



Website QR Code

The Winchcombe School News Bulletin

Number 1 Autumn Term

www.winchcombe.w-berks.sch.uk

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17th September 2021

I cannot believe that we have been back at school for over two whole weeks. The children have settled in really well. All the children have been working hard to improve. Thank you to everyone for ensuring your children are at school on time each day – this makes a huge difference to their learning and therefore their confidence.

Neil Pilsworth

- ✚ **Staff Leavers:** We were very sad to say goodbye to Miss Slade our ELSA support on Tuesday. She has worked with children who need that extra emotional support since September 2018, and is moving on to further her career.
- ✚ **Literacy:** Last week, children came home with a 'Reading for Pleasure' booklet. This is a guide to books that are recommended for their age group and books that we currently have in our school library. We will no longer be providing a 'click and collect' service – instead your child will be visiting the library with their class teacher. Please look after these books.
We now also have year 6 children who have been selected to be a school librarian and are currently familiarizing themselves with the library. They will be available at playtimes to help children change books.
We are excited to announce that we are taking part in the Henley Literary Festival in October. Every class will be virtually streaming into a live session with a famous children's author. This is a fabulous opportunity for children to meet a real author and take part in various activities.
- ✚ **Year 3 Workshop:** The children will be learning about rocks in a workshop delivered by Newbury Museum on Wednesday 29th. We request a small donation to cover the cost, payable by Schoolmoney.
- ✚ **Year 4 Steel Pans Workshop:** We are pleased that the Steel Ambassadors Steel pan ensemble, who have been performing at the Newbury Arts festival, will be in school on 30th September to work with our year 4 children.
- ✚ **Year 4 Trip to Silchester:** As part of this term's curriculum, we will be taking the children by minibuses to the Ancient Roman village on 12th and 13th October. We will also be having a Roman Day on 11th November. More information will follow.
- ✚ **Year 6 Swimming:** Y6 are swimming for 10 week this term, commencing next Tuesday 21st September. ALL consent slips need to be returned by Monday 20th please.
- ✚ **Year 6 Bikeability:** We are pleased to announce that there will be Bikeability lessons available for the children during next term. Dates and more information will follow, but we need consent forms returned by Wednesday 22nd so that instructors can be booked.
- ✚ **Year 6 Residential:** We are excited to be going to Manor Adventure in Shropshire in the week of 8th November. The next installment is due for payment on Schoolmoney by 1st October.
- ✚ **School Uniform Policy:** We recently sent out the updated school uniform policy via email to parents and carers. Please have a look at it on the school website under Parents / Uniform - winchcombe.w-berks.sch.uk/parents/uniform . Texts regarding uniform infringement will be sent out to individuals when necessary.
- ✚ **Lost Property:** PLEASE ensure you NAME EVERY ITEM OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT so that we can get them back to their owners. We put unclaimed items out at the end of each term on tables outside the front office. Please keep checking these as items are added daily. Any items that are not claimed will be disposed of or recycled.

- ✚ **Pre-loved Uniform:** The Friends of The Winchcombe School (FOWS) have drop off containers in the reception area for donations of outgrown, clean, good quality uniform items. They are selling these to raise money for the school on <https://en-gb.facebook.com/groups/friendsofthewinchcombeschool/> their Facebook page. Or you can email your requirements to winchcombefriends@gmail.com
- ✚ **School Emails:** We are aiming to go "paperless" and use Eduspot Teachers to Parents to send information, newsletters, Phoenix club invoices etc. to parents. These can sometimes go into spam/junk folders so please check yours regularly. Tell the school office if you are not receiving emails, and ensure your email address details are correct on our school records.
- ✚ **NO NUTS PLEASE:** Can we remind parents that we are a NUT FREE school. There are children and adults in this school who have an extremely serious allergy so please do not send lunches or snacks in that contain any nut ingredients.
- ✚ **Sport In Mind Charity:** Attached with this newsletter are fliers regarding some activities being run by Sport In mind in Newbury.
- ✚ **Praise and Class Assembly:** This term children are attending assembly in the hall instead of virtually. Friday is Praise Assembly when certificates are awarded by class teachers and achievements celebrated. We are currently not allowing parents to attend these assemblies. If your child has an extra-curricular award or achievement that they would like to share with us, please let their class teacher know.
- ✚ **Foundation Stage:** The children in Foundation Stage have made the most wonderful start to their first year in school. This week, FS2 have started doing full days and have even managed to squeeze in a fire drill! The children are already getting to grips with new routines and are showing fabulous levels of independence. Led by their incredible curiosity and enthusiasm, we have all taken part in some fabulous learning and exploring. Well done to all the children and many thanks to all FS parents for their support.



Term Dates for 2021-22: Please note we have changed a few of the holiday dates from those advertised on the West Berkshire council website. See table below - those in red are the changes.

Term 1	Thursday 2 nd September 2021 – Friday 22 nd October 2021
Holiday	25/10/21 – 1/11/21
Term 2	Tuesday 2 nd November 2021 – Friday 17 th December 2021
Holiday	20/12/21 – 4/1/22
Term 3	Wednesday 5 th January 2022 – Friday 18 th February 2022
Holiday	21/02/22 – 25/02/22
Term 4	Monday 28 th February 2022 – Thursday 7 th April 2022
Holiday	8/04/22 – 22/04/22
Term 5	Tuesday 26 th April – Friday 27 th May 2022
Holiday	30/05/22 – 03/06/22
Term 6	Monday 6 th June – Thursday 21 st July 2022

Dates for 2021-22	
SEPTEMBER	
Monday 20th	Corn Exchange Lunchtime Recital
Tuesday 21st	Y6 first Swimming Lesson
Wednesday 29th	Y3 Museum Workshop in school
Thursday 30th	Y4 Steel Ambassadors Steel Pans Workshops in school
OCTOBER	
Tuesday 12th	Y4 to Silchester Roman village (class TBC)
Wednesday 13th	Y4 to Silchester Roman village (class TBC)
	School Council visit to Newbury Town Hall
Thursday 21st	Harvest Festival – more details to follow
HALF TERM – Monday 25th October – Monday 1st November Inclusive	
NOVEMBER	
Monday 8th to Friday 12th	Y6 Residential Trip
Thursday 11th	Y4 Roman Day – Details to follow
Monday 22nd	School Photographer for individual photos
DECEMBER	
Wednesday 1st	Pantomime at Corn Exchange years R to 2 (Details to follow)
Thursday 2nd	Pantomime at Corn Exchange years 3 to 6 (Details to follow)
Monday 6th	Nasal Flu Vaccination years R to 6 (Details to follow)
Friday 17th	Last Day of term – lunch time finish
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – Monday 20th December – Tuesday 4th January Inclusive	