

Windmill Hill Academy

Monthly Family Newsletter

Inspiring Passionate Life Long Learners



Mrs A Bassett
Head of School

Monday 30th November 2020



December is just around the corner and, although it is different for us all this year, we are trying to do as many events as possible in line with Covid-19 Government guidance to make it special for the children. Here is an overview of events but please see ClassDojo/letters sent home for more information.

1st - 11th December: Christmas Post box for Christmas cards. *Please follow the guidelines posted on ClassDojo.*

Friday 4th December: Christmas Decorations Day. *Children can wear non-school uniform but old clothes please as they will get covered in glue and glitter!*

Wednesday 9th December: Christmas Dinner. *More information will be sent home soon.*

Friday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day. *Donations to be shared between 'Save the Children' and Friends of WHA.*

Week beginning 14th December: Mini Christmas Performance to be shared with parents. *These will be shared with parents via ClassDojo. Specific information regarding class's performances will be shared via ClassDojo/letter sent home.*

Christmas Party Day. *Children to wear party clothes. They have the opportunity to bring in their own party food lunch (but it cannot be shared with other children as in previous years due to Covid-19). More information will be sent home soon.*

It has been a busy term so far and we continue to be impressed with how the children have adapted to the 'new' normal and are displaying their learning sails. The children are enjoying all of the learning challenges and, as a result, are making super progress.

I am aware that there has been many information updates so I am grateful for your continued support.

School Improvement: Visible Learning

At Windmill Hill Academy, we continue to learn to become 'Visible Learners'. We use our learning sails and corresponding characters to make us more aware of our learning, what we need to learn and what helps us to achieve our learning goals.

You may be aware, that we have achieved the status of Visible Learning Partner School through undertaking action research into how children learn best via a project called Visible Learning. More recently, the Trust (An Daras) created a case study based on all of the schools within the Trust and it has now been published globally!

Our action plan for this year is to continue this journey and one of the ways we want to enable learners to become more independent is through using a range of metacognition strategies.

For more information on Visible Learning, please visit our website: www.windmillhillacademy.org/web/visible_learning_1/432292



Year F

'What happens after dark?'

Year F's current learning connection block, 'What happens after dark?' has triggered the children's curiosity and taken their learning in several different directions...



... From learning all about 'Bonfire Night' and why some people celebrate it...



... To learning about the Hindu religious festival of light, Diwali. The children created diya lamps, Rangoli patterns and henna hand designs.



... The children have also been learning how night and day occurs, the names of the planets in our solar system and exploring our 'space station' role play area.



Year 1

A few of our Year 1s have taken part some Bikeability Sessions, where they practised riding balance bikes and learnt about road safety.

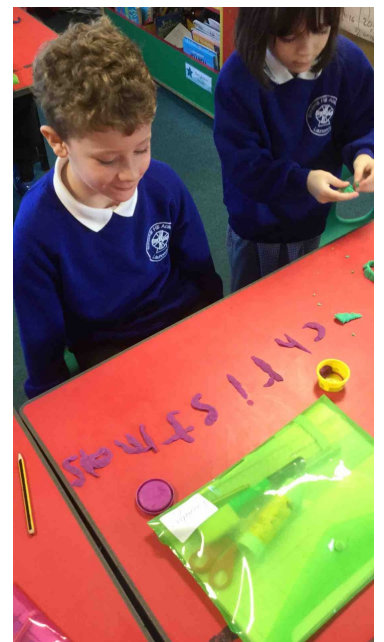


Year 2

Year 2 deserve a massive well done this half term! They have shown amazing progress in their phonics and we are so proud of them for that! They have all completed their Phonics Screening Check and data has been submitted to County. We will let you know how the children have done when we can.

We have been busy learning about our new learning concept and the children are enjoying researching about the Galapagos Islands and all the wildlife there.

