



Wincanton Primary School

Station Road
Wincanton
Somerset
BA9 9EL

Tel: 01963 32132

10th January 2025

Note from the Head...

It has been lovely to see everyone back at school and hear all the wonderful things the children have been up to over the Christmas period.

We have started our Hooks already this term.

Year 2 have been chasing Aliens!, 

Year 3 have visited the river Cale and met Mr Wiltshire from Wincanton CATCH and learnt about rivers.

Year 4 have experienced life as a Mayan (some amazing costumes by the way!)

Year 5 also met Mr Wiltshire and learnt about the habitat a river provides as well as studying animal artists.



Year 6 mummified tomatoes and made canopic jars out of clay.

Next week Reception will travel to the stars in a planetarium (along with Year 5), with finally Year 1 looking forward to a visit from Longleat and the Vets to

learn how to look after animals and where animals live.

Who says school is boring!

With the new term - new year resolutions can be made. Please can we ask that families ensure their children are on time in the mornings and wearing the appropriate school uniform – be it full uniform or PE uniform. (Uniform list found on the website under the parent tab.) If you know you are persistently late then a change in the morning routine is required.

Thinking of new routines, it would be good to start this week setting up a routine for the homework and reading that your children are required to do. At the end of last term, we only have 50% of children reading the required 5 times a week and

only 30% completing take home tasks across the school.

Reading at the end of the school day when you get home, or as part of the bedtime routine; means it is never missed and your child's progress and confidence in reading will soar. Completing maths tasks, times tables and the take home task all enable your child to become familiar with the expectation of home learning and builds an acceptance of it in readiness for secondary school. This starting from an early age, makes it second nature in later years and not questioned when it really steps up!



Let's make 2025 our year of Reading at home and see just how much our children end up loving reading, whilst expanding their vocabulary, imagination and knowledge of the world around them.

Looking forward to this exciting term.
Best wishes

Graeme Wilson
Headteacher

Attendance

Attendance this week is 92.8%. We have had a bout of chicken pox this week and hope everyone is feeling much better ready for next week.

Absence Procedure

Attendance and monitoring absence is key at Wincanton Primary School, with the start of a new term just a reminder of the absence procedure and what is expected of everyone concerned. The full policy can be found on our website. If a child is absent from school the parent must follow these procedures:

Monday 27th January

– INSET Day

- Contact the school on **01963 32132** the first day of absence before 9am (the time we close our registers) providing your child's details and the reason for their absence. The school has an answer phone available to leave a message if nobody is available to take your call, or you may call into school personally and speak to the office staff. If you leave a voicemail to report your child's absence, you may receive a call from the school to discuss the absence to ensure it is coded correctly on their register.
- Contact the school on every further day of absence before 9.00 am providing your child's details and the reasons for their ongoing absence.



Careers Week (3rd March -7th March)

A letter is being sent home inviting parents to share what they do for a living with the pupils of the school. This could be either in their child's classroom one afternoon or as part of our **Careers Fayre on Friday 7th March** where the children will visit across the day and have opportunities to hear what your job entails and help them aspire to a role in their future. If you are interested in supporting this amazing event – please respond to the letter on ParentMail. Thank you

Road Safety

Following complaints from members of the public please can we ask again if your child/children are scooting or riding to school they are doing so

safely, we hear of near misses where children are just crossing roads without checking for oncoming cars. All children should be wearing a helmet whilst scooting or riding.



Parking

Polite reminder that the bus layby in front of the Victorian building on South Street is strictly for use by **school transport only** and not for parking at school drop & collection. At times children have had to step off the bus straight into the road which is very unsafe for all, every single child in this school will at some point use this facility and we would hate for there to be an accident. We appreciate parking is minimal however there are many free car parks within walking distance of the school.

Lost Property

The lost property bin is bursting at the seams, in just 1 term it has filled up. Weather permitting it will be out on the 'Stage' at the end of school next **Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri** so please come and have look if your child has misplaced anything. The lost property bin is available to look through every day during term time, it is situated in the corner of Preloved Shop, in the classroom in playground with the ramp.



Uniform

Please can we remind you that nail varnish or fake nails are not part of the school uniform, therefore no children should be wearing either. We have also had a number of the older children wearing necklaces, Bracelets, anklets and hooped earrings. Please can you enforce the uniform policy with your child. Many thanks with your help in this.

Monday 27th January

– INSET Day

Wincanton Primary School Supervisor Cleaner Needed!

15 hours per week (3:15pm-6:15pm)

Monday-Friday

Or

20 hours per week (2:15 – 6:15pm) Monday

- Friday

Grade 14 (£12.64-£13.05) per hour

Term Time with some cleaning during the
school holidays

Closing date: 12 noon on Monday 27th
January 2025

Please see our school website for further
information and an application form:

[https://www.wincantonprimaryschool.co.uk
/vacancies/](https://www.wincantonprimaryschool.co.uk/vacancies/)

PTA News

The next PTA meeting is on **Monday 13th January**
at 7pm - all welcome!

This is a great opportunity to meet the new PTA
committee and learn how we can work together to
support our children's education and school life.

As a new committee this year, we're really excited
to make a difference, but we really **need more
parent support** to make our events a success.
There are **lots of roles available**, both behind the
scenes and at events – whether you can spare a
little time or a lot, **any help, big or small, is greatly
appreciated**.

We hope to see you there and look forward to
working together to make this year's PTA events
even better! If you can't make the meeting but
want to learn more you can get in touch with the
PTA via email: pta@wincantonprimaryschool.co.uk.
We'd love to hear from you!



Well Done Medals

- **Ava** in Pluto Class for making huge improvements recognising common exception words in phonics. Well done!
- **Alfred** in Mercury Class for trying so hard to complete a lot of reading in the holidays and improve your reading skill.
- **Reggie** in Earth Class for working independently to find different ways of making 10.
- **Arlo C.** in Venus Class for sharing his knowledge about different animals with his peers.
- **Hudson** in Mars Class for fantastic teamwork and enthusiastic attitude towards all of his learning. Especially on Hook Day!
- **Oliver** in Neptune Class for excellent concentration when deciphering the clues from the alien.
- **Ralph** in Saturn Class for super learning in maths – doubling numbers.
- **Toby** in Jupiter Class for writing clear sentences using a range of conjunctions and inverted commas with the correct punctuation.
- **Fenn** in Sun for finding the difference between negative numbers and positive numbers. Well done!
- **Ellie-Mae** in Moon Class for always showing great kindness to everyone.
- **Leo** in Apollo Class for the amazing effort he has put into his handwriting and presentation this week – well done!
- **Ivor** in Asteroid Class for being an inquisitive learner on our Hook Day!
- **Bailey** in Galaxy Class for supporting her peers during forest school.
- **Cornel** in Milky Way Class for his perseverance and resilience when trying to start a fire in forest school.