



Good to talk even better to listen
Respect myself, school and the community
Enjoy and achieve safely

Able to make mistakes and learn from them

Together we aim high

www.wyndhamacademy.org
Please see our website for all term dates
and INSET days.

A Note from the Head of School, Mrs Baines-Chambers:

It is an exciting time of year in school where we are building up to celebrating Christmas. We want the children to join in the Christmas fun but it is important that they also continue to work hard and aim high with their learning and show they are following our GREAT expectations at all times throughout the school day.

We have lots happening over the next few weeks and it would be lovely to see as many of you attend these events as possible:

Thursday 8th December = Christmas Crafts and Carol Singing after school.

Christmas Fair on Monday 12th December after school.

Thursday 15th December - Church carol service 10:30am @ Boulton St Mary's

We like to involve parents/carers as much as possible in your child's learning, as a minimum you are invited to a formal parents evening and a celebration of learning termly and you will also receive a termly written report. This term will be sent home on Tuesday 13th December.

Just a reminder that we break up for the Christmas holiday on Friday 16th December (19th and 20th are INSET days) and we return on Wednesday 4th January.

A further reminder, Wyndham is a health promoting school however we have started to see an increase in the number of chocolate bars and sweets that children are bringing with them. Please leave sweets at home and limit packed lunches to one chocolate bar.

FS 1 and FS 2

FS1

This week we have been doing some great learning around our story 'The Stickman'. We began our learning by visiting the Wyndham Woods to collect lots of sticks to use for our art and for our shape, space and measure work in magic maths! We loved comparing all of the different sizes of sticks and then choosing which ones will be the best for our big stick painting. We also had a go at creating a 'talk for writing' style story map- Miss Lawer was absolutely blown away by our story retelling skills, so much so that we posted a video to our class twitter to show off our super literacy work! We have also been working really hard to learn all our fantastic festive songs for our Christmas performance, we are working as a team with FS2 and all of our teachers are really excited to share our hard work with the parents.

FS2

This week the children have been doing some GREAT learning around our books - The Snowman and The Stickman. We have been busy trying to save The Snowman from melting and writing letters to The Stickman from his children. In FS we are all very excited about Christmas which is quickly approaching!

Please remember to come along to our Winter Wonderland on Thursday 1st December where you can share a book with your child whilst enjoying some breakfast goodies!

Year 1

Year One have had a fantastic fortnight. We were so lucky to have learned all about the Grinch this half term as we have loved every moment of it! Last week we wrote a brilliant story synopsis using our Talk 4 Writing skills to innovate a basic synopsis with excellent adjectives and ideas. We also celebrated Children In Need and raised lots of money by taking part in various activities including a sponsored balance and sitting our feet in beans. Some of us were even seen on the BBC Midlands Today news broadcast. How lucky we were to have such a wonderful, hardworking day recognised by a national news channel! We are currently practicing for our Nativity with a twist and can't wait to perform it to the whole school and our parents and carers.

Year 2

It's been a busy week as the children prepare to dazzle you at their Christmas show, "Nativity!" All the children are working extremely hard to make sure this is a show to remember. We just want to remind everyone that the date of the two performances are Wednesday 7th December and Thursday 8th December. Both performances will take place in the Junior Hall at 2:00pm. Please arrive for this time to avoid disappointment.

This week the children have been travelling around the United Kingdom on the Polar Express learning all about London and Scotland. The children have written some fabulous persuasive texts about London to try and direct the train conductor over to London whilst on their journey to the North Pole. Furthermore, the children have been blowing everyone away with their multiplication skills - Mr Christie and Miss Syson have been so impressed with the children's quick recall and use of various methods to solve the multiplication problems (We think they could even give Year 6 a run for their money!)

Year 3

Over the past couple of weeks in year 3 we have been looking at multiplication in maths. Although we found it tricky to begin with, we have persevered and now we are multiplication masters of the 3 and 4 times tables. This week, we're going to be challenging ourselves even further by looking at the 8 times table!

In English, we have written a letter to Mrs Baines-Chambers to try and persuade her to vote for us to become an MP! If we were elected, we would introduce policies such as no bedtimes for children, no vegetables and a swimming pool to be built in every school!

Just a reminder that every Monday children should be bringing their spelling books in to record their new spellings, which they then can take home and practise. Also, children should be bringing their reading records in every Friday so we can see how much reading they have been doing at home. If children have read more than 5 times that week, they get to pick a prize out of our special prize box!

On Monday 5th December, we are having our Christmas craft afternoon where you're all invited to join us for an afternoon of festive activities.

