



Newsletter ~ February 2026

The Windmill Primary Federation



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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this half-term, I would like to extend my thanks for your ongoing support and take the opportunity to reflect on the many successes of our children. Pupils have approached their learning with enthusiasm and determination, showing ambition, resilience and a willingness to challenge themselves.

It has been particularly pleasing to see our school values in action. Children have demonstrated kindness and respect and have taken pride in their achievements across the school. We are also very encouraged by the continued emphasis on good attendance, recognising the vital role it plays in supporting progress and learning. Our Junior Leadership Team has been instrumental in promoting this focus.

This half-term has offered a wealth of engaging learning opportunities and extracurricular activities that have helped bring the curriculum to life. Classes 1 and 2 enjoyed a 'Spaceship Earth' interactive workshop and Class 6 visited Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse to experience life during World War II. Reception Class had a mini banquet and Class 5 held an afternoon tea event. The children have participated in 'Number Rocks', a national competition run by Times Tables Rock Stars to improve their recall of mathematical facts, and all of the classes performed brilliantly in this term's poetry recital this week, with Class 3 re-telling Shakespeare's *The Witches' Spell* and Class 4 even doing some rapping! This week has been Children's Mental Health Week, and all classes enjoyed the online assembly hosted by Place2Be with the focus of creating a true sense of belonging for everyone through the theme of 'This is My Place.' Reflecting back on the end of last term, having enjoyed the Rudolph Run, we are delighted to be able to report that, across the federation, thanks to your generosity, we raised a total of £1856 for Tapping House.

Thank you to the families who joined us for the Tea and Talk event at our school. It was wonderful to see families connecting with a range of professionals, including representatives from the Schools and Community Team and Family Hubs. We also appreciated the strong turnout at the after-school food tasting session led by Lunchtime Co. Feedback from families and pupils was extremely positive, with particular praise for the chocolate cake! Many children showed great curiosity and openness in trying new foods.

We are pleased that the majority of families are now registered with Class Dojo, which enables us to share learning experiences and key information with you in a clear and accessible way.

Parents Evenings will take place on Monday 2nd March and Wednesday 4th March. We will follow the same procedure as last term, so these consultations will take place in school; the letter for expressing your preference of day and time slot will come home to you on the first day after the holiday.

We are excited about our up-and-coming Sports tournament in March for Class 3 children. Several of our pupils will be representing our school and competing alongside other primaries at the West Norfolk Academies Trust event. We wish them all well and look forward to them going for gold! We are also thrilled about the number of Key Stage 2 children who have signed up to take violin lessons starting after the half-term holiday.

As we move into the second half of the academic year, we do so with optimism and enthusiasm. I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable break and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 23rd February.

Kind regards,

Craig Jansen & Caraline Lock
Exec Headteacher



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EYFS



In Reception, we have loved our unit 'King, Queens and Countries!' We began by exploring a map of the United Kingdom and learning all the countries that make up the UK. We loved exploring photos of each of the different places everyone in the class has been to! We explored our capital city, London, and took an imaginary bus tour exploring all the key landmarks like Big Ben, the London Eye and Buckingham Palace! After that, we discovered more about King Charles III and the Royal Family and made our own crowns and royal necklaces. In maths, we have been exploring numbers up to 10, and finding the different ways we can add numbers to make 10. In English, we have been learning the story of a duck called 'Quackling' who lost his quack and set off on a journey to find it again, meeting friends and dangers along the way.



Class 1



This half term, Class 1 have had a fantastic time learning about the seasons and weather in science, finding out how weather is measured and how we can prepare for extreme conditions. The children have loved studying different artists' work in art lessons, and using some of their techniques to create their own wonderful pieces. They have worked brilliantly in maths on place value, confidently partitioning numbers into tens and ones and counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s. In geography, they have also enjoyed learning about the four countries of the United Kingdom and sharing lots of interesting facts along the way.

