



The Federation of Winklebury Infant and Junior Schools

Willoughby Way, Basingstoke, Hants RG23 8AF
Head of Federation: Mrs C.A. Clayton

Tel Federation Admin Office: 01256 323244

Fax: 01256 358992

E-mail: adminoffice@winklebury-inf.hants.sch.uk

E-mail: adminoffice@winklebury-jun.hants.sch.uk

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Newsletter no. 4

Dear Parents

Celebrating children's achievements out of school

We feel it is important that we celebrate children's achievements out of school through both the infant and the junior school. To give every child an opportunity to do this, each class will hold a half-termly Circle Time where children can share their out-of-school achievements. This may be, for example, achievement at a club attended, or something that has been achieved at home like the first time your child cooked with you or helped in the garden. Your child can bring in a photo or may just want to talk about an achievement.

At the infant school these Circle Times will be held on the last Friday of each half term, beginning tomorrow, Friday 21st October. At the junior school they will be held at different times throughout the half term and your child will give you the information for his/her class. If you have any questions please ask your child's classteacher.

Reminder - Stand up to Cancer non-uniform day

Both schools will be supporting this national event on **Friday 21st October**. Children may choose to come to school in non-uniform in return for a donation to the appeal. Please send your child's donation in an envelope labelled for the purpose. Please note – we do expect a child in non-uniform to make a donation so please make sure that if you are not sending in a donation your child continues to wear school uniform that day. Thank you.

Medicines in school

Please be aware that under the regulations we have to abide by, medicines can only be given to your child if you have completed the required paperwork (available in the Federation Admin Office) and the dosage is in line with the prescription label on the medicine you are providing.

Attendance certificates

Please note that from next half term, **gold and silver attendance certificates will only be awarded where a child has not been late to school in that half term on more than one occasion**. We are trying to improve punctuality and this is a measure we feel bound to take to try and help get our message across that it is unacceptable for a child to be late to school unless there is really an emergency or 'one off' exceptional reason.

We are aware that sometimes a major traffic incident can cause many children to be late to school – in instances such as these we will count these unavoidable late arrivals and they will not 'count' when we are looking at your child's punctuality for the half term. I will make the final decision as to whether a child's late arrival to school is for a one-off emergency or exceptional circumstance. If you travel by bus and the bus is regularly late or regularly does not get your child to school on time, we expect you to take an earlier bus as these are good habits your child needs to learn from an early age. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

PLEASE support fund raising through Tesco's!

Thanks to our Chair of Governors' hard work, we have been selected by Tesco's to be the recipient of one of three large sums of money once they start their campaign whereby shoppers can donate tokens they are given at the checkout to one of three deserving causes. Tesco's have selected our project (a bandstand on the field to be used for performance, sheltered seating for the children and as an outdoor classroom), to be one of the three so please encourage everyone you know to give their token to our cause! I understand the scheme will operate from November in the Chineham Tesco's and other Tesco stores, so please watch out for it!

Themed lunch

The first of our themed lunches at both schools, as detailed in my last newsletter, will be a **bonfire night themed lunch on Friday 4th November**. As part of the lunch, three 'lucky plates' in each school will entitle the child who has one of them to a small prize.

The menu is:

- * Meat burger in a bun (red choice) or quorn burger in a bun (green choice)
- * Baked beans, salad
- * Rocket ice-lolly or fruit pot or yoghurt

Infant children are entitled to this lunch free as part of the Universal Free School Meal scheme. Junior children can order and pay for this lunch as they usually do.

Reminder - Bring a Bulb to School Week – week beginning 31st October and 7th November

This will be the sixth year of a 'Winklebury tradition' – 'Bring a Bulb to School Week'. In order to continue our work to improve the school grounds for the children, we would like to encourage more colour and flowers through planting bulbs across the site. If every child and member of staff brought two or three bulbs to school we'd have a lot to plant in the grounds and hopefully a good show in the spring! Last year's donations all came up but we need lots more bulbs to create a really good 'show'. Please consider supporting us in this and send your child to school with some bulbs any time from now up to Friday 11th November. The bulbs will be collected at the Federation Admin Office. Thank you in advance for your support.

