

Monday 13th March 2023



Windmill Weekly

A highlight from last week...

The early birds played in the snow!

Before the decision was made to close the school on Friday, four members of staff had already arrived at school. With the snow still coming down thickly, they carried on with some work on their computers before deciding to use their break time to go outside and build an igloo.

Mr Gibbons thought all four adults might fit inside, but decided against trying after he went in first - too claustrophobic!

Head Lines



Mr Gibbons, Headteacher

I know Windmill has a reputation for not closing school unless we absolutely have to, we did have to close on Friday and by lunchtime I was thinking, 'Maybe we could have stayed open.'


I stand by our reputation, because I give children's attendance at school the highest priority. If we are to give them the best possible start to the rest of their lives, it means maximising every opportunity to learn, practise, develop, etc.

I also stand by our decisions on Thursday and Friday. We easily had enough staff in school on Thursday to open every classroom, and we made provisions for some adults to leave early who had furthest to go to get home. When I drove to school early on Friday morning, I could see how cars were struggling in the conditions and I felt clear-minded that I should not be asking people to attempt to drive to school.

As always, I am so grateful for your support and your encouraging comments. I hope the children had a great and memorable time.



The five strands of our strategic plan are:

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- **Metacognition** (children understanding their learning journey) '**We learn well**'
 - **Interaction** (all of us speaking, listening and communicating effectively) '**We speak well**'
 - **Writing** (using extensive vocabulary, correct grammar and punctuation) '**We write well**'
 - **Collaboration** (partnering with others to improve what we do) '**We work together**'
 - **Aspiration** (bringing the best out in each other and aiming high) '**We are inspired**'

What's going on?

To help you keep up with everything, the office staff and teaching staff will use this page for reminders and prompts!

Other news and notices

[Breakfast bagel club now starts at the slightly later time of 8:35am](#)

Children arriving between 8:20am and 8:35am will be charged 50p.

Lost Property

By main office every Tuesday from 7:45am until 3:45pm.

Mufti Day - Friday 24th March

in return for children bringing in a chocolate bar /egg. Week commencing 27th March we will be selling raffle tickets at 50p per ticket. The raffle will be drawn by Team Safe on Friday afternoon.

Term Dates: Break up - Friday 31st March Return Tuesday 18th April. BANK HOLIDAY ON MONDAY 8th MAY

COMIC RELIEF -Friday 17th March - children are invited to wear as much red as they want to. A link for donations will be posted on Class Dojo in the week and children will have the opportunity win a chocolatey prize by taking part in a times table challenge.

Please don't forget to connect with your child's class on ClassDojo and set up ParentPay, we use these to communicate with you all the time. Ask for help at the office if you need to.

10 things every Windmill parent/carer should know...

9. Our teachers are brilliant. We only employ the very best we can find and we know that Windmill teachers do not only teach children well, they also communicate with families really well too. Please make sure you work with them and support them, thank you.

Things to remember/help with

Reception

- Keep working on your Dinosaur Dioramas!

Year 1

- Remember to read regularly at home.

Year 2

- We are learning about habitats. Look around your gardens/parks to see what habitats you can see and find out what is living there.

Year 3

- Can you support your child to recognise that two halves/three thirds/four quarters are equal to one whole. What other fractions do they notice?

Year 4

- Read the digital time at home and to answer time related questions.

Year 5

- Please read the Dojo message about going to The Wrekin on Wednesday 29th March.

Year 6

- Why not use BBC Bitesize to support your children with their SATs
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrybv7>

Clubs

(Priority for clubs is given to invited children, based on need)

Monday:

- Year 3-6 Girls Football
- Year 5 Kwik Cricket
- KS2 Running Club

Tuesday:

- Year 3-6 Boccia/NAK Inclusive
- Year 3-6 Choir
- Year 3-6 Inclusive Football
- Year 6 SATS Booster

Wednesday:

- Year 5-6 Gymfinity
- Year 3-4 Boys Football
- Year 3-4 Tag Rugby

Thursday:

- Year 3-4 Dance GemAcademy
- Year 1-2 Football
- Year 1-2 Kwik Cricket
- Year 6 SATS Booster

Friday:

- Year 5-6 Football

Latest House Point totals:

Henmoor 10143, Cluddley 10059, Upton 8992 and Rowton 9032.