

Windmill Weekly (05)

Achievement through Creativity, Community and Challenge

Value for October - honesty

08 October 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Cross Country - Parents Welcome!

On Friday 22 October we will be holding our annual House Cross Country Run. We run laps of the school for about 20 minutes, starting at 9:10am and ending at 9:30am. This year you will be very welcome to watch and cheer on the children.

Covid-Restrictions

I have been asked a couple of times why we aren't allowing parents to attend performances such as the Harvest events that have taken place in classes this week, when the wider community is much more relaxed. Principally this is because Covid rates are high in schools in Oxfordshire and our key priority is to prevent an outbreak of Covid-19 at Windmill. In school here there have been outbreaks, there have been many children having to learn from home and significant staff absence, which has a huge impact on the quality of teaching and learning in classes. Indoor events are a higher risk and in our risk assessment we feel that packing adults and children together in the hall would be a risk too far to take at the moment. The government guidance says that keeping children learning in school must be our highest priority.

However, we miss having you in school with us and seeing you sharing in the performances that your children do. We really do want you back in school as soon as possible. We will make decisions about Christmas celebrations closer to the time.

Mrs Dwyer - Retirement

I was very sad this week when I posted an advert for a new Music Teacher on the school vacancies website. After 30 years at Windmill, Mrs Dwyer has decided to take retirement from January 2022 and therefore she will be leaving us when we close for the Christmas holiday. She is a very hard act to follow but we will be looking for a high quality music teacher to replace her.



Key Dates

15 th October	Class photos - individual
16 th October	Autumn Fayre
20 th October	Parent Interviews for whole school
22 nd October	House Cross Country - 9.00am - 9.30am
22 nd October	End of Term 1 @ 3.05pm
1 st November	Start of Term 2 @ 8.45am
11 th November	Flu immunisations - whole school
18 th November	Vision Screening - Reception children only

Autumn Fayre

8 days to go....

The Fayre is fast approaching. It is all shaping up nicely, but we do need a little bit of help for it all to run smoothly. Would anyone be free on the morning of the 16th October to help us to get set up? Or afterwards to help clear away?

If you can, please sign up for:

Morning Set up 9-11am <https://signup.com/go/RTBJxSq>

or Afternoon Clear up 4-5pm <https://signup.com/go/BGkKzec>

We also need your help to run the stalls. Stalls will be set up and ready to go with everything you need. You will get a set of instructions. It is all very easy to do and there will always be one of the Fayre team on hand to help if needed. Each slot is just 30 minutes long, which gives you plenty of time to explore the rest of what is on offer (or to sign up for another slot)!

Your Class Reps will have shared these links with you already, do sign up if you can.

Reception & Year 6 please sign up for Refreshments <https://signup.com/go/bbexJjf>

Year 1, please sign up for, Tin Can Alley & Bash The Rat: <https://signup.com/go/ZbdQdrv>

Year 2, please sign up for, Treasure Island & Hook a Duck: <https://signup.com/go/qOvoFmC>

Year 3, please sign up for, Guess The Teacher & Buzzer Wire: <https://signup.com/go/hRtYuHt>

Year 4, please sign up for, Welly Wanging & MUGA: <https://signup.com/go/TbEQGEA>

Year 5, please sign up for, PTA stall: <https://signup.com/go/JeJLZGy>

We are also relying on parents to bring in goodies to share. We are looking forward to trying some delicious savoury and sweet home baked or shop bought treats. (Nut - free please). These can be brought in on the day of the Fayre or brought into school on Friday 15th. Please label any dairy free and gluten free items and make sure that containers have your child's name and class so that they can be returned to you.

Call for pumpkins!

Can you add a pumpkin to your next shop? We need lots to make delicious soup for The Fayre. Please drop off any pumpkins in the box outside the office. These are needed by Thursday 14th at the latest please. Pumpkins need to be eating pumpkins or yellow squash. Not carving pumpkins please as these don't work in soup.

