

Dear Families,

A big dip in the temperature this week but thankfully less rain -please do ensure your child/ren comes appropriately dressed as we are outside in pretty much most weathers!

Attendance Overview

Number of Pupils	434	95%	On Target
Overall Attendance 2025/26	95.8%	92-94%	Needs Improving
Attendance for the last 5 days	93.5%	91%	Cause for Concern

Assemblies

We began this week by introducing Road Safety week and how there is no need to speed! We learnt that the stopping distance at 20mph is 12 metres but almost doubles to 23m when driving at 30mph. With the traffic wardens back again this week it seems poignant to highlight the **free** parking at Shaw Social club which is a 2-3 minute walk away – this will save on any fines. Yesterday, Y6 shared with the school and their families, memories of their residential last week – the photos and videos were fantastic too. Please do talk to your Y5 child/ren about their highlights as we have booked again for next year. Payment details and plans will be out as soon as we can arrange.

Lockdown Procedures

At School, we take safeguarding and safety very seriously. It is important that we continue to review all Health and Safety procedures, taking into account even those events that are unlikely to occur. As part of this process, we practise a procedure known as “Lockdown” in relation to Martyn’s Law. Our Lockdown Procedure would be used when there is a threat to the safety of students, staff and others in school, and when it is safer for everyone to remain in school as opposed to evacuate. This involves staying in an internal room with doors, windows, blinds closed until an all clear is given (a member of SLT will contact classes).

Our procedure ensures that when a potential threat is known, the school is alerted by a lockdown alarm. This alarm will be shared in assembly next Monday (a set of 3 rings of a bell) followed by a practise drill later that day. Please communicate with your child between now and then to provide support if you think they may find this drill challenging.

Sport Events

The Winchcombe School hosted their first home match of the year on Monday evening. They showed great teamwork and resilience throughout the 3 mini games played against tough competition from St Finian's School and Cold Ash. We were extremely proud of them and many thanks to the families who came to support and cheer them on too!



Trips

A huge thank you to all the staff that accompanied the children to Sealyham last week. Although the weather was challenging it made little difference to the fun and adventures that we had. We loved it so much we have already booked it for next year! Well done to all the children (and adults) for pushing themselves past their comfort zones.



Next Wednesday, Rowan are on their rescheduled visit to Littlecote Villas as part of their Roman learning, please make sure they have warm/waterproof coats with them.

FOWS Christmas Fayre – Volunteers and Donations Needed

The Friends of Winchcombe School invite all families to join us for this year's Christmas Fayre. There'll be festive fun for everyone — including a BBQ and licensed bar, Santa's Grotto, biscuit decorating, Christmas games, tombolas, a Christmas jumper sale, and a performance from the school choir.

This event is a highlight of the school year, and all funds raised go directly to support the school.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with set-up, running stalls, or packing away. If you can spare a little time, please add your name to the volunteer sign-up sheet: <https://volunteersignup.org/CK9AD>

We hope to see you there!

On **Friday 28th November**, we'll be holding a **Non-Uniform Day** in support of the upcoming Christmas Fayre. Children are invited to wear non-uniform in return for a donation to help fill our popular Fayre tombolas:

- Acorns, Foundation, Years 1 & 2 – Chocolate
- Years 3–6 – Bottles

If you're unsure what to donate, here are some ideas:

Chocolate: Any kind of chocolate - bars, packets, boxes or tubs — but please remember **we are a nut-free school**.

Bottles: We'd love a mix of bottles - alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks, soft drinks, juice, wine, champagne, beer, spirits, bubble bath, shower gel, or perfume (as long as they're full and unopened).

We are also looking for donations of **cuddly toys for our Teddy Tombola and Christmas jumpers** (washed and in good condition). Please can any donations of these be brought to the office.

Children in Need

Thank you for your all for your **Kindness** and generosity, raising £436!

Amazon Wishlist

A big thank you to Chaffer, Smith & Raudews family for their **Kindness**. Their Amazon packages were delivered to school today! If you are able to help we are always grateful – <https://amzn.eu/9DkD7q8>

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. A nice easy one for everyone to learn this week:

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

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

November:

26th Rowan to Littlecote Roman Villa
27th Cedar Class Assembly
28th FOWS Non-uniform day in return for tombola prizes

December:

2nd Y3-6 Panto at Corn Exchange
3rd FS-Y2 Panto In-House
4th FS Christmas Performance (2pm)
4th Chestnut Class Assembly
5th Christmas Fayre (after school)
9th Y1&2 Christmas Performance (9.30am)
9th FS visit to St Mary's church
11th Redwood Class Assembly
11th Y1&2 Christmas Performance (1.30pm)
16th FS S.M.I.L.E. session (1:45 – 3pm)
17th Christmas lunch/Christmas jumper day
19th End of term 12.05pm finish

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Your Headteacher,

Matt Percy