



Tuesday 7th January 2025

Windmill Weekly

A highlight from last week...

The Autumn term (including Christmas) is always the longest one, and is very tiring for everyone, but it always ends with lots of excitement.

Thank you for helping us celebrate by attending our Early Years and Key Stage 1 nativity performances, and the Key Stage 2 carols celebration.

Your support for our school is absolutely brilliant - you are parents and carers that show your appreciation by saying kind things, giving gifts and trusting us to do a good job. Thank you!
Happy New Year!

Head Lines



Mr Gibbons, Headteacher

Just before the Christmas break, I wrote here about how spending 10,000 hours practising something can make you 'world-class'.

Then, last week, Luke Littler proved the point when he won the World Darts Championship at the age of 17 ([World Darts Championship: Luke Littler crushes Michael van Gerwen to become youngest PDC champion | Darts News | Sky Sports](#)).

This morning, in my ClassDojo video assembly, I encouraged our children to think. That's it. I encouraged them to think. Not to reach for a phone, a tablet or a tv/console controller, but to stop, and think. Letting their brains wander for a while.

There are many children who think that spending 10,000 hours on video games will help them become world-class and make lots of money that way. I'm afraid that it just this generation's dream, just like previous generations would dream of becoming a pop star or a professional footballer. Very few people will make it and most won't. Think smart. Think differently!



The five strands of our strategic plan are:

- **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 to remind and prompt you about school events!

Other news and notices

Lost Property -

Will be in the main office on
Tuesdays from 3:15pm to
Wednesdays at 9:00am.

Dinner Money -

We have been asked by Telford & Wrekin Council to give you notice of the increase in school dinner costs, beginning on Monday 24th February 2025. The school meal cost will increase from £2.70 to **£2.95** (the price will stay at £2.70 throughout January and the beginning of February). We are sorry that you will be experiencing this increase. It is outside of our control, Telford & Wrekin Council's Catering Team insist that this increase is essential and would like to assure all families that they feel strongly that this continues to represent good value for money. We will aim to send a reminder to you in the middle of February, so that you are ready for the price increase on 24/2/25.

Things to remember/help with

Reception

- Practise writing your name.

Year 1

- Please check ParentPay for details of our owl visit.

Year 2

- Please practise the spellings on Dojo 'i' spelt with 'y' with your child at home.

Year 3

- What nonsense poetry can you find?

Year 4

- Happy New Year! Please log on to Emile to practise weekly spelling and times tables.

Year 5

- Welcome back everyone, please see Class Dojo for this week's spellings. We will do a test on Friday.

Year 6

- Please return your Arthog forms back by Friday.

Clubs

(Priority for clubs is given to invited children, based on their needs and interests)

Clubs start next week!

Monday:

- TBC

Tuesday:

- TBC

Wednesday:

- TBC

Thursday:

- TBC

Friday:

- TBC

There will be not clubs running week beginning 7th January. Invites for clubs will be sent out via ParentPay later this week. Please make sure you pay promptly to secure your child's place.

Term Dates:

Break up Friday 14th February 2025 and return Monday 24th February 2025.

Latest House Point totals:

Henmoor 1869, Cluddley 1939, Upton 2104 and Rowton 1790.

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...

5. Our school grounds are amazing! We are lucky to lots of space, but did you realise that we have: a woodland area (including a wildlife pond), an outdoor classroom (which doubles up as a bird hide), an orchard, and an allotment area. We make sure all classes have access to those areas.