

Weekly newsletter

admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk

01837 83354

Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore
Friday 23rd January 2026



Executive Headteacher's Update



Executive Headteacher's Update continued

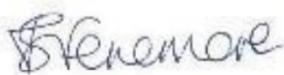
Dear Parents/Carers,

On Monday, Mr Slocombe and I met this week with Josh MacAlistair, the School Buildings Minister, and Ian Roome MP to discuss the urgent need for the replacement of the flat roof at Kings Nympton. This meeting provided a valuable opportunity to explore additional and alternative funding sources, as well as to ensure our schools' needs are represented at a national political level. It was a real honour to be welcomed to Portcullis House and the Palace of Westminster as guests of our MP, and to gain a greater understanding of how decisions affecting school buildings are made.

Across the whole federation, pupils took part in a very exciting Science Day. The children were captivated by a fantastic live science show delivered by Wonderstruck, which sparked curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the day. Following the show, each class planned and carried out a range of hands-on science experiments, allowing pupils to explore scientific concepts in a fun, practical, and engaging way. A huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Beardon of Sam's Cider, Winkleigh, who very generously donated £200 towards the cost of the science show. Their support helped make this memorable experience possible for all our children, and we are extremely grateful for their kindness and generosity.

Please could I politely ask you not to park or drop children at the entrance to the car park. This week buses have really struggled to enter the school, thank you for your co-operation.

Have a lovely weekend.



Mrs V Fenemore

Diary dates

Upcoming week

Week beginning: 26.01.26

Weekly deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lunch deadline – midnight the day beforeAll sorts – 3pm Friday before (call admin to make short notice changes)Early birds – 3pm Friday before (call admin to make short notice changes)Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time.Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day. <p>Email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk to make changes.</p>
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recorder club (KS2) with Miss McLean 3.30pm-4.30pmPE Kit: Year 2, Year 5, Year 62pm FOWs Meeting
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gardening club (Y2-6) with Mr Walter 3.30pm-4.30pmPE Kit: Year 3, Year 4MED Theatre workshop (those involved have received letters) at HatherleighGardening day (Years 1, 2, 4, 5, 6) – Wellies required
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 4 Family Lunch 12.30pmPE Kit: Owls, Year 1, Year 2KS1 Multiskills event at QE School, CreditonWoodland Robins 9am-10.30am
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Football club (KS2) with Mr Jarad 3.30pm-4.30pmBoccia event – those involved have received lettersPE Kit: Owls, Year 3, Year 5, Year 6
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PE Kit: Year 1, Year 4Year 3/4 Intrasport football event – 1.30pm, parents welcome. Representative country colour sportswear required.

**SATURDAY 30th
JANUARY**

Open morning!

Diary dates

This half term

These dates are provisional and subject to change. Details will follow.

Upcoming events

Wb 02.02.26	02.02.26/03.02.26 Year 5 Bikeability 02.02.26 Year 2 Exeter City Football Festival 04.02.26 Year 3 Bikeability 06.02.26 Whole Federation Art day with EmmyLou 06.02.26 Staff Cake Sale
Wb 09.02.26	09.02.26/10.02.26 Year 6 Bikeability 10.02.26 Online safety day 13.02.26 Family breakfast & Nursery stay and play 13.02.26 Art Exhibition in All Saint's Church begins 13.02.26 FOWs Dare to be Different non-uniform day

Open Morning

For prospective families!



Come and see our amazing environment and meet the senior leadership team!

Learn more about our approach, curriculum and extensive enrichment programme.

**Places available for
0 – 11 years**

We can't wait to meet you!

Saturday 31st January 2026

10am-12noon

If you cannot make this date, we are very happy to offer bespoke tours at any time, please contact admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk to book!

Woodland Robins

A warm, welcoming space for bumps, babies, and little learners to grow together.

Wednesday mornings (term time)



9am-10.30am

Winkleigh Primary School Hall
£2 per session

Refreshments included

Join us for stories, singing and a wonderful opportunity for play and exploration. We would love to welcome you into school for quality interactions with children and families.

Baby weighing available.

Trips & Activities

Whole Federation – Science Day – 22.01.26



What an amazing Science day at Winkleigh Primary for our children yesterday!

There are so many budding young scientists among us. Everyone enjoyed taking part in hands-on experiments and investigations. Thank you to Wonderstruck for an amazing science experiment display.

Class news

Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear Families,

This week the children have continued to explore the exciting world of dinosaurs, whilst also learning all about 2D shapes!

Through stories, small-world play, creative activities and group games, the children have been learning to name and recognise shapes such as circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. We've been spotting shapes in dinosaur pictures, building dinosaur habitats using shape blocks, and creating our own dinosaur art using 2D shapes.

What we have been learning:

- To recognise and name basic 2D shapes
- To talk about shapes using words like flat, sides and corners
- To develop fine motor skills through drawing, cutting and sticking
- To build language skills by learning dinosaur names and sharing ideas
 - To take turns, share and play together

Below is a song we have been singing.

Have a wonderful weekend.

The Nursery Team



Dinosaur friends (Row, row, row your boat)
Stomp, stomp, stomp along
Through the dinoland
See a T Rex
Hear him roar
Isn't he so grand!
Swish, swish swish your tail
Chomp and munch and chew
Wave hello to dinofriends
They will roar with you!
Roar!



Class news

Owls – Miss Batstone & Miss Crosby

What a wonderful week in Reception!

We have now completed our final week exploring our dinosaur topic and have been learning about fossils and what the word extinct means. Next week we will be exploring our new topics – animals!

In PE this week, we have continued daily Leap into Life sessions and have been focusing on making shapes with our bodies. We have also enjoyed calming yoga in the classroom.

