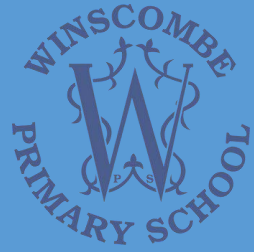


NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 9 – JANUARY 2025

EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHERS WELCOME



Dear families,

This was always going to be a difficult newsletter to write. After much thought and deliberation, I have made the decision to leave my role as Executive Headteacher at the end of this academic year.

August will be the culmination of five years serving both schools and their communities and I am incredibly proud and privileged to have done so. We have achieved so much, through some challenging times, and I will always look back with pride and affection at my time at Sandford and Winscombe. As you know my time has been limited, working three days a week across both settings, but I have given absolutely everything to ensure both schools are happy places to work, learn and succeed.

It is now time for me to take a step back from school leadership and for the schools to enjoy the energy and ambition of a new leader, supported by our exceptional staff.

Whilst I am taking a moving away from Executive Leadership, I am glad that I will remain part of the Wessex Learning Trust in the role of Primary Effectiveness Lead and continue to contribute to our family of schools; alongside some other exciting opportunities.

Please be reassured I will continue to serve both schools in the same vein until the end of my tenure and will do my utmost to ensure a smooth succession for September.

I will miss you all enormously; the children, our team, yourselves and the wider community and thank you all for your continued support.

I look forward to seeing you next week and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Kind regards
Mrs Richardson

CALENDAR DATES

- 05.02.2025 Buddy the Bat in for Dance
- 06.02.2025 PTFA Cake Sale
- 14.02.2025 End of Term 3
- 24.02.2025 Start of Term 4
- 25.02.2025 Parents' consultation evening
- 27.02.2025 Parents' consultation evening
- 06.03.2025 World Book Day
- 11.03.2025 Oak Class Trip to the SS Great Britain
- 20.03.2025 Sycamore Lifeskills trip
- 24.03.2025 Scholastic Book Fair 3.15 – 4.00pm
- 25.03.2025 Linden Class Trip to Caerleon
Scholastic Book Fair 3.15 – 4.00pm
- 04.04.2025 End of Term 4
- 22.04.2025 Start of Term 5

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

In the event of a school closure please look out for a message on our School Jotter App and website.

Our Learning Powers:

Resilient
Reflective
Curious
Co-operative

Our Children will

Care
Achieve
Respect
Excel

British Value
RESPECT

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY AWARDS

WEEKLY CLASS ATTENDANCE OVER 95%

7th – 10th January – Silver Birch, Oak, Linden & Ash

13th -17th January – Oak, Linden & Ash

30 SMILEY FACES – Grace & Alex

BRONZE AWARD: Frankie, Imogen & Ted

SILVER AWARD: Ellie, Joseph, Finley & Jack

CREW POINTS TOTAL FOR THIS WEEK

CAMERON	CONCORDE	MATTHEW	BRUNEL
174 ★★	162	140	156

Walnut Class African Drumming Workshop

Walnut class had a lively start to the Term with an African drumming and dancing workshop. They used different African drums keeping the beat and creating different rhythms. They then finished the morning listening to African music and learning African Dance moves.



Safeguarding our children is everyone's responsibility

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Lorna Richardson

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Paula Baker & Mrs Becky Booth

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Silver Birch are looking for donations to enhance play and learning.

We are seeking donations to enrich the children's play and learning experiences at school. If you have any of the following items that your family no longer needs, we would be delighted to give them a new home:

- Play kitchen (wooden)
- Jigsaw Puzzles (all pieces)
- Orchard Toys games (suitable for 4-6 year olds)
- Water play toys
- Mud kitchen utensils (e.g., pots, pans, spoons, etc.)

Cars and vehicles

Small world farm/fire station or similar (wooden)

Your contributions will greatly support our efforts to create engaging and imaginative activities for the children. If you can help, please drop off items at the school office or Silver Birch class.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

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CHURCHILL HOLIDAY CLUB

FEBRUARY HALF TERM AT CHURCHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHAT WE OFFER:

FROM
£20

- CRAFTS
- NERF WARS
- FRISBEE GOLF
- BINGO
- FOREST SCHOOL
- VALENTINES CRAFTS



Be a Boy Chorister for a Day
at Wells Cathedral



Saturday 15th March 2025
1.45pm - 5.30pm

Wells Cathedral invites boys between the ages of six and nine to come and meet the Choristers, find out about Chorister life, and sing at Cathedral Evensong.

 **WELLS**
CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
<https://wells.cathedral.school>

For more details and to book your place, please contact:
musicoffice@wellscathedral.org.uk

 **WELLS**
CATHEDRAL
www.wellscathedral.org.uk

book via:

<https://bookwhen.com/smc-churchill-holiday-club>

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Parent Mental Health Day – 27th January

Parenting can be energising and exhausting all at the same time. There's constant pressure on parents to provide a fun, happy family life whilst juggling work and home priorities. Protecting their own mental health is often overlooked by many parents.

Parent Mental Health Day aims to encourage understanding and awareness of the importance of parents' mental health and wellbeing and its impact on the whole family. Many of the country's parents and carers feel overwhelmed, isolated, and unable to cope.

Here are some top tips for parents and carers to protect their mental health:

We all use unhelpful coping strategies sometimes, but as with any skill we can learn new, helpful coping strategies.

Here's some **self-care tips** to help **protect against stress**:

#ADDRESS YOUR STRESS

Try

Get moving! Physical and mental health are connected — so eat well and exercise to release endorphins. Find a fun activity that suits you and your schedule.



Setting aside time to have fun or indulge yourself — positive emotions can help build a buffer against stress.

Learning a new skill — whether painting, playing guitar or a new language.



Sharing how you're feeling — it's OK to ask for help and support.

Switching off from distractions — make time for yourself as a regular part of your routine. Schedule a reminder if you need to.



Avoid

Overdoing it on sugar, caffeine or alcohol — they're a quick fix which can increase stress in the long term.



Overworking and checking your emails out of hours — we all need time to unwind.

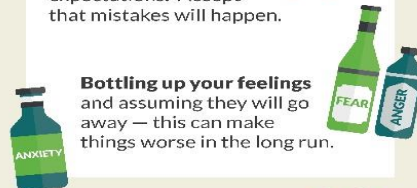


Spending **too much of your free time** in front of a screen — phone included. Don't feel pressured to always be 'doing' something.

Chasing perfection — it can create unrealistic expectations. Accept that mistakes will happen.



Bottling up your feelings and assuming they will go away — this can make things worse in the long run.



There are simple steps you can take to **#AddressYourStress**. Check out our resources at mhfaengland.org



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