We are very busy at the moment learning our Christmas song to share with you all and I am amazed at how fab the children are at singing the song already! We have a busy few weeks ahead and are ready for some lovely Christmas fun!



Year 3

English: Tsunami Newspaper Report and Poem Year 3 were instantly hooked with the challenge to develop their informative and imaginative grammatical skills, with the focus being the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. Their instant curiosity of the learning concept supported their learning and Year 3 enjoyed creating a newspaper report which shared their survivors' story (informative) and developing a poem that reflected the events of the Tsunami (Imaginative).

Maths: Addition and Subtraction Year 3 have recently completed this unit and have since been assessed. Year 3 were all very resilient during their learning and have all successfully evidenced progress. Great work Year 3 and well done.

Design Technology: Mechanisms Year 3 have already designed and made a mechanical waving hand. Reflecting on their evaluations of this, practical work is now supporting Year 3 with their new design brief which is to successfully create a mechanical man or woman. Year 3 have already selected different cultures, across the world, within their designs to create a diverse range of mechanical men and woman.

Geography Year 3 continue to enjoy developing their locational knowledge and learning where and why different foods can only be grown in certain places or environments (focusing on The UK and Brazil). Year 3 have really impressed me with their curiosity, understanding and resilience. Through the constant use of formative assessment, I am already certain everyone is going to succeed well in their final assessment.

Science: Earth (one giant magnet and the power of gravity) Year 3 show and share a huge interest in this subject. Year 3 have all been massively impressive with their eagerness to develop their understanding of what, at times, can be a difficult topic to comprehend.

Year 4

Over the last few weeks, Year 4 have been completing some excellent learning in Maths. Our focus has been on addition and subtraction and all the children have shown great resilience and tenacity through the whole unit.

L.I. To add four-digit numbers with one exchange
Flashback

- Calculate $352 + 229$ 581 ✓ $3 \times 8 = 24$ ✓
- Write 23 in Roman Numerals: XXIII ✓
- Complete the missing number:
 $4782 = 4000 + 700 + 70 + 12$ ✓
- A square has sides of length 4 cm.
What is the perimeter of the square? 16cm ✓

Match the calculations with a good estimate.

$345 + 1234$	$3000 + 6000$
$2985 + 6325$	$3500 + 1200$
$3541 + 1179$	$350 + 1200$
$2135 + 6292$	$2000 + 6000$

Complete the table. Show your workings.

Question	Estimated answer	Accurate answer
1) $3,970 \text{ km} - 1,850 \text{ km}$	2000	2120
2) $278 - 852$	6100	6224
3) $278 - 852$	6300	6424
4) $1,990 \text{ m} - 1,984 \text{ m}$	4000	3988

1) $4000 - 2000 = 2000$
 3970
 $- 1850$
 2120

2) $1000 - 900 = 6100$
 1076
 $- 852$
 6224

1) 352
 $+ 229$
 581 ✓
 $9 + 2 = 11$ ✓
 $2 + 5 = 7$ ✓
 $2 + 3 = 5$ ✓

2) $\times \text{I} + \text{I} \text{I}$ ✓

3) 4782
 4000 700 70 12 ✓

4) 16 cm ✓

Complete the calculations.
Use the place value charts to help you.

