

Windmill Hill Academy

Monthly Family Newsletter



Inspiring Passionate Life Long Learners

Mrs A Bassett
Head of School

Wednesday 30th June 2021

We are quickly approaching the Summer holidays and it is a good time to begin reflecting back on what we all have achieved this year despite the challenges of Covid-19.

We have been really impressed with the way the children have adapted this year and their ongoing resilience and natural curiosity towards learning. They have been completing assessments over the last few weeks to support their end of year teacher assessments and we have been really impressed with the progress that the children have made.

You will be able to see for yourselves when you receive your child's report which you will receive next week on Friday 9th July. This will be via our online ITrack system. Please follow the instructions for accessing which have been and will be posted on ClassDojo.

We have been restricted by the Covid guidelines in some ways this term for our usual events but, as usual, Windmill Hill Academy does not let this beat us! All it means it is that they have been slightly differently organised and we are sorry that parents are unable to attend these events. We will let Year 6 parents know about their child's Leavers' assembly nearer the time. Please see the diary dates section and keep checking ClassDojo for regular updates on these such as individual class sports mornings/activities and class enrichments.

Transition for Years F to 5 will take place for a whole week during the week beginning the 12th July. These gives the children the chance to get used to their new classroom environment and their class staff teams. We find that this really supports the children and allows the staff to really get to know the children before they start in September.

Covid-19 restrictions are certainly in place until the 19th July. We will keep you updated on these in relation to the latest Government guidance but until then we need to continue to follow the procedures in school. It is really important we do so to support the easing of the restrictions and hopefully have some form of normality in the summer holidays.



Year 1 and 2 outdoor area

I am pleased to announce that we have been successful in securing a Tesco Community grant for £1000 in order to further develop the Year 1 and 2 outdoor area. The teachers are busy planning the resources that they would like to purchase to support the children's learning and the continuous provision approach. The continuous provision approach is something that we hope to fully embed within Year 1 next year and develop in Year 2. We look forward to the resources arriving and being able to further develop the area in the Autumn term. It takes the staff a huge amount of time to set up the provision so we politely ask that the children are not left unsupervised in this area and that they do not play with the items before and after school.



We are trying to be an 'Eco friendly' school so we don't send home newsletters. Black and white copies are available in the foyer. It will also be available on the website under 'Newsletters' in the 'Parents' tab and will be posted on ClassDojo.



Year F

This half term, Year F have developing their maths skills through...



...sharing into equal groups...



...doubling...



...and ordering numbers to 20 and beyond!



Year F have also been learning all about castles.



Year F took part in a charity 'Teddy Bear's Picnic' and raised £40 for Penhaligon's Friends.

Well done Year F!

Enrichment Day

On Friday 9th July Year F will be taking part in a Wild Tribe morning. This session will include den building and cooking on a campfire!



Year 1

In Year 1, we have been busy practising our ball skills in our PE sessions.

We have also been making careful scientific observations during our outdoor learning.



Year 2

This month, Year 2 have been even busier! We have been working on our ball skills, looking at bounce passes, chest passes and dribbling the ball. In science, we have taken to the wild to look at the different habitats we have in the garden. A great month!



Year 3



Year 3 have been engaging in a range of activities. A couple of weeks ago, Year 3 enjoyed preparing and cooking dairy free pizzas. In computing, Year 3 have been planning a presentation on a range of rainforest around the world. Year 3 are currently using their computing skills to design and create an interactive PowerPoint presentation to soon share with the rest of the class. Year 3 are showing a huge interest in learning about the rainforest and we are exploring this further in geography and within our literacy for informative writing.



Year 4

Year 4 have completed lots of learning this half term, including a Science experiment which involved weighing the bubbles in fizzy drinks. We have also completed observations on the affects of heat on chocolate.



