

Dear Families,

A busy week of learning and activities around school and a pleasure to host our first S.M.I.L.E session for our FS2 parents – thank you for coming in to visit our setting with your child/ren.

Attendance Overview

Number of Pupils	432	95%	On Target
Overall Attendance 2025/26	96.1%	92-94%	Needs Improving
Attendance for the last 5 days	97.2%	91%	Cause for Concern

Assemblies

On Monday we celebrated the **Kindness** shown by all our families in donating to our Harvest Festival appeal. It was fantastic being able to share with West Berkshire Foodbank your donations and we know this will help many people across the county. We looked at the long history of collecting the harvest, discovered how crop rotation was invented by George Washington Carver and sang 'Cauliflower fluffy, Cabbages green' – a great celebration.

Yesterday, Spruce class 'travel agency' shared their extensive geographical knowledge on continents with a focus on North & South America. The depth of their understanding about human and physical geography was clear to see for all our pupils and families – great job!

In class today we have raised awareness about Developmental Language Disorder (DLD). DLD is difficulty understanding and using language without a known cause. This disorder can have a negative long-term impact on children if they're not provided with the appropriate support. It's believed that one in fourteen people have a DLD. Our Speech and Language (SAL) resource on site have provided us with the following video to learn more about this topic: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQ-s02HWLb0>

Parents Evening

We look to seeing you all at Parents Evening next week which will run on the same formula for face-to-face meetings over the last few years. Please arrive ahead of your appointment and you will be directed to a waiting room. Appointments run to time and as such we are unable to offer extra time on the night. Please let the office know if you need any accessibility adaptations.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Book Fair this week – the more we sell the more the school benefits! You can still visit it on Monday to grab a book and help promote the 'Love of Reading'.

Illness

We are aware that we have a sickness bug doing the rounds and have had several incidents of children being unwell in school. We'll be reinforcing the importance of handwashing here at school and we would appreciate it if you could take a moment to remind your children about when and how to wash hands properly. Please remember children must stay off school for 48 hours following any bouts of sickness and/or diarrhoea.

Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

If your working circumstances have changed recently, you may be able to claim free school meals for your child/ren. Pupil Premium is extra government funding that is paid to schools for every child who's eligible for free school meals throughout their time at school. It can be used for a wide variety of things and helps reduce costs for certain activities/events. If this could be you, please click the link below:

<https://www.westberks.gov.uk/article/36469/Apply-for-Free-School-Meals>

This applies **even** if your child is:

- In Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives universal free school meals for infant pupils
- In Year 3 or older and takes a packed lunch

FOWS Events

A massive thank you to those who came to support our Bingo Night last night and to the volunteers who made it happen. Consent forms have now been sent out for the upcoming School Disco on Friday 7th Nov



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 – 3:00pm
- Years 1, 2 and 3: 3:15pm – 4:15pm
- Years 4, 5 and 6: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Amazon Wishlist

Thank you to those who continue to support us with items from our Amazon wishlist – <https://amzn.eu/8cOPJY8>
We are looking to run a lunchtime game club to help build up socialising and turn taking skills and have updated our list accordingly. We are very grateful for the glue sticks kindly donated by one of our Foundation families

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: 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. This week I am also sharing the sentence stems we model in class to help children give full answers - please discuss them with your child/ren and encourage them to use them regularly outside of school.

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

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 ...



Flu Immunisation Consent forms:

Thank you to those who have already accessed the flu forms to consent or say no. We still have a few outstanding. For those who have not yet done this, please do so as soon as possible - the deadline is **today!**

Log in as follows, to give CONSENT or to say NO:

The link for the Nasal Flu vaccine (which contains Porcine products) is: [Flu Vaccination Consent Form](#)

The link for the Non-Porcine injectable vaccine is: [Flu Vaccination Consent Form](#)

The Winchcombe School Code is BK135079

Upcoming dates

October:

20th Book Fair at School

20th Y4 Rowan Class Trip to Littlecote

21st Flu Vaccines

21st Parents Evening

22nd Parents Evening

22nd Y4 Chestnut Class Trip to Littlecote

23rd Walnut Class Assembly

24th Start of ½ term holiday
3:15 pm finish

November:

3rd Start of School

4th Y4 Roman Day

7th FOWS Fireworks Night Disco

10-14th Y6 Residential

10th Remembrance Assembly

12th Y4 Cinema

13th Willow Class Assembly

14th Children in Need (Non-Uniform)

19th Y6 Cinema

20th Y6 Residential Assembly

27th Cedar Class Assembly

December:

2nd Y3-6 Panto at Corn Exchange

3rd FS-Y2 Panto In-House

4th FS Christmas Performance

4th Chestnut Class Assembly

5th Christmas Fayre

9th Y1&2 Christmas Performance (9am)

11th Redwood Class Assembly

11th Y1&2 Christmas Performance (1.30pm)

17th Christmas lunch/Christmas jumper day

19th End of term 12.05pm finish

Your Headteacher,

Matt Percy