Class 2



Class 2 have had a fantastic start to the new year! In English, we have been busy inventors, writing explanation texts for our own creations such as the Cheese Hat, the Intruder Machine and the Chef Robot. In maths, we have been learning about length, height, mass and capacity, and measuring using centimetres and metres. Our science lessons have focused on the human body, where we explored muscles, bones and the digestive system – including a rather gruesome investigation! In art, we have been developing our drawing skills by creating self-portraits and learning how to mix realistic skin tones. In computing, we have been learning about data and information, creating tally charts, pictograms and more. In RE, we have been learning about Islam and Muslim places of worship. We have had a brilliant start back and a wonderful new year of learning so far.



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Class 3



In English, we have been enjoying *The Lost Homework* by Richard O'Neill alongside the classic tale of King Midas. These stories have inspired us to create our own wishing tales. In maths, we have been working hard on our 3, 4, and 8 times tables. We've also been learning how to multiply and divide two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers. Science has taken us on a journey deep into the past as we've explored rocks and fossils. Meanwhile, in history, we have been fascinated by the great philosophers of Ancient Greece and the life of Alexander the Great, learning how his leadership shaped the ancient world. In art, we have recreated the Great Sphinx of Ancient Egypt as part of our exploration into Egyptian art and its different styles.

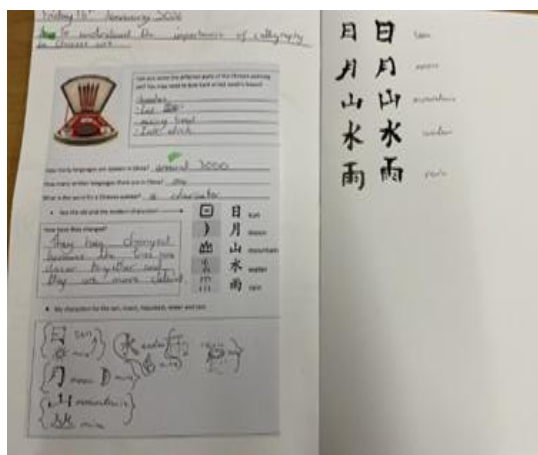
Class 4



During this term we have been looking at multiplication and division, working very hard on fluency of times tables and applying that knowledge. In English, our model text has been based on a fairy tale, so we are taking this forward and using *Jack and the Beanstalk* for our hot-write newspaper article.

In our music lessons, we have researched pollution, learnt a song, written and recorded our own song about pollution, and added backing music. It is something we are proud of! In science, we have studied various parts of the human body, including the skeleton, muscles and digestive system. Computing has involved data logging and using devices to record real time data, and data over time, then we analysed the data and thought of ways to use it. Finally, in art we have investigated the seven areas of design and for our final project, we have been combining the skills we have learnt to produce a collage/zentangle combination piece.

Class 5



This term, Class 5 have had some exciting topics to delve into. In geography, we explored East Anglia and compared our area of living to cities across the United Kingdom. In science, we deepened our understanding of solids, liquids and gases, discovering what density is and how it can vary depending on what the state of matter is. Our topic in history was the French Revolution where we explored why people in France led a rebellion. We also looked at the rise and fall of Napoleon. In art, Class 5 have been learning about Chinese calligraphy. We studied the different Chinese characters and even had a go at drawing some. Our topic in PE this term has been invasion games, and we have developed our attacking and defensive skills particularly in netball, bench ball and dodgeball. We have now started attending swimming lessons every Friday to improve our skills in the water. To finish the half-term off, Class 5 planned and designed an afternoon tea which we later ate! Delicious.