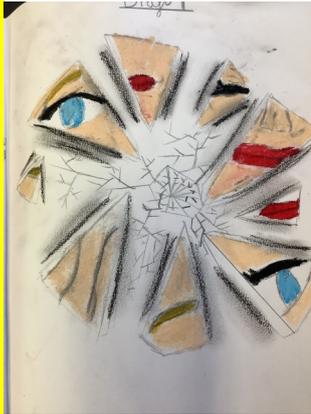
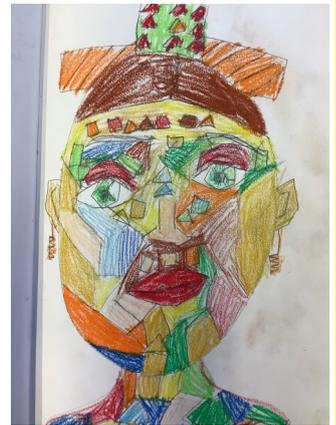
Year 5

Discoveries

This week, Year 5 have been learning angles through studying artists, such as Picasso, who use angles in their work.

First we identified, named and measured angles in an example.

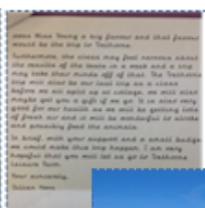
We then included angles in our own creations, using Picasso as our influence.



Year 6

A huge WELL DONE to everyone in Year 6 for the enormous effort they put into their SATs assessments last week. Everyone tried their absolute hardest and achieved SUPER results!! The last test results in your Primary School are something that you will be able to look back on with pride. You now know that if you REALLY set your mind to something you can achieve amazing results, so aim high Year 6, the sky is your limit!

As a treat for working so hard this year (in spite of Covid restrictions!) Miss Young felt the children deserved a treat, so she suggested they all write a persuasive letter to Mrs Bassett.....example shown below... asking her if she would allow them to have a day out at Trethorne Leisure Centre.....and guess what?....Mrs. Bassett WAS persuaded by so many cleverly worded letters and she said YES. So on Friday 2nd....this week.... Year 6 are off to have a FUN day out at Trethorne..... HAVE A GREAT DAY YEAR 6.... you deserve it. Also as an extra treat Mrs. Bawden, our school Chair of Governors (and also, coincidentally, Jowan's Grandma) has very kindly treated the children to their lunch out at Trethorne and the children are eagerly looking forward to their sausage, chicken nuggets or fish fingers and chips at lunchtime! A great big THANK YOU to MRS. BAWDEN for completing our day out in style!



Trethorne
Leisure Centre



Amazing Achievements

Stars of The Week

	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
11th June	Florence Julia	Ivy Petar	Zachary Isabella	Abe Jack C	Darcey Kayla	Ella Karol	Isla Bailey
18th June	Cailyn Zachary	Taya Coen	Max Y Sarah	Harry Lilly	Poppy Chelsee Morwenna	Ava Marissa Alfie	Ewan Dominika
25th June	Freddie Isla	Merrick Rosey	Millie Laura	Lexi Emily	Mason Elias	Nora Elsie	The whole of Year 6

Respect and Kindness

	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
11th June	Archie (YF)	Phoebe (Y4)	Dillan (Y6)
18th June	Isla (Y1)	Quintin (Y3)	Eliza (Y5)
25th June	Chloe (Y2)	Iannis (Y4)	Jayden (Y6)

Raffle ticket winners

11th June
Adem (Y1), Sammy (Y1) and Hannah (Y1)
25th June
Florence (YF), Adem (Y1) and Aidan (Y1)

Positive Role Model

18th June

Oliwia (Y6)

Attendance Figures for June 2021

Our annual attendance target is **97%+**. We have been doing so well with our attendance this year but it is a shame to see that it has decreased since half term.

We understand in some circumstances this cannot be avoided, e.g. sickness, diarrhoea, Covid-19 symptoms. However, if it is just a cold or similar they are okay to be in school. By not being in school, it has a significant effect on their learning, as well as their social skills, building relationships, self-esteem etc.

Year	10th June	18th June	25th June
YF	98.8%	95.3%	94.7%
Y1	95.4%	99.3%	98.6%
Y2	87.9%	87.9%	89%
Y3	92.5%	96.6%	94.7%
Y4	99.2%	94.5%	96.7%
Y5	94.8%	100% 	98.4%
Y6	94.4%	93.8%	96.2%
Whole school	94.7%	95.4%	95.5%

It is also important that children are not late to school.

Remember Years 1, 3 and 6 start at 8.45am and Years F, 2 and 5 start at 9am.