a) $3,117 + 2,542 = 5659$

Th	H	T	U
3	1	1	7
2	5	4	2
5	6	5	9

b) $3,117 + 2,544 = 5661$

Th	H	T	U
3	1	1	7
2	5	4	4
5	6	6	1

7 + 2 = 9
 1 + 4 = 5
 1 + 5 = 6
 3 + 2 = 5

7 + 4 = 11
 1 + 4 = 5
 1 + 5 = 6
 3 + 2 = 5

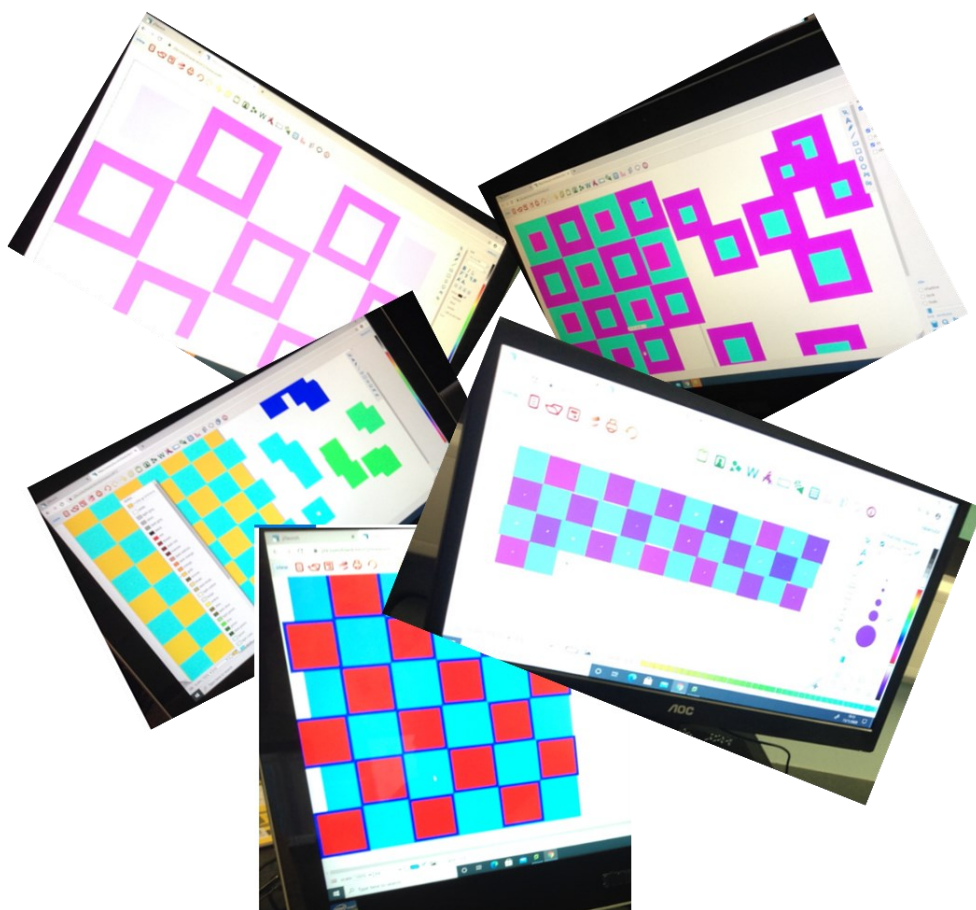
Year 5

Computing

We Are Artists – Fusing geometry and art

This term, Y5 are exploring graphics for geometric art, taking inspiration from the work of Escher, Riley and traditional Islamic artists as well as experimenting with complex 'fractal' landscapes.

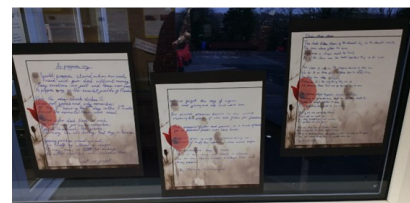
For their first lesson, the children created a pattern from a simple tessellated shape, ensuring that each neighbour fits exactly next to its neighbour.



Year 6

A fantastic half term in Year 6 so far! They have all set themselves personal targets in class and are doing their very best to achieve them; it is great to see how motivated they all are. They amaze me each week with such brilliant results in their 'Around the World' times tables and also in their spellings. Keep up the good work Year 6!

Remembrance Day: Year 6 marked their respect on Remembrance Day by sharing a selection of poems with the rest of the school via Microsoft Teams. I must say, they were very confident in their delivery and did us all proud. The class also created some art work which was put on display in the corridors and made some Remembrance pebbles which were placed on the memorial in the town centre.



