

Windmill Whispers

Issue 8 – July 2016



As we are now at the end of this academic year, I just want to write to say how proud I am to be Principal of such a wonderful school with a great community. The children of Windmill are truly phenomenal, thus making my job absolutely rewarding, worthwhile and generally awesome!

This year our school has gone from strength to strength. Numbers continue to rise and it won't be long until we hit the 300 mark yet again – the first time in quite a few years! It's been an incredibly successful year for us here at Windmill – bring on 2016/17! Have a great summer! Mr Coleman

Burghley House Trip

On Tuesday 21st June Year 1 and 2 went off to Burghley Sculpture gardens. Whilst there we sketched the wonderful sculptures we found and explored the amazing Garden of Surprises. The children were fascinated with the variety of sculptures and loved exploring the Garden of Secrets. Their behaviour was superb and we had a fantastic day. Mrs Bashford

Wellington Class Assembly

On Wednesday 22nd June it was Wellington's turn to deliver their Class assembly. They explored the world of plants and discussed their learning so far this half term. They showed amazing confidence and resilience. Well done guys! Mrs Bashford



Hamerton Zoo Trip

Wow! What an amazing day was had at Hamerton zoo with our wonderful reception children! The weather wasn't too bad - fortunately we only had a few spots of rain but it didn't spoil any fun! The children all behaved impeccably making us proud to be Windmill! The children had an awesome time from workshops and train rides to seeing baby meerkats and white tigers up close, it was an incredible day and so much learning took place. A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped but especially our parent helpers, Mrs Marlow, Mrs Debenham -Weir and Miss Rogers - without these people the trip would not have been able to take place so thank you! Mrs Frost

Thank you

Thank you so much to parents Kellie Mayes and Des Daly who have been very busy re-vamping our pond area. We can now see all those newts scurrying around and it looks fantastic!



Whistle Blowing

The sun was out, all was quiet and 35 children gathered on our playground at 7.28am for a 2 minute silence proudly watched by staff, parents, members of the Royal British Legion, the mayor, councillors and other members of our community. At 7.30am the children all blew whistles to commemorate 100 years since whistles blew and the Battle of the Somme began. The respect shown by the children and the sound of whistles breaking the early morning silence created a pretty powerful scene. I won't pretend it wasn't a bit of a crazy morning - thank you so much to those of you who were able to come along and support the children but also for those of you who stepped in to help provide breakfast to our visitors and the children. I also need to say thank you to Sarah for helping us to tell the world how amazing our children are - so far we have featured on a live interview on Radio Northampton, we have been mentioned in the Evening Telegraph and we were also featured on ITV news that evening.

As I came back into the hall after speaking to Radio Northampton, the feeling around the room was amazing. This is what community is all about - sharing, talking, helping out, being together. I needn't have worried about the logistics of getting children into school early and providing breakfast to 90 children and adults - we all pulled together and it was a truly amazing experience for children and adults alike. Mrs Brett

Y5/6 Production 'A letter to the Trenches' A note from a parent

Just a note to say how impressive this was, I think the words at the end summarised all the things I had felt during the performance. As always the children performed admirably and it never ceases to amaze how confidently and clearly the children perform, speak and sing – very impressive for such young people in front of an audience. I've been to many performances over the years and I genuinely believe this to be one of the best if not THE best, the content and portrayal of the different aspects of what life must have been like for different groups of people (including the old lady who had been married to a German so therefore must be a spy) was excellent and it must have been a great way for the children to learn, digest and appreciate the content of the subject matter for the term – I am sure this will live in their memories more than whatever they would have learnt from reading a book. Most importantly and as always the children seemed to be really enjoying themselves and seemed so proud (as they should be) at the end. I was pleasantly surprised with how 'buzzy' my son was at the end, this sort of thing is not normally 'his thing' but he couldn't stop talking about it as I took him over to his mums so it certainly inspired him. So a massive well done and thanks to everyone involved and thanks to the teachers who seem to have really engaged my son in something that is different for him – quite an achievement in its own right! Thanks **Martin Harvey**

A Letter to the Trenches

I think what Martin has said above says it all...quite simply the best yet! Well done to all children in Year 5/6 – we are all so proud!

Mr Coleman

To all of our children, parents/carers, all staff and the Windmill community as a whole, I'd like to say...



Mr Coleman

#WindmillenFrance

On Monday 11th July, 50 incredibly excited year 5/6 children gathered at school at 6.30am with bags packed all ready for a residential to France. It's impossible to fully explain what an amazingly fabulous time we all had but some of the highlights included a boat trip on the Seine in Paris, attending the last post at the Menin Gate in Ypres and singing the 5/6 production song 'We will remember them' on the steps at the Thiepval memorial after attending a Royal British Legion service there. Wow! As always our Windmill children were 'awesome' and a credit to our school and their parents. At times this was a poignant trip - the children made us so proud with their respectful and reflective attitude. But of course, there was also lots of time for fun - the question remains Mr Coleman...can you dab?

Mrs Brett

(Yes he can!!)



Lest We Forget.

Year 5/6 Non Residential

The Year 5 and 6 children, who did not go on the residential last week, had a hectic but very enjoyable week doing a range of activities. On Monday we were lucky enough to watch Manor School's dress rehearsal of Oliver where we saw such amazing talent from the pupils. On Tuesday we invited Eve into school to teach us how to make felt from wool and we designed our very own poppies. Wednesday took us to Duxford Imperial War museum to reinforce our learning in our theme of Conflict. It was an amazing day and the children had a great time exploring the different exhibitions. On Thursday we became DT experts and designed a WW1 trench in a shoebox. The children worked really well together to create their finished products and were very creative in the process. On Friday we had an excellent morning at Wellingborough Museum, finding out what it was like for a soldier in the First and Second World Wars, exploring different weapons, uniforms and other resources. We thoroughly enjoyed our ice cream in the sunshine during our break. All in all a very enjoyable week.

Mrs Brightwell

Sports Day

On Monday 18th July, Windmill had their yearly Sports Day and what an amazing (and very hot) day it was too! Children competed incredibly well, the support from the children towards each other was fantastic to see as was the incredible turn out by the community to cheer our children on. It was another day that proved what an amazing community we are. Congratulations to Coggins Class who came first overall!

Mrs Tracey

Windmill Art Exhibition

Wasn't it just incredible? The range of creations that were on show was simply wonderful. Who knew that we had such talented artists here? Well done to all of the children for demonstrating such creativity and a big thank you to Miss Loasby for organising. It was very well attended and it was wonderful to see so many parents and children visiting in the evening too.

Mr Coleman

Dates for your Diary – This is subject to change and will be updated in every issue so please keep checking!!

Term ends Wednesday 20th July 2016

Term 1 Autumn 2016/2017

Staff Training Days Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd September 2016

Term starts Monday 5th September 2016

Faith Week Year1/2 visit St Peters Church Raunds

Northampton Synagogue Y3/4 Wednesday 7th September 2016

Bedford Faith Tour Y5/6 Tuesday 6th September 2016

Wow Days Thurs 8th & Fri 9th September 2016

Term ends Friday 21st October 2016

Term 2

Training Day for staff Monday 31st October 2016

Term starts Tuesday 1st November 2016

Term ends Tuesday 20th December 2016

Term 3 Spring 2017

Training Day for staff Wednesday 4th January 2017

Term starts Thursday 5th January 2017

Term ends Friday 10th February 2017

Term 4

Term starts Monday 20th February 2017

Term ends Thursday 30th March 2017

Training Day for staff Friday 31st March 2017

Term 5 Summer 2017

Term starts Tuesday 18th April 2017