We closely monitor our attendance and have to inform the Education Welfare Officer if individuals fall below 95%.

Let's see if we can get it back up for the rest of this academic year.

The class with the highest attendance each week, receives an extra playtime and the attendance trophy.

Each term each child 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. These will be awarded before the summer holidays.

SchoolMoneyAPP (Eduspot)

A HUGE thank you for all of your support with Edupot and booking school lunches. It nearly have the whole school using it and it really is speeding up the morning return so we can fit more learning in.

If you are having any problems with it, please contact Mrs Zoffman who will happily help you.



Donating to the WWF (World Wildlife Fund for Nature)

A big thank you from the Year 4 representatives for your generous donations for the book sale which was held on Friday. Together, we have raised £61.42 which will go to the WWF (World Wild Fund for Nature).

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the children for their huge efforts. They took complete ownership of the whole thing from generating ideas, planning the event, holding the event and counting out the money raised. The donations have been paid directly to the WWF and it will certainly help a very worth cause.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We have been restricted by the Covid guidelines in some ways this term for our usual events but, as usual, Windmill Hill Academy does not let this beat us! All it means it is that they have been slightly differently organised and we are sorry that parents are unable to attend these events. We will let Year 6 parents know about their child's Leavers' assembly nearer the time. Please also keep checking ClassDojo for regular updates on these and other events.

Please note that the term dates for 2021/22 and 2022/23 are on our school website for your reference.

2nd July	Y6 Enrichment: Trip to Trethorne
6th July	Y1 Enrichment: Treasure hunt, teddy bears' picnic and campfire cooking
6th July (afternoon)	Y3 and Y4 Sports afternoon
7th July	Y3 Enrichment: Activities at the park
7th July (morning)	YF Sports morning
7th July (afternoon)	Y1 and 2 Sports afternoon
8th July	Y2 Enrichment: Beach themed day
8th July	Y5 Enrichment: Town Trail
8th July (afternoon)	Y3 and 6 Sports afternoon
9th July	YF Enrichment: Wild Tribe
9th July	Y4 Enrichment: Sports at the park
9th July	Reports to Parents
Week beg 12th July	Whole school Transition week
16th July (after school)	Year 6 Silent Disco
19th July	Trophy Assembly
20th July 10am	Year 6 Leavers' assembly
20th July	Party day for all classes
21st July	Last day of term for pupils
22nd and 23rd July	INSET Days
6th September	INSET Day
7th September	Pupils return to school

School Uniform

Our school has a very practical but smart uniform. It follows a colour scheme of royal blue and grey/black and consists of:

- A white shirt, blouse or polo shirt
- A royal blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
- Black or grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- Blue and white gingham dress (Summer months)
- Flat black shoes

It is essential that children have a change of clothing for PE.

This should be:

- Black or grey shorts
- White t-shirt (not vest or crop top)
- White/black socks
- Black or grey joggers or leggings
- Additional school jumper or a fleece (recommended for the colder months)
- Plimsolls or flexible soled trainers (strongly recommended for wet weather)

Uniform can be purchased from Price and Buckland at <https://price-buckland.co.uk/> Now is the perfect time to get prepared for the new academic year. **Please note the last ordering date is the 1st August in order to secure uniform for September.** When you visit the website, 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.

It is essential that all items of clothing are CLEARLY named.

Please remember that we have our uniform donation station which is well stocked and lots of nearly new items on there. Please contact us if you would like any items. In addition, we are running low on school jumpers so if you have any ones that you can donate, please drop them in.

The wearing of jewellery and makeup is not appropriate. Children who have their ears pierced may wear small studs or rings.



A thank you from the Friends of WHA

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our meeting after school in the playground on the 17th June. It was lovely to see some new faces and listen to some new ideas.

We are sadly somewhat limited what with Covid restrictions still being in place. Unfortunately, we are not able to host our popular Summer Fair this year. However, we are hoping to arrange some events for the children to enjoy, albeit within their year group bubbles. The non school uniform to support the football has raised at least £130 and we have already started selling ice creams after school on fine days and this has already raised at least £50.