In Drawing club, we have been focusing on the book 'Are the Dinosaurs Dead, Dad?'. The children have had great fun using their imaginations to come up with their own characters, settings and thinking of different ways to stop Dave and his Dad from being eaten.

In maths, we have been focusing on size and capacity. We have had teddy bear picnics, where we have been describing the different sizes of our bowls, cups and spoons. We have also been exploring capacity using jugs and cups outside in the water tray.

Thank you for another brilliant week, Owls.

We hope you all have a great weekend!



Class news

Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

Another great week of learning in Year 1! In Maths, we have enjoyed using the number line to work out whether numbers are greater than, less than or equal to each other. We continued our Gymnastics sequence in PE and this week revisited some of our key positions such as star, dish, arch and tuck. The children enjoyed sequencing these positions and incorporating them into a game. In Science, the children talked about the similarities and differences between birds and reptiles, and we revisited our knowledge of mammals. This was further enriched on Science Day

when we learned about the life of inspirational conservationist Jane Goodall. The children confidently explained why chimpanzees are mammals by referring to their features. We enjoyed discussing conservation and why it is so important to look after our natural world. In English, we

started a new Curious Quest based on Rapunzel. The children are becoming increasingly confident in using adjectives and verbs when writing about what has happened in the story. We were also very excited to take part in Science Day, where Year 1 learned about surface tension through a magic milk experiment and explored capillary action by painting with salt. Well done

Year 1 on another super week of learning.



Year 2 – Mrs Keast

Science day 2026 was a highlight of this week - the children dressed up in some fantastic outfits and it was lovely to welcome the children from Kings Nympton to our school for the day.

The children completed their English sequences on 'Look Inside - Space' this week. The class are making good progress with their writing this term. They have worked hard to build their stamina and are now writing a greater quantity and joining their letters. Next week we begin a new sequence based on 'Stuck' by Oliver Jeffers.

In maths, we have been learning how to use multiplication and division symbols correctly in number sentences. There has been lots of discussion about how to use the symbols and what the number sentence really means when we read it aloud.

Art this week involved looking at tessellation and the class enjoyed creating their own tessellating patterns using 2D shapes. We also looked at how tessellation is used in tiling patterns and made links to our RE learning about Islam and Mosques.



Next week, we have the QE Multisport PE trip on Wednesday morning, please remember to wear your PE kit!

Class news

Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

Year 3 have worked well this week to write their own version of Hansel and Gretel, coming up with their own ideas for different characters, settings and plots. Well done Year 3, it's been wonderful reading your stories and seeing the progress in your writing. In maths, we have also concluded our sequence of multiplying and dividing. Next week, we will be moving onto our new sequence of measuring and perimeter.

What a fantastic day the children had on Thursday as part of our Science day. It was lovely to see them working together on lots of different practical activities, and to see Science really coming alive. In art this week, the children have learnt the new technique of sgraffito and were all very excited by the results their layered paintings produced.

Have a lovely weekend Year 3.



Year 4 – Mr Walter

Year 4 enjoyed science day this week. Children from Kings Nympton joined us to build our own spaghetti bridges, watch a fantastic example of scientific experiments from Wonderstruck and created our own electrical circuits powered through lemons. The outfits looked fantastic. Thank you to Mrs Keast for organising the day for us. In English this week, we have written a letter to a member of Varjak Paws' family from his perspective. Creating a letter that conveyed the relationships of the characters in the story. We have also created our own dialogue between characters to build on our understanding of punctuating speech. In maths, we have been developing our understanding of formal methods to multiply and divide. Our focus has been on the way we could use these operations to work out number sentences of a two digit and one digit number. The challenge has been to use the bus stop method to solve problems which had a remainder. In RE, we have researched the Gospels in the New Testament of the Bible, learning about the stories of Matthew, Luke, John and Mark. In Geography, we followed the journey of oil and how it is used around the world. It was interesting to find out that oil is used in so many everyday objects. Fantastic work this week, have a great weekend everyone!



Class news

Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

A fantastic week in Year 5 this week! In English, we have started our new sequence "Short" and have been sharing some of the short stories from the book and making predictions about the genre of the book based only on the title. We have been investigating with different adverbials and changing them to change the meaning of the text. In Maths, we have continued our sequence on fractions. We have been multiplying mixed number fractions by an integer as well as finding fractions of an amount. This week in PE, we continued to practice our netball skills and have been developing our shooting skills that we transferred into a game situation. In Geography, we have been learning about the different features of a river and then identifying them and explaining what they are. We have been using word wall to help us with this. On Thursday, we had our science day and the children really enjoyed immersing themselves as scientists and in the workshops.

Have a great weekend Year 5!



Year 6 – Miss McLean

Science day on Thursday was a great success in Year 6, the children enjoyed their workshops and the show; their outfits for the day were brilliant! They built some fantastic cars in the workshop and watched some exciting experiments in the show. In English, the children have completed their independent writing of a fantasy story opening based on the Earthsea archipelago from our focus text. The children have had so much enthusiasm for this writing and are extremely proud of the stories they have produced. We have continued our maths learning on decimals this week by multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. We also had a go at using formal written multiplication to multiply decimals by integers. In geography, we discussed what human geography is before researching South American countries. The children compared the population, average life expectancy and area of largest cities of each country in the continent. A thought-provoking discussion was had between the children in computing this week where we considered passwords and multifactor authentication. The children finished the lesson by thinking that they could do more to ensure security on their devices and accounts.

Thank you very much for all the donations towards our class cake sale this week!

Have a brilliant weekend.



Colour run

COLOUR RUN

Save the date

Friday 10th July 2026

Whole Federation at Winkleigh

- planned route
- game stalls
- raffle
- cake stall
- refreshments
- other fun activities