



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.

14th March 2016

In Foundation Stage we have had a very exciting week learning all about dinosaurs! Our new story Tyrannosaurus Drip has hooked us into our learning perfectly - its Rawrrrrrrrriick!!

On Wednesday our visitor taught us all about dinosaur fossils - we even found T-Rex's skull!! The children were WOWED by the DINOSAUR that visited us at the end of the day - we were so lucky to get a photo with her!

Next week we will be continuing our learning about herbivores and making the duckbill dinosaurs a delicious healthy meal to eat!

We can't wait!

Oh my goodness! You won't believe what happened this week in Year One.. a dinosaur was loose in our school.

This was a mystery that could only be solved by the children of Cambridge and Oxford University. The children spent the day with Education Group UK investigating real life fossils - we were very excited to uncover a real tooth from a T-Rex. Then the children went into the assembly hall where they came face-to-face with a real T-Rex.. it was a GREAT experience for the children.

Cambridge University would also like to wish Miss Westbrook a fond farewell. Miss Westbrook has been with us as part of her Derby University placement and has been teaching specific lessons to Mr Christie's class as part of her primary education training.

Everyone is going to miss her and we want to say a massive THANK YOU for all that she has done whilst on her placement.

We wish her every success in the future as she continues her journey to becoming an outstanding teacher.

We have had another brilliant two weeks in year two. George's Marvellous Medicine has nothing on our fantastic homemade medicines! We have written some excellent poems describing our gruesome, revolting potions and diary entries from Grandma. In addition, we had an amazing time during our Africa day where we celebrated and learned about African countries and created some wonderful masks.

Well done to Sheffield Hallam for winning! We are also looking forward to our exhilarating trip to White Post Farm!

These past few weeks in Year 3 we have been carrying on with our expedition across the globe which will take us into the Ocean next week! This is all in preparation for our trip to West Midlands Safari Park!

As well as this, we would like to remind parents they are welcome to join us on Tuesday 22nd March in the afternoon. We will be making Easter cards and taking part in our own Easter Egg hunt.

In Year 4 we've had a great start to the half term and have really enjoyed learning about different types of poetry. The children loved writing poems about themselves and rapping them in front of the class, check out our Class Dojo page for links to the videos. We are really looking forward to our trip on Thursday to the Nottingham theatre to see Gangsta Granny. Please make sure that you return letters of consent ASAP. The children need to wear school uniform and bring a packed lunch.

Parents are invited to join our Rainbow Grammar lesson on Tuesday 22nd March from 11.45-12.15. We hope that you can make it because it will be really useful for you to see how your children are taught SPaG.

In year 5 we have been studying the World Wars and focussing on how WWII affected the lives of children. We were petrified when the air raid siren sounded and we had to hide under our desks! Our trip to the National Holocaust Museum inspired us to write some emotional diary entries from the perspective of Leo Stein, a 10 year old Jewish boy forced to leave his family behind in Berlin and move to Britain. In maths, we've been studying timetables and working out how to catch a train like an evacuee. We'll now be looking at shape and how we can work out missing angles. We've also been making a splash looking at water resistance as part of our forces topic in science!

Last week, Year 6 had a GREAT afternoon at George Spencer developing our knowledge of light and eyes from our science topic. In order to understand how we see, we got stuck in and dissected sheep eyes! All the children found this really interesting and it really allowed them to investigate different parts of the eye and how they work to make us see. We definitely have some budding surgeons in Year 6! This also gave children the chance to understand the transition between primary and secondary school. We also continued with our topic, Macbeth, and debated whether or not he should kill King Duncan to become King himself. Children came up with some very interesting ideas and it allowed them to develop their debating and reasoning skills. We then also used a giant coordinate grid (check out Class Dojo!) to work out who would be framed for King Duncan's murder by using skills of translation. What a busy and exciting week in Year 6!

Active Kids

We are continuing to collect Active Kids vouchers again from Sainsbury's. Please tell all your friends and family and bring your vouchers in to school. The collection box is situated near the fish tank in the reception area, or you can hand them over to the office staff. We have been able to get some great resources from Active Kids in the past and hope to get even more this year!

Africa Day

It was a magical day. The children loved it. They enjoyed trying the African food: grilled plantain, mango and pineapple. Some amazing African masks were created. The children learned a lot about Africa, its different cultures, traditions, geography, history, fauna and flora. They were dancing to the sounds of drums. Wyndham was bursting with energy, happiness, music and colours of earth. We all could feel a spirit of Africa.

GREAT Assemblies

We would like to invite all our parents along to celebrate with their children in the GREAT assemblies at the end of this term.

Yrs 1 & 2 - 9am - Mon 21st March

Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 - 9am - Tues 22nd March

FS2 - 9am - Wed 23rd March

FS1 will have a presentation during the last week in the classroom. More details to follow.

Mr Barker's epic cycle ride!!