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Class 6



This half-term, Class 6 have worked incredibly hard in their learning. In English, we have written a discursive piece exploring both sides of the argument using our high-level vocabulary alongside a range of punctuation, including semi-colons! In maths, we have explored the topic of algebra and explored substitution and solving tricky equations - Class 6 have been fantastic at this and showed strong learning in this topic. In science, we have investigated plants and explored parts of a plants and how plants get their energy and water supply through their xylems. In history, we have explored 'The rise of Hitler' before WW2 and have begun to explore how WW2 started; we will build on this information next half-term. We have been able to book a school trip alongside the theme of WW2 to explore and deepen our learning further. In geography, we have explored South America, looking at the culture and terrain in addition to countries which are in the

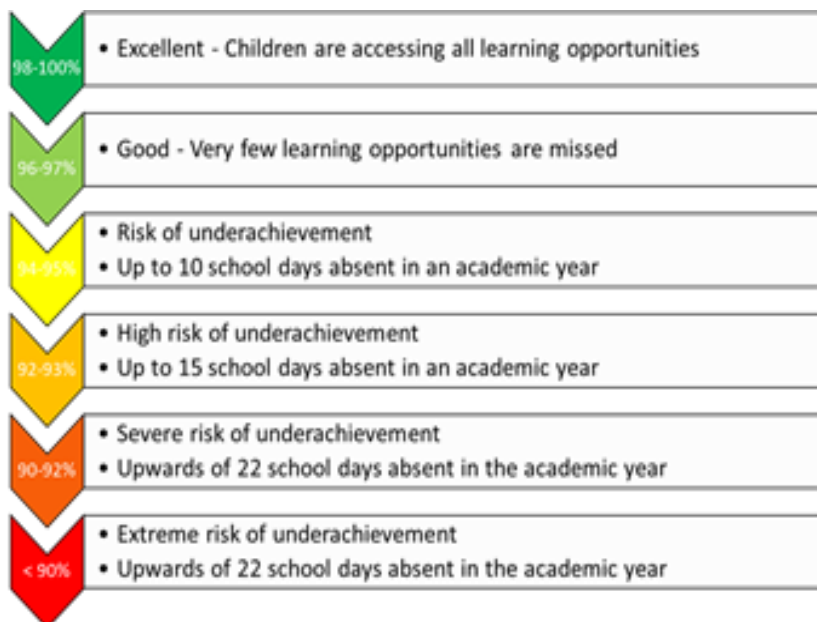
continent. In PE, Class 6 have explored their basketball skills and developed their skills to begin to play matches. We have had a busy half-term and Class 6 have shown their enthusiasm for learning. Some Class 6 pupils have shown dedication and came to SATs booster sessions to support their learning!

The Importance of Good Attendance

The Government strives for every pupil to achieve 97% attendance. Every day away from school is a day away from learning and this can have an impact on a child's education and future accomplishments.

We want every child to enjoy school and achieve their potential in education and life beyond. We are always here to talk through any issues and help find solutions. Parents are always a phone call away if a child is too ill to continue their day; please encourage them to try to give the day a go, as children often feel much better once they are in class.

The Government has issued attendance guidance and targets to all schools. You may receive regular texts informing you of the number of days that your child has been absent in a term/year. The Government hopes that this personal approach will keep you informed and make parents more aware of how the odd day adds up.





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Coming up soon

- **Thursday 26th February** - “Glow” Disco Reception & KS1: 3.30pm-4.30pm; KS2: 4.45pm – 5.45pm. £3.50 entry
- **Thursday 5th March- World Book Day-** To celebrate World Book Day, we will be selling “Walton Bars” these will be available to pre-order or to purchase on the playground.
- **Friday 27th March- Easter Bake Sale & Raffle.** We will be holding an Easter Bake Sale and Raffle on the last day of term. We will be asking for donations of baked goods to sell on the playground. We will also be holding a raffle which we will be selling tickets for.

Diary Dates



COMING SOON

Tuesday 24th February 2025- MITI Play Day and Concert (Y5/6 musicians) – St Nicholas’ Chapel, King’s Lynn
Thursday 26th February- PTA ‘Glow Disco’ event
Monday 2nd and Wednesday 4th March- Spring Parents’ Evenings
Wednesday 4th March – WNAT Literacy Event (Year 5)
Wednesday 4th March- Class Photo Day
Thursday 5th March- World Book Day (details to follow next term)
Thursday 12th March- WNAT Sports Event (Year 3)
Wednesday 25th March- NHS Reception and Year 6 Health check
Friday 27th March- PTA Easter Bake Sale and raffle