Amazing Achievements

Stars of The Week							
	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
6th Nov	Isla Logan	Taya Evie	Julia Tomasz	Quintin Isla	Finlay Jacob	Raegan Casey	Dillan Lola
13th Nov	Lilly Louis	Kai Imarni	Imogen Buddy	Jack C Alfie	Izabella Leah	Niamh Elsie	Minnie Scott
20th Nov	Efe Simon	Aaron Imogen	Chloe Harry	Myles Tyler	Summer Yujie	Chelsea Marissa	Maja Joseph
27th Nov	Ezra Jason	Adem Shiying	Whole of Y2	Sam Jack H	Nicola Casey	Sara Elise	Alfie Emma

Respect and Kindness			
	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
6th Nov	Adem (Y1)	Siqi (Y3)	Noah (Y6)
13th Nov	Ella (Y2)	Alyssa (Y4)	Lohen (Y5)
20th Nov	Maja (YF)	Jack C (Y3)	Bailey (Y6)
27th Nov	Merrick (Y1)	Darcey (Y4)	Eliza (Y5)

Positive Role Model
6th Nov
Florence (Y3)
20th Nov
Jacob (Y4)



Raffle ticket winners
13th Nov
Filipe (Y4), Eliza (Y5) and Myles (Y3)
27th Nov
Dominika (Y6), Myles (Y3)

Do you have a child who was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017?

If so, you must now apply for a school place for him/her for September 2021. If you have a child born between the above dates, you must submit an online application (www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). A formal application through Cornwall Council must be made by parents for all places for children due to start school in September 2021. The deadline for applications is **15th January 2021**. Please note, we were oversubscribed this year so please make sure you apply before the deadline.

We are currently unable to give tours to prospective parents due to Covid-19 restrictions which I know is disappointing. However, with the help of pupils and staff, we have created a video of our wonderful school. To view it, please visit: https://youtu.be/lwGbD_Z9uq8

Please share with anyone else you know that may be interested. Please also take the time to look around our website: www.windmillhillacademy.org

If you have further questions, please email them to windmill@andaras.org

Attendance Figures for October/November 2020

The class with the highest attendance each week, receives an extra playtime and the attendance trophy. If your child achieves 100% attendance for the term, they will receive a badge. Each term they can earn a different colour attendance badge. And, for each term within the year, they can earn themselves an additional bronze, silver or gold badge.

Our annual attendance target is 97%+.

Year	19th Oct	2nd Nov	9th Nov	16th Nov
YF	96.7%	98.7%	98.7%	94.2%
Y1	99.3%	99.3%	100%★	97.1%
Y2	93.7%	98.3%	98.6%	93.2%
Y3	97.9%	99.3%	97.3%	98%
Y4	97.7%	96.4%	99.3%	97.8%
Y5	97.5%	96.3%	98.5%	95.6%
Y6	98.2%	96.8%	98.2%	100%★
Whole school	97.2%	97.9%	98.7%	96.5%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st Dec - 11th Dec	Christmas Post box for cards
4th Dec	Christmas Decorations Day
9th Dec	Christmas Dinner
11th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Week beg 14th Dec	Christmas 'mini' performances shared with parents on ClassDojo
17th Dec	Christmas Party Day
18th Dec	Last day of term
21st Dec - 1st Jan	Christmas Holiday
4th Jan	INSET day
5th Jan	New term begins
12th Jan	Bag2School Collection
15th - 19th Feb	Half term
2nd - 16th April	Easter Holidays
Month of May	Y2 Special Learning (SATs)
Week beg 10th May	Y6 SATs week
31st May - 4th June	Half term
7th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week Y4 Multiplication Tables check
Week beg 12th July	Whole school Transition week
21st July	Last day of term for pupils
22nd and 23rd July	INSET Days



Bag2School

If you have been clearing out recently, please bring your donations into school on the morning of collection (leave outside the main entrance). Items collected - men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories. (No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please). All funds raised will go to the Friends of WHA.