Mr Barker is raising money for Cancer Research UK with his Dad by cycling 1000 miles across the country. His trip will start at Land's End on 6th August. His 2 week trip will take him through England and into Scotland finally finishing at John O'Groats at the tip of the UK. If you would like to sponsor him please scan the QR code or search "Just Giving Shaun Barker Coast to Coast." Any amount would be appreciated!



Mobile Phones

There has been an increase in children bringing in mobile phones to school recently. We appreciate that parents may want older children to carry their phones with them while walking to and from school independently and we are happy for that to continue. However all phones should be handed in to the office on arrival at school and not kept in coats, bags or pockets. Any phone found on a child will be confiscated and parents will then need to collect it from the office at the end of the day.

Lunch Boxes

Just a reminder that we are a healthy school and as such we expect children to bring healthy packed lunches to school if they are not having our school meals. There have been several occasions where the only items in a child's lunch box are crisps and chocolate bars. Please ensure your child is given a balanced packed lunch with only one biscuit/cake style item. Sweets and fizzy drinks should not be in lunchboxes and any child with these items in their lunch boxes will be asked to take them home to eat them.

If you are considering changing from packed lunch to school dinners then please see the office to inform us as we need to have advance notice for ordering purposes.

Science Event

We will be holding our own Science event on Wednesday 16th March 2016 to celebrate British Science Week.

The day will revolve around science and we will end the day with a community Science event.

We would like to invite you to join our celebration of all things Science and attend the event to take part in a variety of Science related activities.

The event will take place in the hall from 3:20pm - 4:15pm. There will be a mixture of adult led and child led activities. These will include making slime, solving a problem using chromatography, making magic potions, joining in with a woodland warrior session, exploring Robotic Lego plus lots, lots more.

We hope that as many of you as possible can join us for the event.

Stay and Play Group

We have started our Stay and Play group again on a Wednesday morning. If you have a pre-school child and would like to come along we would love to see you.

The cost is 50p per child with drinks costing 10p each and it starts at 9am - 11am

The group is open to everyone, so if you have any friends or neighbours who have pre-school children but do not have any children currently at Wyndham they are still very welcome!

Communication

There are many ways for communication between school and home. Are you aware of them all?

Website - www.wyndhamacademy.org

Class Dojo - speak to your child's teacher if you need login details

Twitter - @wyndham_academy (also individual classes have their own pages)

School text service - if you don't currently receive school texts from us please speak to the office to make sure we have your correct mobile number.

In the mornings Mrs Baines-Chambers, Mrs Hemmings and Miss McCullough are all around in reception and in the afternoon

Mrs Baines-Chambers is usually at the Infant gate. Please see one of them if you need to discuss anything.

A message from the Head of School

As part of our constant drive for school improvement and quality assurance the academy joined the Challenge Partners Schools Organisation in 2013. Challenge Partners is a group of schools and academies, who work together to lead school improvement both locally and nationally. A full school review took place between 2nd-4th March. A team of 4 highly experienced senior teachers from across the country which included an Ofsted inspector, observed lessons, met with staff and pupils and analysed the school data. The Quality Assurance Review found indicators that we are still achieving within the Outstanding grade as judged by Ofsted May 2014. This year we put our school forward for two areas of excellence—'Mastery in maths' and 'Speaking and Listening across the curriculum' and I am delighted to say that both of these areas were confirmed.

Paula Baines-Chambers

Head of School

Term Dates

To help you book holidays during school holidays here are the term dates for the next 18 months.

Spring Term 2016

Monday 22nd February – Thursday 24th March

Summer Term 2016

Monday 11th April – Friday 27th May

Monday 6th June – Tuesday 26th July

Autumn Term 2016

Wednesday 7 September 2016 – Friday 21 October 2016

Monday 31 October 2016 – Tuesday 20 December 2016

Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4 January 2017 – Friday 10 February 2017

Monday 20 February 2017 – Friday 7 April 2017

Summer Term 2017

Monday 24 April 2017 – Friday 26 May 2017

Monday 5 June 2017 – Wednesday 26 July 2017

Autumn Term 2017

Wednesday 6 September 2017 – Friday 20 October 2017

Monday 30 October 2017 – Tuesday 19 December 2017

All holidays taken during term time are unauthorised.

If you do decide to take a holiday during term time you must write to school to inform them of this prior to your holiday to inform school that your child will be absent. If this is not done the Education Welfare Officer will visit your home throughout your child's absence and record that there was no reply when calling. This will then be used as evidence for when a fine is issued. This is to prevent parents fabricating illness as a reason for their child being off rather than declaring they have been on holiday.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that they have 13 weeks of school holidays a year they can use rather than taking a break during term time.

Any fines collected for holidays taken in term time go to the Local Authority – Derby City Council.

Wyndham Primary Academy do not receive any of the fines collected.

The current fine is £60 per parent, per child.