



## Newsletter – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

### Updates this week:

- Staffing Update
- X (Twitter) and Facebook

### Message from Mr Gaffiney

What a brilliant start to the Summer Term! We've had a wonderful week in school, and it's be great to welcome all of the children and staff back after the break. Lots of great things lie ahead this term and we can't wait to share them with you all!

### Staffing Update

Year 2 – as you may be aware, we undertook a recruitment campaign in the Spring Term to find a replacement for Mrs Claxton. We have recruited a fantastic new teacher, Miss Fitzgerald, who is currently training with us, and we are really looking forward to her starting working with us. She is not able to start formally with us until September, so in the meantime Mr Baker will continue to teach the class for the summer term.

### X (Twitter) and Facebook

Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates, pictures and celebrations of our school! We are @WinhillSchool on X, Winhill Village Primary & Nursery School on Facebook

### Diary Dates

Date	Activity	Additional information
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Polling Day (Main School open, Nursery closed)	
w/c 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Enhancement Day	A day of enrichment for all children – information to follow!
<b>w/c 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Summer Half Term Holiday</b>	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Start of Summer Term 2 – all pupils back	
w/c 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Checks	
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Future Aspirations Week	A week of activities looking at jobs and our future
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics (plus Y2 retakes)	
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Family Lunch – Year 5 and Year 6	Invitations to follow soon!
20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 3 and 4 campout and activity days	Details to follow!
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	JTMAT Training day – school closed to all pupils	
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Event	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term (school closes from 1pm)	

*We will do all we can to keep to these dates but may need to change them in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances. Thanks for your understanding.*

## **Training Days (School Closed to pupils)**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July – MAT Inset

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – School Training

## **Communication**

We absolutely value the relationships we have with parents and appreciate the importance of communication as part of this. As such, either Miss Gallagher and I are always available on the door in a morning, or you can make an appointment to see us through the office. Though we may not be able to see you immediately, one of us will always get back to you as soon as we can, and this shouldn't ever take longer than 48 hours.

A reminder that we are no longer using the text message service for parents to message us – please send an email to [win-office@win.jtmat.co.uk](mailto:win-office@win.jtmat.co.uk) or give us a call on 01283247570.

We are also aware that there have been some glitches with the text message service. Please do let us know if this affects you and we will do what we can whilst we find a solution.

## **The School Day**

The doors open from 8.45 and all children must be in for 9.00am at the latest. This time is used for learning so the earlier your children can be at school, the more they will get out of this time.

The school day will end at 3.15pm for Key Stage 1 and 3.20pm for Key Stage 2.

## **Breakfast Club**

We are delighted to provide our own in-house Breakfast Club daily whenever school is open to pupils in all classes. Pupils may arrive any time from 7.30am and no pre-booking is required.

Costs:

7.30 – 8.45am            £3.50

8.00 – 8.45am            £3.00

These prices include breakfast

## **After-school Club**

We offer after school care daily whenever school is open to pupils in all classes in partnership with Winshill Childcare. They organise and run this session, so if you would like to make use of this then please let the office know and we can share their details.

## **Pupil Premium**

Pupil Premium is an opportunity for those eligible to secure additional funding for their child. This money is used to support them in their learning, as well as subsidising things such as school trips. Please do let us know if you think you are eligible for this, or you can apply directly. Further details can be found here:

[Overview - Free school meals - Staffordshire County Council](#)

## **Uniform**

Looking smart is an important aspect of our school life and we want all of our children to wear our school uniform with pride. Uniform with logos on is available at [My Uniform \(myuniformltd.co.uk\)](http://MyUniform(myuniformltd.co.uk)) or [www.wbglobaltrading.co.uk](http://www.wbglobaltrading.co.uk)

Logos do look smart but they are not mandatory and local supermarkets have perfectly suitable smart uniform items at very reasonable prices.

On a normal school day, all children should wear:

- Red crew neck sweatshirt/cardigan
- White polo or shirt
- Grey or black school trousers/skirt/pinafore dress or red gingham school dress
- Black flat sensible school shoes (shoes are to be plain with no coloured logos, smart plain black trainers are acceptable)

For safety, earrings must only be modest studs and no necklaces, bracelets or rings should be worn. If jewellery, outside of these guidelines, is worn please do not be offended if your child is asked to remove it for the remainder of the day. If you are planning to get your child's ears pierced, then the start of the summer holiday is ideal as hopefully they can then remove them independently for PE lessons.

Watches are acceptable. Smart watches, however, are worn at your own risk and school cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage if these are brought into school.

All long hair should be tied back daily for school. Please use modest hair accessories only.

## **PE Days**

On a PE day, we would like to ask all children to come to school in their PE kit. This saves time changing, preserves privacy and hopefully helps with the washing at home too!

Our PE kit is as follows:

- Plain white T-shirt
- Black or grey PE shorts or leggings
- Trainers
- Warm tracksuit top and bottoms

If you have high-quality pre-loved uniform with plenty of life in it still, please bring into to school (washed and clean) so that it can be re-homed.

## **Birthdays**

At Winshill, we love sharing birthdays with our children! As such, from this year, children are invited to come to school in their own clothes on their birthday (or the day nearest to it of a holiday or weekend birthday). They are welcome to bring sweets or cakes to celebrate with their friends, but these should not include nuts and we ask that dietary requirements of classmates are considered.

## **Absence and Attendance**

We strongly encourage good attendance from all of our pupils. Every day at school matters and so we encourage children to be in school unless they are too unwell to be so. If your child is ill, please contact us via phone on the first day of their absence to advise off the reason why they are absent.

It is always our preference that routine medical or dental appointments be taken outside of the school day, though we recognise that this may not always be possible. Please do not be offended if we ask to see proof of the appointment. This is part of our MAT Attendance Policy.

**We cannot authorise any holidays in term-time.** Please be advised that such absences are recorded as unauthorised and may be subject to penalty notices (for children 5 years and over).

## **Questions and concerns**

At Winshill Village, we are proud to be a 'family school'. We always work tirelessly in the best interests of your children and keep them at the forefront of all decision-making. We are committed to making their primary school days the very best years of their life.

If, however, something is not going right, you have suggestions on how we could improve something or you have any questions, concerns or worries, we do strongly encourage you to get in touch. We will always welcome you in, listen to you and act on your concerns.