

Dear Families,

A wet, chilly and blustery week around school this week – please continue to support us by making sure children are appropriately attired as we go outside as often as possible.

Attendance Overview

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Number of Pupils | 442 |
| Overall Attendance 2025/26 | 94.5% |
| Attendance for the last 5 days | 95.4% |

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 95% | On Target |
| 92-94% | Needs Improving |
| 91% | Cause for Concern |

Assemblies

On Monday Mr Taylor shared an E-Safety assembly (linked to our **Safeguarding** focus) with the school to ensure they know how to stay safe online particularly after children may have got new devices over Christmas. We would like to remind you to ensure parental settings are set adequately to keep children safe – a number of our older children have been talking about the Stranger Things which is rated 15.

On Thursday, Elm class shared their learning with families. They confidently shared their learning in Science, Art, Geography, DT and their excellent writing. It was wonderful to hear their confidence and **Courage** in front of everyone. Sadly, our Audio system has finally bitten the dust – if you know of anyone who has experience in school audio systems, we'd love to hear from you to gather some expert advice. Please email office@winchcombe.w-berks.sch.uk if you can help.

Sports

We were very lucky on Thursday after school to take part in some basketball coaching organised between Miss G and Mrs Gair (Head of girls PE) from Trinity School. Along with Mrs Canolli and 10 of our Year 5 children, we learnt dribbling, passing, defending, protecting and shooting with help from their Sports Leaders before we were then put into teams to play some mini matches with 3 other local schools. It was a great opportunity to learn the sport and the rules in preparation for our upcoming tournament next month. We can't wait to then see them put all of this together and will let you know how we get on.



Parking

With the heavy rain this week it has been a busy week for traffic. We continue to remain concerned about our community being able to access paths and school safely, please park at Shaw Social | Club and walk the last 2-3 minutes to school and along with following our voluntary one way system which brings you past Shaw Social Club and Winchcombe Care Home. Finally, a reminder for all, that our car park is for staff members only. We have also spoken to Happy Kids Nursery who have reiterated the message to their parents as we have once again had a near miss involving cars and children in the car park.

FOWS Valentines Disco Thursday 12th March



Consent forms and payment links have gone out for FOWS' next disco, on Thursday 12th March. If you would like your child to attend, please fill in the consent form and complete the payment on School Money. If your child will not be attending, please still return the consent form advising this and the payment request will be removed from School Money.

Disco timings:

- Acorns and Foundation: 2.15pm to 3pm
- Years 1, 2 and 3: 3.15pm to 4pm
- Years 4, 5 and 6: 4.15pm to 5.15pm

One way System for Drop off and Pick up

Please can we ask that parents follow the one-way system around the school when dropping off and picking up their children:

For **Year 1 to Year 3 parents**, please enter the school at the **gate by the bike sheds**. After dropping off or picking up your children, please continue around the school to **exit at the Phoenix club gate**. It can be particularly congested by the Year 1 and 2 classrooms if this is not followed.

For **Year 4 to Year 6 parents**, please **both enter and exit at the Phoenix club gate**.

Amazon Wishlist

A big thank you to the Smith and Rushton family for their **Kind** donations of much needed items from our Amazon wishlist. If you are able to help we are always grateful – <https://amzn.eu/9DkD7q8>

School Priorities

This term we are continuing to focus on our School Priorities - improving Phonics and Writing, ensuring our children are safe (Safeguarding) and Securing best outcomes for pupils. If you missed our School Priorities update in the end of Autumn Term Sway you can catch up here:





<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/3QCuNldAji1IZMNT?ref=Link&loc=play>

Word of the Week

Each week in assembly we share a new word, sound it out, spell it and discuss the meaning. As such it is always a regular feature on my HT Round up so that you can help support us over the following week. Some ideas could be to: spot phonics put the word into a sentence, define the word, look it up, draw a picture of the word or ask them to explain how they have used it in class. A nice easy one for everyone to learn next week:

Next week's word is: **soar**

Foundation Sentence STEMS

| | |
|--|--|
|  I can see... |  I think ... |
|  I like ... |  I don't like ... |

KS1 Sentence STEMS

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| The answer is because ... | I think ... because ... |
| I can prove I am right because ... | I learnt the word ... It means ... |
| I agree/ disagree with you because ... | I learnt how to ... |

Y3/4 KS2 Sentence STEMS

Checking

Can you please clarify what you mean?



Builder

I agree and would like to add

Listening to X, I would like to add ...

Building on that idea, I think ...



Challenger

I disagree with you because ...

You mentioned X, but what about?

To challenge what you said...

I understand your point of view – have you thought about?



Y5/6 KS2 Sentence STEMS

Checking

Can you please clarify what you mean?



Builder

I agree and would like to add

Listening to X, I would like to add ...

Building on that idea, I think ...



Challenger

I disagree with you because ...

You mentioned X, but what about?

To challenge what you said...

I understand your point of view – have you thought about?



Justifying

I know this because ...

I would like to explain ...

I believe that ... because ...



Upcoming dates

January

22nd Oak Class Assembly

29th Birch Class Assembly

February

5th Sycamore Class Assembly

5th Y3 Trip to Butser Farm

9th SAL trip to Winchester Science Museum

10th FS SMILE Session

12th Rowan Class Assembly

12th FOWS Valentines Disco

13th Start of ½ term holiday 3:15pm

23rd Start of school

23rd PHSE launch

26th House Captains Assembly

27th Y6 to Reading Museum

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Your Headteacher,

Matt Percy