Reminder - Operation Christmas Child

We are once again supporting the 'Operation Christmas Child' project. Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project and delivers shoeboxes of Christmas gifts to children around the world who would otherwise not have a present to open on Christmas morning.

If you would like to donate a Christmas Shoebox, you need to wrap an average sized shoe box in bright Christmas paper and then fill it with gifts suitable for a child, for example a doll, a football with a pump, a cuddly toy, hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, bar of soap, flannel, comb) and school supplies (pencils, pens, notebooks, colouring books). You then need to attach an Operation Christmas Child label for either a girl or a boy and indicate the age your box is aimed at (available on website or from the Federation Admin Office). Finally, you need to include a £3 shipping donation to cover transportation costs. Further details of how to pack your shoe box and ideas for what to include are available in the leaflet 'How to Pack Your Shoebox Gift', available in the Federation Admin Office or online at www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ.

Each class will also be making a class shoebox, so if you are unable to help your child fill a shoebox, but would like to send in an item or two, we will use these in our class shoeboxes.

Please bring all shoebox donations into school between **Monday 31st October and Friday 11th November** and we will arrange to transport all the shoeboxes to a local collection point.

Junior Road Safety Officers

Our two JRSOs have asked me to put the following in the newsletter:

Hello,

We are the JRSOs (Junior Road Safety Officers). We are Clio Perry from Pine Class and Oliver Scully from Oak Class.

Our job in the schools is to help the children to stay safe while:

- playing out*
- travelling in the car*
- crossing the road*

We also help the children to stay safe by encouraging them to be seen by wearing something bright.

From the JRSOs, Clio and Oliver

Cycle helmets

Could I please ask you to encourage your child to wear a helmet if he/she cycles to school. We have seen a number of children without a helmet which goes against the messages given during the cycle training we offer later in the year. Thank you.

Themed Learning Days

Every school year we have themed learning days which have a specific focus that runs across the year. In the Autumn term we will be looking at a theme from a local and national perspective and then later in the year we will be looking at the theme from an international perspective.

This year our first themed learning days are planned for 31st October to 2nd November. Children in the infant school will be learning about charities and children at the junior school will be learning about conservation.

We hope that your child will enjoy the themed learning days and develop their understanding of matters at local, national and international community level. During these days please talk to your child about the different activities and learning they have taken part in. Hopefully they will be able to share a great deal with you!

Drop boxes for monies

For those of you who are not aware, in each of the schools' reception areas, we have a drop box inside on the wall for parents who want to drop off monies, letters etc. but do not come into school because they use breakfast club or after-school club, or just want to drop monies at the Federation Admin Office without having to queue up to see someone. If you are not sure where they are just ask us!

What's been happening at the schools?

The regular 'slot' in the newsletters designed to keep you up-to-date!

* The winners of our harvest shoebox competition were:

First prize – Mia Ellarby, Hedgehog Class, and Nancy Brill, Rowan Class

Second prize – Cayden Deans, Rabbit Class, and Lucas King, Rowan Class

Third prize – Courtney Graham, Mouse Class, and Clio Perry, Pine Class

Well done!

* Over half term the benching at the front of the infant school will be replaced, there will be a new floodlight installed on the infant playground and the infant school drinking fountain areas are being refurbished

* Children who attend our after-school dance club have been invited to take part in a Dance Exchange Day, showcasing performance pieces they have created – on 10th December at The Vyne Community School.

Opportunities

We have the following information in the schools – if you would like a leaflet please pop in to collect one from the Federation Admin Office or ask us to send one home with your child:

* Holiday clubs run by SCL for children aged 4 to 12 years – including one run at Hatch Warren Community Centre – book online at WEARESCL.CO/UK/HOLIDAY-CLUBS

Dates

Remaining inset days 2015-2016 when school is closed to the children:

* Monday 27th February 2017, Tuesday 28th February 2017, Friday 7th April 2017

The schools are closed for half term Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October inclusive

Wednesday 2nd November – phonics workshop for parents of children in Year R (separate letter has gone out)

Friday 4th November – bring in items for Bag2School collection (separate letter has gone out today)

- 2.45pm PAWS uniform sale

Yours sincerely

Mrs C.A.Clayton - Head of Federation

**THIS DOCUMENT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS
ON REQUEST TO EITHER SCHOOL**