dinner
Come and look at work at 2.45pm
Friday 22nd December - 9am carol service followed by Christmas café. Close for Christmas
Monday 8th January - start back at school