

Windmill Whispers



Issue 1 – September 2016

It has certainly been the busiest start to a school term that I have ever known. Faith Week, Wow days, Roald Dahl Day, NTFC Takeover... We have launched our new values and the children and staff have massively taken them on board straight away. I continuously have to pinch myself...I feel so fortunate to be Principal of such an amazing school. Thanks to you, our parents and carers, for all that you do and the support you give. Let's build on our awesomeness even more! *Mr Coleman*

Faith Tours

"The learning began straight away as for the first three days of our new school year we were finding out about the range of faiths and beliefs that are held in this country. Every child in the school had the opportunity to visit a place of worship and explore the ways in which faith is celebrated. The year 1 and 2 visited St Peter's Church in Raunds and found out what happens during the Christening service and got time to explore the symbols and artefacts inside and outside the church. Year 3 and 4 visited the synagogue in Northampton. They found out how the synagogue is used by the Jewish community and the celebrations that are held there. Year 5 and 6 had a wonderful journey around three faiths: Sikhism, Islam and Christianity. In the Queens Park area of Bedford these three main faith communities have places of worship within three hundred metres of each other. The children discovered how these faiths live alongside each other in harmony. The children have shown amazing enthusiasm for knowledge and respect to others during all their visits and have now gained a greater understanding of the world around them."
Miss King

New Reception children

"A very big warm welcome goes out to all of our new reception children! It's amazing to see already how they have all settled and are becoming familiar with school routines. The children are all bonding well and showing exceptional friendliness and manners! What a great asset to our school your children are!" *Mrs Frost*

Roald Dahl Day

Wow! What a fantastic day we had celebrating Roald Dahl's 100th birthday! The children looked absolutely fantastic in their costumes and learned so much about this amazing author. All children created a piece of writing inspired by Roald Dahl, and these can be seen displayed around school. *Mrs Durrheim*

Values

Our new values have become embedded into our whole school already! It is fantastic to hear so many children referring to our Values in everything they do. They really do connect with everyday life and the children and adults in our community are aware of them at all times. *Mrs Tracey*

Sports Mark SILVER

Windmill Primary School achieved the nationally recognised Sports Mark – Silver Award in recognition for the commitment that we are increasingly putting into sport in school. Well done everybody!



Den Building

Year 5 and 6 luckily survived their Wow day. Stranded.... in the middle of nowhere... children had to create a shelter that would help them survive in this mysterious place. They had to design a way to catch or find food, gather water using condensation as well as attract attention in the hope of being rescued. A fab day had by all! Thank you to all the parents that contributed resources to help make this experience fantastic! *Mrs Durrheim*

English in year 5 and 6

"Mysteriously weird!" A hole appeared on our field a few weeks ago and we didn't know why. After piecing together the clues, we discovered what had happened. See if you can too... a hole, 4 spades, a flask and a lipstick with the initial KB carved in them surrounded by a heart. Can you work out what we found? Ask year 5 and 6 if you can't!
Mrs Durrheim

John Lewis - we thank you!

As you know, we have been fortunate enough to benefit from the hard work of a team of amazing volunteers from John Lewis. We still have another few days when they are due to come in but the work they have completed so far has been incredible and they have worked in all weathers - extreme heat and driving rain! If you get a chance, have a look in the sensory garden (next to the old swimming pool changing rooms) and also at the area around the willow circle near the gazebo on the Key Stage 2 playground. Over the rest of the term, hopefully the Key Stage 1 nature area will also get a makeover so keep a look out. *Mrs Brett*

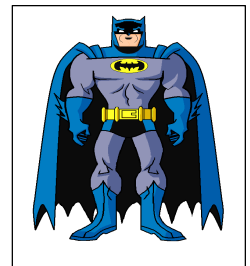
The digital world changes. Children don't. We wouldn't let our children run around in the middle of a busy road....but we do often allow them to take unknown-to-us risks when online. Phones. iPads. Gaming. Check out www.thinkuknow.co.uk for further advice.

EYFS Outdoor Learning Area

You'll have noticed that it's really coming along. Once completed, it will be an amazing area for our youngest children to learn and explore in. Keep an eye on the progress...it will all start taking shape soon!

Super Hero Day

Year1/2 had a fantastic time dressing up as heroes. They created their own super heroes and thought about their special powers. They then created their own super hero accessories, thinking about what they would be used for. The children were really creative and thought carefully about their ideas.
Mrs Bashford



A word from the RWSA

With the start of the new school year, we feel this is the perfect opportunity to explain what it means to be a "friend of the school", to be a part of the RWSA (Raunds Windmill School Association) ... yes, we do send out many requests for contributions prior to an event and yes, we might make running events look easy, but that is only the case when we have as many helpers as possible! So we really need your help! Because, the more people who get involved, the easier it gets to get things done! Our first "event" is our Annual Meeting, which takes place on **20 October at 19.00** in the staffroom at school. Please come along, it won't take long and drinks and snacks will be available!

With the tightened school budgets, every little financial contribution helps, whether it is to be able to buy new playground equipment or to invite special guests to come to the school ... but we are not all about money, we also like to increase the very important community feel within the school! And what an amazing community it can be!

Please, if you can spare some time, either by helping out during events or in the preparations of them (you don't even have to become a committee member!) or if you do want to join the RWSA Committee, let us know. We are a nice and crazy bunch of people. Most of us have a full time job already, but we do it for our children, for your children, for the school!

Please email us on rwsa@windmillprimary.net or approach one of us at school.

We would also like to emphasize that joining us at a meeting or sharing your ideas, does NOT make you responsible for the RWSA! Far from it. We just welcome any help you can give, even just once a year, so please don't hold back. We (and the school) are really grateful for any support we can get! Thanks for considering and hopefully we will hear from you!

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

Y3/4 Visit Lyveden New Bield	Tuesday 4 th October 2016
School Photo's	Friday 7 th October 2016
Open Day Session	Tuesday 18 th October 2016
Open Day Session	Thursday 20 th October 2016
Term ends	Friday 21 st October 2016
<u>Term 2</u>	
Training Day for staff	Monday 31 st October 2016
Term starts	Tuesday 1 st November 2016
Flu vaccinations for Y1/2/3	Tuesday 18 th November 2016
Panto to whole school	Tuesday 6 th December 2016
Term ends	Tuesday 20 th December 2016
<u>Term 3 Spring 2017</u>	
Training Day for staff	Wednesday 4 th January 2017
Term starts	Thursday 5 th January 2017
Term ends	Friday 10 th February 2017
<u>Term 4</u>	
Term starts	Monday 20 th February 2017
Term ends	Thursday 30 th March 2017
Training Day for staff	Friday 31 st March 2017
<u>Term 5 Summer 2017</u>	
Term starts	Tuesday 18 th April 2017
Term ends	Friday 26 th May 2017
<u>Term 6</u>	
Term starts	Monday 5 th June 2017
Term ends	Friday 21 st July 2017