Medicines

We understand that from time to time your child may require to take medication within school time, e.g. antibiotics. This is fine as it allows your child to continue attending school without affecting their learning. However, in order for us to administer it, we require you to fill in a form. Therefore, please can all medicines be given in to the office and a form completed. Please note, this does not include medicines to treat Covid-19 symptoms, e.g. Calpol to keep down a temperature.

Windmill Breakfast Club

Windmill Hill Academy has provision for before school opens in the form of a Breakfast Club. It has fully opened in line with the Covid-19 regulations for breakfast clubs.



If you are in need of childcare before the school day commences, why not book into the Breakfast Club where they can safely eat breakfast and play within their class bubbles between the hours of 8am and 9am. They will be supervised by two qualified staff, Mrs Williams and Mrs Rutherford, for the duration of their stay before being escorted to their classrooms at the appropriate times.



There is a small charge for attending the club: £3.00 per session which includes breakfast of cereals, toast, fruit and juice or milk. If you are in receipt of Child's Tax Credits you may be able to claim the childcare costs back when filling in your annual award. Receipts can be arranged for this (please speak to Mrs Williams). Also, children who are in receipt of free school dinners or PPG, the cost is £2 per session.

Booking onto the club can be done online through the EDUSPOT app www.eduspot.co.uk whereby you can book the days you require and pay for them too. It's so easy! You will have to set up your information with a current email address and mobile number.

If you need any more information with reference to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Discounted School Uniform

We have a limited amount of jumpers left and they are at a reduced rate. This is due to sales going online so we do not need to hold stock.

We have sizes 24, 34 and small adult. They are at a discounted rate of £5.

We also have some caps (with the neck protection) at a discounted rate of £2.

Get them whilst you can! If you require any, please contact Mrs Zoffman in the office.



School uniform can now be purchased online from Price and Buckland at <https://price-buckland.co.uk/>. Select the school finder tab from the menu and view the range.

You will notice that you can now buy cardigans, aswell as jumpers. There is also the option to buy addition items, such as PE shorts/t-shirts. Please note there is no requirement to purchase the t-shirts/shorts/fleece advertised on the website, but there is the option to should you wish.

Please note, the fleece is not to be used in place of a school jumper/cardigan and is only to be used as an extra layer in the winter months or for PE. Similarly, that the hoodie is only to be used for PE.

We still have our uniform donation station so if you need an item, please contact us. We also welcome donations (to be placed in a plastic bag for quarantining before handing out).

For more information on our school uniform, please visit our school website:

www.windmillhillacademy.org/web/academy_uniform/205398

SchoolMoneyAPP (Eduspot)

After Christmas, we require ALL parents to use the APP to book and pay (if applicable) for school dinners or select if they are a packed lunch. This is to be done in advance by the end of the day on a Sunday prior to the week ahead. If you have not pre-booked and paid (if applicable) a required school, you will be contacted to provide a packed lunch for your child. We appreciate you supporting us with this as it really speeds up the morning routine which means we can fit more learning in!

Please ensure you are able to access it before Christmas. If you are having any problems, please call Mrs Zoffman in the office.

Parking

Please can we remind everyone to park considerately at all times and drive with due care and attention. If you bring children to breakfast club, please leave your car in a parking space and take them to the door. Parking on site (other than for bringing children to breakfast club) is strictly for staff and people with school parking permits. These permits are for Blue Badge holders or anyone who has a letter from a recognised medical professional stating they have a medical condition. Please respect these rules at all times to help us keep a safe site.

We encourage you to use our 'drop and go' system in the morning for pupils in Key Stage 2 or park in one of the local car parks. Parking permits are available so please call the office to arrange one. These are free. Please avoid parking in the local streets. We have had several complaints from local residents regarding parking, e.g. blocking driveways and parking on double yellow lines, obstructing the road etc. The Police have been informed.