Thank you everyone,
The Fayre Team

Second Hand Uniform Sale!

Along with the great comeback of the Autumn Fayre, we are also having the great comeback of the Second Hand Uniform sale which will also take place during the Autumn Fayre.

If you have **good quality** jumpers, cardigans, trousers, skirts, pinafore (**NO SHIRTS please**) that your child no longer needs, please drop them off at the school office or bring them on the morning of the Fayre (Saturday 16th October). If these are inconvenient for you, just send me an email at cathyolive@hotmail.com and I can give you my home address.

Prices will be 1 ticket (50p) per item.

Parents Evening

Dear Parents/Carers,

We will soon be having our first Parents Evening of the year so that you can speak to your child's class teacher and find out how the first few weeks of term have been in school.

All appointments will be taking place online

When?

Parents Evenings will take place during the week beginning 18th October. Different classes will have availability on different days, when you log in to the system, you can see which classes have availability on which days. Times vary from class to class, but all teachers have availability until at least 7pm on one day that week.

How to book

Parents need to visit: <https://windmill.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Here you need to carefully fill in the details you gave to us when your child registered with the school. Once you login then you will be able to select your dates/times to meet with teachers. Confirmation will be sent via email to the address you logged in with.

Bookings will open to parents from Midday on Monday 11th October and close at 5pm on Sunday 17th October.

We would like parents to make these bookings themselves but if you have any issues then please contact your child's class teacher as they can make an appointment on your behalf if needed.

On the day

You can log back into the system using the same details as before. To take part in the video call please have a device (a mobile phone is recommended, but laptops or tablets should work as well) with a camera and microphone. Before you enter the call you can test the camera and microphone. Please make sure that you leave time for logging in and setup before your appointment. The system is on an automated timer and will move on to the next appointment automatically after ten minutes from your start time.

Here is a video showing parents how to log in and setup ready for video calls: <https://vimeo.com/473882995>

Best wishes,
Andy Howe
Deputy Headteacher

100 Club

The winning numbers are for the September draw are:

	1st - £25	2nd - £15	3rd - £10
September	80	107	82

Congratulations to those that have won - you should have received an email about claiming your winnings. The club is currently full, but we will most likely have spaces again in the new year. Helen Baker.

Brass Lessons

Mr Brinkley, our brass teacher, will be starting some beginners very soon. He gave a demonstration to the children in Y3 and Y4 last week and some children have already signed up for lessons.

If your child would like to learn trumpet, trombone, or French Horn, this is the link to sign them up with the Music Service: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest

Lessons are in school time. Anyone who is registered for free school meals is entitled to free music lessons.

Please email me if you have any questions.

Penny Dwyer - pdwyer@windmill.oxon.sch.uk

Yours faithfully



Lynn Knapp
Headteacher

(If any images below are missing please view the Newsletter on the School Website - www.windmill.oxon.sch.uk)

The Oxford Baby Bank

"Equipment Donation Morning" for The Oxford Baby Bank, Saturday 6th November.

We are in desperate need of the following equipment and would be grateful if anyone has the following in very good condition to donate.

Cots

Cot-beds

Moses baskets

Playmats

Bouncy Chairs

Ikea High Chairs

Coats/Snow-suits up to age 4

Microwaveable sterilisers

Buggies : less than 5 years old (We realise this is a big ask but we aim to pass on equipment in very good condition as we are responsible for safety of working parts, brakes, wheels etc).

The donation morning will be held 10am-12pm at **The Methodist Church on the corner of Cowley Road and Jeune Street, OX4 1BN**



THE | OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established in Cambridge in 2013 to provide children and young adults with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

Pupils will learn some beautiful seasonal music and at the same time gain a background in vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history. Families are most welcome to come and listen to an informal concert at the end of the day.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see www.oxbridgesingingschool.com or email oxbridgess@gmail.com

20 & 21 December 2021
Worcester College, Oxford

www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk