



Weekly newsletter

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore

Friday 28th November 2025



Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been another busy week in school. Children in Years 2 to 6 have been completing their termly assessments this week. Teachers use this information to measure progress and inform reports that will be issued in the final week of term. Alongside this, classes have been completing their Design & Technology projects. Tasks have ranged from Christmas cards with moving sliders to pizza making and fridge magnet design! Years 5 and 6 have been working hard on their activities for the annual Christmas games event. We can't wait to see what they have created when they present them to the rest of the federation!

Elsewhere, Key Stage 2 enjoyed a fantastic visit from author, Joffre White on Tuesday. Joffre spent time discussing his career as a writer in an assembly, before leading a creative writing session with Year 6 and answering questions from Years 3, 4 and 5. Thank you to all parents who supported Joffre by purchasing books at the end of the day. We have copies of each of his publications in our school library now.

On Wednesday, we welcomed an advisor from the Cornerstones English hub. He spent time visiting classes and talking to staff about our approach to reading. He was very impressed with the calm and purposeful atmosphere around the school, as well as the learning taking place in classes.

Wednesday also saw councillor Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin visit our school, following our Grand Opening event earlier in the term. It was a pleasure to show Cheryl our school.

Thank you also to Mrs Luscombe and family for the very kind donation of some logs to our garden area. Our gardening club were very pleased to get them in place and be the first to use them – keep an eye out for a picture later in the newsletter!

We are looking forward to the festivities beginning next week with our family breakfast, Santa run and nursery stay and play. FOWs will serving refreshments from 10.30am during the Santa Run, any cake donations will be gratefully received! A reminder that the **deadline for Christmas Dinner bookings is next Wednesday (03rd December)**, and finally, there will be **no Woodland Robins Toddler Group on Wednesday**, we look forward to welcoming our families to our **Christmas stay and play on Friday**.

Have a super weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs V Fenemore

Diary dates

Upcoming week

Week beginning: 01.12.25

<p>Weekly deadlines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch deadline – midnight the day before All sorts – 3pm Friday before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i> Early birds – 3pm Friday before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i> 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>
<p>Monday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE today: Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6 Year 4 & Kings Nympton Class 2 Chocolate Workshop in school Christmas craft club with Mrs Keast/Mrs Bourner 3.30pm-4.30pm
<p>Tuesday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE today: Year 3, Year 4 Gardening club with Mr Walter 3.30pm-4.30pm
<p>Wednesday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE kit: Year 4, Year 6 Woodland Robins (Toddler & Baby group) session in the school hall 10-11.30am Cancelled today due to Stay and Play on Friday Deadline for Christmas Dinner bookings
<p>Thursday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE today: Owls, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 Clive Pig Storyteller visit to Nursery (in school) Choir club (KS2) with Miss McLean 12-12.30pm Christmas cake club (KS2) with Mrs Rowcliffe 3.30pm-4.30pm Dodgeball club (KS2) with Mr Jarad 3.30pm-4.30pm
<p>Friday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE today: Owls, Year 5 Family breakfast & open morning (08.45am-09.30am) Nursery Christmas crafts stay and play Santa Run (FOWs refreshments – cake donations appreciated) FOWs Disco 4pm-5.30pm



Diary dates

This half term

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

Upcoming events – Spring Term 2026 (provisional dates)

Wb 05.01.26	05.01.26 Welcome Back to School 09.01.26 Year 5 Cake Sale
Wb 12.01.26	14.01.26 Year 6 Family Lunch
Wb 19.01.26	21.01.26 Year 5 Family Lunch 22.01.26 Whole Federation science day 23.01.26 Year 6 Cake Sale
Wb 26.01.26	27.01.26 Garden day 28.01.26 Y1/2 Multiskills event at QE 28.01.26 Year 4 Family Lunch
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

Santa Run.



Timetable

Gates will be open for the first five minutes of each slot only.

9.15-9.55 Beech

10-10.40 Hawthorn

10.45-11.25 Oak

11.25-11.45 Nursery

1-1.40 Chestnut

1.45-2.25 Hazel

2.25-3.05 Willow

FOWs Refreshments available throughout the day.

Any donations of cake are much appreciated.

Children will be collected at the usual time of 3.30pm.

Changes to bus arrangements must be communicated with the admin team in the usual way.



Christmas Grand Prize Draw.

We are very grateful to all of the following businesses for the kind donation of prizes to our
Christmas Grand Prize Draw!

£2 per entry via the gateway.

- Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur park (2 complimentary entry)
- Exeter City Football (£25 Voucher)
- Exeter Chiefs (2 tickets)
- RHS Rosemoor (Voucher)
- Seven Stars (£50 Voucher)
- The Kings Arms (£30 Voucher)
- Arla Cheese (Hamper)
- Scribbleton (Voucher)
- Graylings, North Tawton (£20 Voucher)
- Plymouth Argyle (2 tickets)
- Joules Sandwich Bag
- Homeleigh Garden Centre (Cream tea for two)
- Trago Mills (£20 Voucher)
- Tesco hamper
- The Plough, Torrington (Voucher)
- Hockings Ice Cream (2 litre tub voucher)
- Devon Plant
- Instant Images (£25 Voucher)
- Kitchen @ 25 (Hamper)
- The Nook (Cream tea for two)
- Devon Railway Centre
- The Bookery
- River Dart (Guest pass for four)
- Sarah's Bakes and Treats (Homemade treat)
- Bow Garden Centre (Cream tea for two)
- Timber Tek (Golf for four people)
- Farmer Luxtons (Cream tea for two)
- The Mad Butcher (£25 Voucher)
- Woolley Animals farm entry (Voucher)
- Wildwood Escot family ticket
- The Waie2Play (Voucher)
- Southwest Fixings Ltd (£30 Voucher)
- The Parlour Spa (30 minute massage voucher)
- Winkleigh Football Club
- Catkin Blooms
- Plenty of chocolate and fizzy prizes
- **And many more still to be announced!**

Well done to our Year 6s whose fantastic letters have secured some brilliant prizes!

For your chance to win, enter before Wednesday 10th December. Draw will be held on Monday 15th December and winners will be notified via email.



Christmas

at Winkleigh Primary School



Details will follow

Friday 5th December

Christmas family breakfast & Christmas classrooms open morning 8.45am



Gateway payment

Friday 5th December

Santa Run
£2 to enter
Tree group slots throughout the day



Gateway payment

Friday 5th December

Nursery Christmas stay and play 9am



Cash payment

Monday 8th December

Carol Singing – Years 3 & 4 in the village



Tuesday 9th December

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumpers

Nursery, Owls, Year 1 & Year 2

Gateway payment



Wednesday 10th December

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumpers

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

Gateway payment



Thursday 11th December

KS1 performance to Key Stage 2 and invited guests



Thursday 11th December

Owls & Nursery Christmas Performance 2.30pm
Programme – 50p

Snowmen at Sunset

Ticketed



Friday 12th December

KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm
Programme – 50p

The Christmas Rose

Creche available

Ticketed



Monday 15th December – Thursday 18th December

Christmas jumpers every day



Monday 15th December

Christmas games & raffle



Gateway payment

Tuesday 16th December

Year 2 Trip - Jolly Christmas Postman performance



From 1st December – Christmas Postbox





Christmas at Winkleigh Primary School



**Wednesday 17th
December**

KS2 Carol Service
2pm All Saints Church



Thursday 18th December

Talent Show



Thursday 18th December

Class Christmas Parties

*Each child to bring a small
plate of food to share*



Christmas Raffle & Grand Prize Draw

The children in Year 6 started this term busily writing letters to many local and national businesses asking for donations for our Grand Prize Draw.

We've had a fantastic response to the children's letters and have already received an amazing selection of prizes; from tickets for fun days out to vouchers!

Entry Details

£2 per entry, you can buy as many entries as you like.

Prizes will be numbered. We will draw a name entry out of the hat, then draw a prize number, and match the winner to a numbered prize.

A payment request will be set up to purchase your entries.

Closing date Wednesday 10th December

We will hold the prize draw in school on Monday 15th December. Winners will be contacted by email after the draw and invited to collect their prize from the school office before the end of term.

Christmas Games by Year 5 and Year 6

Working collaboratively in D&T lessons this term, Year 5 and 6 will devise, create, set up and run games for all the children in school to enjoy.

This will be a "pay to play" fundraising and enterprise event for Years 5 and 6. A payment request for £3.50 will be set up on gateway. The children will be provided with tokens to play in school.

Christmas Dinner

Turkey or Vegetarian Roast

Served with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Stuffing, Pig in Blanket, Gravy

Ice Cream and Biscuit

KS1: Free (50p donation gratefully received if possible) / KS2: £3

Hot chocolate & cookies!

Wednesday 17th December
Following the KS2 Carol Service



£2.50 Super deluxe hot chocolate & Christmas cookie *with cream, marshmallows and a flake*

£3 Christmas Caramel super deluxe hot chocolate & Christmas cookie *with cream, marshmallows and a flake*

All proceeds into our school trips and residential fundraising pot.

Christmas art competition

Enter by
Wednesday 15th December

1 A4 page per entry.

50p per entry

Judging categories:

Nursery & Reception

Key Stage 1

Key Stage 2



Trips & Activities

Key Stage 2 – Joffre White: Author Visit – 25.11.25

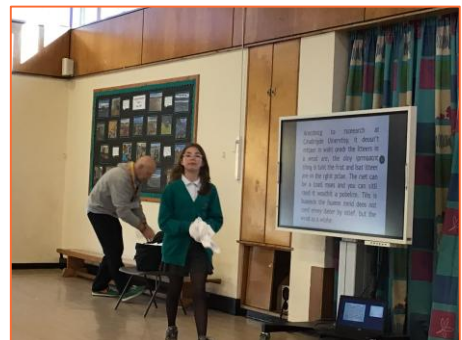
Key Stage 2 welcomed Joffre on Tuesday to discuss his writing. He delivered an assembly to all four classes before working with Year 6 on a creative writing session and answering questions in classes.

“It was very funny and engaging”

“I enjoyed learning about all of the stories”

“We enjoyed having an author in school”

“I can't wait to read his book”



Class news

Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear families,

This week the children have been enjoying activities inspired by the much loved story 'The Selfish Crocodile' by Faustin Charles and Michael Terry.

The book has given us a wonderful opportunity to explore themes of kindness, friendship, sharing, and helping others.

We read the story together and talked about how the crocodile learns an important lesson including:

- Everyone needs help sometimes
- Kindness makes us feel good
- Sharing helps us build friendships

The children have also enjoyed creating their own crocodiles using different textured materials.

In maths we have been counting pegs on to a toothless crocodiles making sure we say 1 number name for each peg. Have a wonderful weekend.

The Nursery Team.



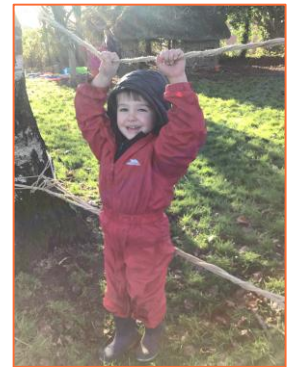
Class news

Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Mrs Rowcliffe

Owls class have had a wonderful week filled with exciting learning and festive preparation. We've been exploring the work of the RNLI, finding out how lifeboats and lifeguards help to keep people safe. The children enjoyed learning about the different beach safety flags and took part in activities to help them remember how to stay safe by the sea.

Our work on Snowman at Sunset continues, and the class have been singing beautifully as they rehearse. In guided reading, we have revisited some books that the children previously found a little tricky. It has been fantastic to see how much progress they have made—two weeks of daily additional phonics work has made a real difference, and we are very proud of them.

The classroom is now decorated, creating a warm and cheerful atmosphere. We are all looking forward to a busy and joyful countdown to Christmas in the weeks ahead.



Class news

Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

This week was our Design and Technology Week, and Year 1 enjoyed learning all about moving mechanisms. We learnt how to create our own moving pictures inspired by our story *The Snail and the Whale*. We spotted a sliding mechanism, a lever mechanism, and a wheel mechanism, and then consolidated our learning by designing and making our very own moving Christmas cards.

In Maths, we enjoyed lots of practical activities exploring subtraction and through telling number stories, and then jumping along the number line backwards to help us with our subtraction number sentences.

In English, we began a new Curious Quest based on the animation *Piggy Builders*. The children have loved writing about building, designing, and structures — describing them with adjectives and extending sentences using the word 'and'.

We have been working hard on our Christmas performance this week and have been running through the full play daily. Please let us know if you are struggling to locate any of the requested clothing, as this will give us time to help resolve any issues. Clothing should be brought into school by Friday 5th December.

We are also on the lookout for artificial flowers and a dove to use as props. If anyone has something at home we could borrow, we would be very grateful!



Class news

Year 2 – Mrs Keast

Year Two have been focusing on their assessment quizzes this week. Working through steadily, ensuring that we read and understand the question before attempting to answer it. The children have shown good listening skills and have applied their maths and reading knowledge.

We have been working hard on our Christmas performance this week and have been running through the full play daily. If there is time over the weekend, please can the children with spoken parts have a go at learning them by heart as we will try to have fewer prompts next week.

Please also let us know if anyone is struggling to locate the clothing requested, as this will give us time to resolve any issues. Please can clothing be brought in by Friday 5th December. We are also on the lookout for artificial flowers and a dove to use as props, if anyone has something at home we can borrow! In the afternoons this week, we have been working on our D&T project, designing and making Christmas themed fridge magnets. The children have been learning how magnets work and thinking about how to layer paper for their design.



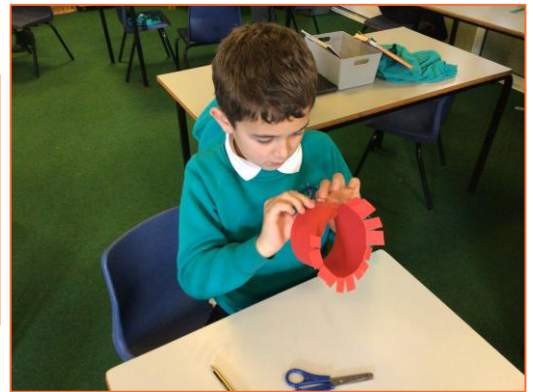
Class news

Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

The children in Year Three have demonstrated amazing resilience and determination throughout our NFER assessment quizzes this week.

They have loved designing and making their own party hats in the afternoons as part of our D&T topic, and have worked so well together to help fold, cut, create and evaluate.

In P.E the children have enjoyed developing their gymnastic skills and again, worked really well with partners to practise creating shapes and moving in different ways. Have a lovely weekend everyone.



Year 4 – Mr Walter

Well done everyone in Year 4! We are incredibly proud of how hard everyone has worked during quiz week, showing fantastic resilience, determination, and a positive attitude throughout. Each child tackled every challenge with focus and confidence. In the afternoons, we have enjoyed

D&T Week, with our focus on food technology and designing our own pizzas. We began by recalling key information about health, nutrition, and the importance of balanced ingredients.

After that, we carried out consumer research, explored a variety of recipes, and considered what makes a successful product. Before making and tasting our pizzas, we created our own pizza companies, complete with eye-catching branding and thoughtful design choices. The creativity on display was wonderful to see. On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome author

Joffre White for an engaging assembly. The children asked thoughtful, relevant questions and came away inspired to read more widely and develop their creative writing skills. A huge thank you for all your donations and support with our cake stall last week, it was greatly appreciated.

We are already looking forward to welcoming you next week for our open morning and the festive Santa Run, if anyone has any unwanted tinsel it would be greatly appreciated before this event.



Class news

Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

We have been busy with our NFER quizzes this week, the children have all displayed resilience and determination to complete them. In the afternoons, we have been continuing our D&T sequence and as part of D&T week we have been busy designing and creating their Christmas games with Year 6. The children have been working in their groups to create different style games for the day, working collaboratively together across the two year groups, solving problems and managing their time as the week continued. The children have showed fantastic team spirit, working with new children and solving problems as they appeared. They are really looking forward to the day and showcasing their games to the rest of the school.

Have a fantastic weekend Year 5!



Year 6 – Miss McLean

Year 6 worked fantastically in their creative writing workshop with our visiting author Joffre White on Tuesday this week. They came up with so many fantastic story ideas and have loved sharing what they have created with each other. They are looking forward to share the finished products with Joffre and are excited about the potential of being a published author on his website. The class have also been very busy this week applying immense resilience to their practice SATs papers. They should all be very proud of themselves for just how hard they have worked this week to apply all the knowledge they have learnt over the last few months and years. This week has also been D&T week where the class have mixed with Year 5 to create their games for the Christmas Games day event in just a few weeks' time. They are really looking forward to sharing their creations with everyone! Finally, it has been great to see that so many of them have been spending a little more time practicing their spellings at home recently, a huge thank you to the parents and carers that have supported them to do this, it really does make a difference! Have a brilliant weekend!



Gardening club update

Enjoying our new log seating area – thank you family Luscombe!



Christmas tree raffle

Win a Christmas Tree!

200 squares available
£1 per square

Deadline: **27th November**
Winner announced: **28th November**

Please send in cash to enter

With many thanks to the Illman family for the kind
donation of the tree.



FOWs Disco

FRIENDS OF
WINKLEIGH
SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS DISCO

Fri 5th DEC 4 - 5:30PM

RECEPTION TO YEAR 6 CHILDREN
Meal bags. Tuck. Tattoos

£2 entry on the door

Bring your childs water bottle please

School staff and FOWS will be supervising.
no need to stay with your child.