



Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021



# Windmill Weekly

## A highlight from last week...

We mentioned last week about how we had been visited by colleagues from Community Academies Trust doing some check-ups and you may be interested to know that we do our own 'check-ups' on ourselves too.

Last week, we checked PE in school. We have two fantastic sports coaches: Coach Carl and Miss Panter and teachers also lead PE sessions.

The quality of PE experiences at Windmill is very good and we have achieved the national Gold standard in School Games for three years in a row.

## Head Lines



Mr Gibbons, Headteacher

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, I reflect on 14 weeks of more challenging circumstances and marvel at how Windmill children and staff have overcome them. I really do feel incredibly proud of everyone and wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Coronavirus has continued to be a massive influence on the way we operate in school and we have experienced more positive cases since September than the previous 18 months combined. Children have been superb at 'aiming high' and 'doing their best' and staff have been amazing at 'not giving up' and 'being there for each other'. I hope 2022 will see the whole thing settling down and allowing the buds of Windmill brilliance to blossom!

We are giving gifts to all Windmill children this year. Not gold, frankincense and myrrh, but chocolate and a book. Particularly about the books, I hope they are well-received and treasured. We believe reading is the key that unlocks life's doors.

Merry Christmas everyone and Happy New Year!



## This term, we're working on...

- Helping children to love Reading, because Reading is the key that unlocks life's doors
- Developing Early Years indoor and outdoor areas, to enable children's independence
- Building a database of all children's interests and abilities, so we can nurture them well
- Encouraging children to use their fluency in Maths to solve new problems



## What's going on?

To help you keep up with everything, the office staff and teaching staff will use this page for reminders and prompts!

### Other news and notices

Don't forget to help your child read at home three times a week and fill in the yellow Learning Diary if you want them to get a raffle ticket for the Christmas Chocolate Bouquet...!



Lots of Christmas activities going on this week... parties, film afternoon, nativities, carols, decorations, Santa visit, gifts... it's a lot of fun and a big thank you to our resident Mrs Christmas (aka Mrs Hoofe) for organising so much of it!

### Things to remember/help with

#### Reception

- Keep practising your letter sounds and number work and have a lovely Christmas.

#### Year 1

- Please bring back RRI books.

#### Year 2

- Christmas nativity will be performed and recorded on Wednesday - look out for the video on Thursday 16th.

#### Year 3

- We are going to the Christmas Experience at the Community Centre on Wednesday, remember your coat.

#### Year 4

- We are going to the Christmas Experience at the Community Centre on Wednesday, remember your coat.

#### Year 5

- Remember PJ's and cushion for Thursday to get changed at lunchtime, for our film.

#### Year 6

- We have been learning about adding and subtracting mixed numbers. Ask them about it!

### Latest House Point totals:

Henmoor 2168, Cluddley 2032, Upton 2010 and Rowton 1584.

### Clubs

(Priority for clubs is given to invited children, based on need)

#### Monday:

- Y1 Multi-Skills
- Y2 Football

#### Tuesday:

- Change4Life
- Y3 Football
- Y3-6 Choir

#### Wednesday:

- Y3-4 Netball
- Y5-6 Gymnastics
- Y6 Football

#### Thursday:

- Y3-4 Dance - **Cancelled**
- Y4 Football
- Y3-4 Archery
- Y3-6 Running

#### Friday:

- Y5 Football

### Weekly Safety Message:

Tips to staying safe online:

- 1) Disable in-app purchasing and location tracking on all apps.
- 3) Check PEGI age rating on the game that they would like to play
- 4) Add parental PIN and/or lock in-game chat functions to friends only

**Please don't forget to connect with your child's class on ClassDojo and set up ParentPay, we use these to communicate with you all the time. Ask for help at the office if you need to.**

### 10 things every Windmill parent/carer should know...

2. Our six School Values are: 'Every day is a new day', 'Be there for each other', 'Do your best', 'Don't give up', 'Aim high', 'Believe in yourself'. We mention these a lot and you'll hear them regularly in Monday ClassDojo assemblies