Year 4

Year 4 have had an exciting couple of weeks and there has been some excellent writing created. We have been learning about the Tower of London and trying to persuade Mrs Baines-Chambers to organise a school trip to London using persuasive language. We have also been thinking about changing the story of Gangsta Granny so that she can steal something different to the Crown Jewels. The children's imaginations have been excellent and their stories are great so far. Over the next week we will be finishing our stories and then turning our attention to Christmas.

Year 5

Year 5 are expanding their knowledge about the universe continuously. We've been researching and writing about our solar system and even found our own facts about each of the planets. Next week, we're going to be learning about the specific mission to the moon: Apollo 13! Any research your child can conduct this weekend will boost their learning and really help their writing next week.

A polite reminder, children are to have PE kits in school all the time please. Sometimes we might use these on different days and so it is important children have them.

Year 6

Over the past few weeks in year 6, we have been enjoying continuing our magical journey into Harry Potter! Last week we were beginning to design and make our chocolate frogs by conducting some market research into chocolate that we currently buy including the design, branding and adverts. This meant that we gained our own ideas and have written a GREAT persuasive advert for people to buy our own chocolate frogs. We will soon be recording these on the radio station too and making our own...yum! There will also be an opportunity for us to share our learning with you during our 'Dragon's Den Experience' at the end of the half term. More details to follow about this soon. In maths, we have been developing our knowledge of fractions including adding, subtracting and ordering them! Mrs Garton and Miss Winfield are pleased to say how well they have been doing with this and their attitudes have been phenomenal, so a huge well done!

Attendance

We achieved our best ever attendance for week ending 18th November. A whopping 98.3%!!

Unfortunately this past week attendance has dipped with lots of children absent throughout the week.

May we take this opportunity to remind you that you must contact school if your child is absent. Our Education Welfare Officer does drop in visits on any absent children to check that their absence is genuine.

Hand washing

We have recently changed our lunchtime routines as we have found that many children were not washing their hands properly before lunchtime.

Rather than send every child to the bathroom for them to just come back out after just having a splash of water on their hands we now ensure that every child has a squirt of hand sanitiser instead before they have their lunch to ensure that all children's hands are adequately sanitised as the optimum defence against bacteria.

We will be talking to the children about the importance of washing hands after using the toilet and we hope that the children will ensure that they do this as part of their routine.

We would also like to make it clear that any child wishing to wash their hands as well as using sanitiser still has that option to do so. We will not stop any child wishing to do this.

If you would like to discuss this then please feel free to speak to any of the senior leaders in school.

Spring Term Dates

School closes for the Christmas holidays on Friday 16th December and reopens on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

There is an INSET day on Friday February 10th which is when the school will close for half term and then reopen on Monday 20th February 2017.

School will close for the Easter holidays on Friday 7th April and reopen on Monday 24th April 2017.

Safeguarding and Cyber Safety

In the interests of children's safety in and out of school, can we remind all parents and carers to be vigilant if your children are using computers, tablets, mobile phones and any other electronic devices. We have been made aware that some children are playing computer games that are inappropriate for their age. Most of the games are also being played live by people that the children do not know and therefore can put children at risk.

Language of the week

Our school would like to celebrate various cultures and languages, so all our children could feel safe, happy, appreciated, simply.... special :)

Each Monday during assembly we will choose our Language of the week for the following week. We will learn 3 words in that language: Hello, Please and Thank you. All staff and children will use that language if they want to say Hello, Please or Thank you. Registers will be done in that language as well. We've got 28 languages in our school! So a lot to celebrate and we all have got a big chance to become multilingual by the end of the year :)

I hope we will all enjoy our journey through the world of bilingualism.

Christmas Fair

Coming up in the next few weeks is the Christmas Craft Afternoon and Carol Singing on Thursday 8th December in the Infants hall from 3.30pm. All children in the school as well as parents are invited to come and join in with making crafts to take home. Entrance will be 50p per child with adults being free entry. There will be refreshments for sale on the day.

On Monday 12th December is the Christmas fair from 3.30 pm where each class have been busy making games, making items to sell and preparing prizes. Santa will be here as well in his grotto and all are welcome to come and visit him.

On Wednesday 14th December Santa is coming into school to read each year group a story while we all have hot chocolate and biscuits in the hall. All parents are invited to join us.

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fs1/Fs2 | Year 1&2 | Year 3&4 | Year 5&6 |
| 9.10-9.40 | 10.00-10.30 | 10.45-11.15 | 11.20-11.40 |

On this day we would like the children to dress up in festive clothing, Christmas jumpers etc.