



Monday 6th November 2023

Windmill Weekly

Head Lines



Mr Gibbons, Headteacher

What do you think makes the biggest difference to a child's success at school?

[Research](#) shows that it is great teachers that make the biggest difference.

I am pleased to say that we have great teachers here, and we also have great teachers that want to get even better at teaching. We have one staff meeting each week, in which we try to give teachers more information and more resources to help them. We also run optional extra sessions that teachers (and support staff) can come to if they want to develop their skills. These are well-attended, showing me that we have staff here that are determined to 'aim high' and 'do their best'.

The second most significant thing that helps children succeed is their own expectations of themselves and of their education. If children want to come to school and to learn because they love getting better at things, they will certainly be successful. So it's our job to make learning interesting and irresistible! When I say our job, I mean families and teachers!

A highlight from last week...

We really loved welcoming family members of Nursery children during the week before the half-term break.

Gill Lambert, our Early Years Strategic Lead, led the Sing-Along. We were really pleased to see the children and adults enjoying themselves!

Did you know that our Nursery has the most experienced staff, including Ms Lambert, who brings her expertise as a qualified teacher to planning wonderful educational and developmental experiences to each and every day?

Find out more [here](#) or [here](#).



The five strands of our strategic plan are:

- **Metacognition** (children understanding their learning journey) '**We learn well**'
- **Interaction** (all of us speaking, listening and communicating effectively) '**We speak well**'
- **Writing** (using extensive vocabulary, correct grammar and punctuation) '**We write well**'
- **Collaboration** (partnering with others to improve what we do) '**We work together**'
- **Aspiration** (bringing the best out in each other and aiming high) '**We are inspired**'



What's going on?

To help you keep up with everything, the office staff and teaching staff will use this page to remind and prompt you about school events!

Other news and notices

Free bagels in the hall starts at 8:35am. Children arriving between 8:20am and 8:35am will be charged 50p.

Lost Property - Always displayed by the main office on Tuesdays from 7:45am until 3:45pm.

End of School Day - Please do not come onto the playground or wait outside classrooms until after 3:10pm. This is to ensure the safeguarding of all children. Thank you.

Poppy Appeal - We will be selling items for the Poppy Appeal Monday - Friday lunchtime from Monday 6th November. Prices will range from 20p to £2 per item. Unfortunately, at the moment we have not had a delivery of poppies.

ParentPay

Please ensure that you log in to ParentPay regularly to prevent missing important information.

Latest House Point totals:

Henmoor 1704, Cluddley 1619, Upton 1616 and Rowton 1709.

Things to remember/help with

Reception

- Please play some phonics games at home.
<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/AiqOPUMO/lbAfwbl1>

Year 1

- Join us for a Diwali celebration session. 9.00-10.00am.

Year 2

- We are exploring materials in science. Discuss what materials objects are made from and why. Please share via Class Dojo any work etc.

Year 3

- Please log on to ParentPay and complete consent for our trip to The Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton on Friday.

Year 4

- Please can you be practising your 3,4,7, and 8 times table using the link on dojo.

Year 5

- PE days are Monday and Thursday, and a full PE kit needs to be worn on these days.

Year 6

- We are learning all about the Victorians this Half Term.

Clubs

(Priority for clubs is given to invited children, based on their needs and interests)

Monday:

- Year 3-4 Football

Tuesday:

- Year 3-6 Choir
- Year 5-6 Football
- Year 3-6 Dodgeball

Wednesday:

- Year 3-6 Gymfinity
- Year 3-6 mixed ability Football - CANCELLED
- Year 3-6 Archery - CANCELLED

Thursday:

- Year 3-6 Team Building

Friday:

- Year 3-6 Dance
- Year 3-6 Girls Football

Please note there will be no Football or archery clubs on Wednesday 8th November due to staff training. Gymnastics will run as normal.

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...

8. EYFS stands for Early Years Foundation Stage. It is basically our Nursery and Reception classes. Gill Lambert is our EYFS Lead and she has masterminded the improvement of the outdoor environment, with new surfacing, fencing, play equipment and furniture. More to come...!