The Friends raise much-needed funds so that the pupils can enjoy and have access to a range of resources. If you have any ideas regarding fundraising, please do not hesitate to let us know. Also, if you have any spare time, no matter how small, and would be interested in helping us, please say.

Thank you.

Friends of WHA Welcome Leaflet

Welcome to Windmill Hill Academy! The Friends are a group of individuals (both staff and parents) who are interested in planning events for the pupils to enjoy. The money raised at these events goes towards purchasing much-needed resources and other items to enrich the school day. We are an integral part of the school community and have already raised thousands of pounds which has been spent on improving equipment and resources to enhance the children's' education and the facilities in school in general. We are about much more than just fundraising. Existing to provide closer links between home and school; it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and children together socially in support of the school. It is fun too – as we are sure you will find out if you join us at one of the varied events throughout the school year.



How do we raise money? Like most PTAs, the majority of funds is raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events are the Christmas Fair, Easter Egg Bingo, Sponsored Bounce, Wine and Wisdom and Summer Fair. Donations from parents – of time, money, items for sale, raffle prizes or services and skills – are what determine the success of our fundraising activities. Even small donations make a big difference to us. We are always on the lookout for other good fundraising ideas too.

The committee and our meetings. Any parent is welcome at our meetings and we are particularly keen to meet new parents. Meeting dates are advertised via Class Dojo. They usually take place in the school grounds at 3.30pm. Our Annual General Meeting is held in the autumn term and this is an opportunity to come along and hear in more depth about events we run, funds raised and how the money is to be spent or has been spent. We also elect our new committee at this meeting.

Community Links. We have developed strong links with the local community and are always well supported by both residents and businesses. Many of our local shops, leisure facilities, community groups and restaurants are very generous in their donations of raffle prizes and funds and provide invaluable support, particularly at our fairs. We are extremely grateful to these community members as they make a huge difference to our fundraising efforts. If you think your workplace could offer us time, services or raffle items please do let us know.

How do we spend the money we have raised? Decisions on what items are to be purchased from the Friends funds are made during committee meetings. Requests can come from parents, staff or children. Normally, all the items the Friends approve for purchase are the extras that are not covered by school budgets. We always endeavour to spend our funds in ways that will benefit all our children across all areas of the school and curriculum.

How can you get involved? There are lots of ways you can help and support your child through the Friends. Offering to help before an event is so valuable, it doesn't matter if you can't help on a regular basis. There are always little jobs that can be done from home if you have half an hour to spare e.g. wrapping gifts, preparing raffle tickets etc. We really could not achieve what we do without the unseen army of help that exists in school. You can, of course, if you feel able, volunteer to be a Committee Member, or you can simply come along to the meetings and give us your ideas for fundraising events – this is also the time to ask questions or voice your opinion. You can help by letting us know if you have any contacts or skills we could use – everything is potentially valuable to us.



Windmill Hill Academy is at the heart of our local community and we strive to work closely with families of the school and the local community to maintain a successful partnership that thrives on our values and vision. Windmill Hill Academy sits on a wonderful site in the middle of Launceston and we make the most of outdoor learning opportunities, both in our school grounds and within the local area.

At Windmill Hill Academy, we all believe that Primary Education is an important stage in any child's life. Their experience at our school will lay the foundation for all their future learning and we strive to give every child the best start possible in their school careers.



If you have a child starting school in **September 2022**, I will be hosting tours in the Autumn term 2021. Follow us on Facebook to receive the latest updates and the dates for the tours will be posted on there. Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/AnDarasWHA/>, by searching for Windmill Hill Academy or @AnDarasWHA.

Take a look at the video of our wonderful school created with the help of the School Forum Pupil Parliament group: https://youtu.be/lwGbD_Z9uq8

You can see in the video the Year F classroom is a wonderful relatively new building which is spacious and has free flow access to the outside area.



We have a breakfast club that runs daily from 8am and we are hoping to have after school care, in addition to after school clubs, that will run from 3.15pm until 5.30pm from September.

Please also take the time to look around our website: www.windmillhillacademy.org

Please note, we still have a few spaces in our Year F class starting in September 2021 and a few places in some of the other year groups. Please enquire if you would like to find out more.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please email windmill@andaras.org or phone on the school number (01566 772143).

