

Monday 22nd January 2024



Windmill Weekly

A highlight from last week...

We welcomed Bob Clark from Chess in Schools and Communities to our Year 5 classes last week. They really enjoyed their 'taster'.

We have qualified for a government grant to introduce chess tuition to Windmill, as well as the pupil-run lunchtime club that already exists.

We hope that tuition will start later in 2024, but we haven't decided which age-group that will be for yet.

Head Lines



Mr Gibbons, Headteacher

I possibly don't talk very often about Windmill being a Community Academies Trust school. We are very proud to be part of CAT, and we would testify to being a better school *because* we are part of CAT.

Leadership guidance from CAT directors has been - and continues to be - instrumental in helping us focus on things that matter, and set up systems to make sure we do things well. We benefit from learning from other CAT schools, as well as having opportunities to share our good practice with them.

You can find out about CAT more on their website, especially their half-termly newsletter:

communityacademiestrust.org/en-GB/news

and on X (Twitter): [@SchoolsCat](https://twitter.com/SchoolsCat) / X (twitter.com)

CAT also has an Institute of Education, a centre for professional development, school improvement and teacher training. Find out more here: [CAT Institute of Education - Secure Area \(thecat.institute.org\)](https://thecat.institute.org)



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

Free bagels in the hall starts at 8:35am - Children arriving between 8:20am and 8:35am will be charged 50p.

Lost Property - Always displayed by the main office on Tuesdays from 7:45am until 3:45pm.

End of School Day - Please do not come onto the playground or wait outside classrooms until after 3:10pm. This is to ensure the safeguarding of all children. Thanks.

ParentPay - Please ensure that you log in to ParentPay regularly to prevent missing important information.

Calling All Parent Volunteers - We desperately need help to tidy our community garden. Please speak to Mrs Coles if you are able to help - are meeting MONDAY 22ND JANUARY 1PM-3PM.

End of term Disco 8th February £3 Payable on Parentpay includes entry, drink, snack and glow stick.

Classes 1-6 - 3:15pm - 4:30pm - (Children bring change of clothes to school)

Classes 7-14 - 4:30pm to 5:45pm.

Things to remember/help with

Reception

- Please complete the sign up for Brilliant Brushers if you haven't already.

Year 1

- Please log in to Emile and try the first spelling activity.

Year 2

- Please login to your Emile spelling account and help your children to login and start exploring the spelling tasks we have set.

Year 3

- Please login to Emile with your child

Year 4

- Please continue to practise all times tables on maths frame!

Year 5

- We are learning about fractions. Please ask your children to show/tell you what they have learned.

Year 6

- Booster is on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Spring Term 2024

Break up Friday 9th February

Half term holiday

Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

Children return Monday 19th February.
Break up Friday 22nd March

Clubs

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

Monday:

- Year 3 and 4 Football
- Year 1 and 2 Kwik Cricket

Tuesday:

- Year 5 and 6 boys Football
- Year 3 to 6 Choir
- Year 3 and 4 Kwik Cricket - **CANCELLED**

Wednesday:

- Year 3 to 6 mixed ability Football Fundamentals
- Year 3 to 6 Netball
- Year 3 to 6 Gymfinity

Thursday:

- Year 5 and 6 Kwik Cricket
- Year 1 and 2 Football

Friday:

- Year 3 to 6 girls Football
- Year 3 to 6 GemDanceAcademy

Please note:

No Football Club Monday 29th January.

No Clubs on 8th February due to the School Disco.

Latest House Point totals:

Henmoor 3619, Cluddley 3261, Upton 3373 and Rowton 3306.

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...

7. We try to spot each child's talent in our school and to nurture it. Nurturing can range from verbal encouragement, all the way through to sponsoring a child to participate in additional activities. We keep a record of children's talents and share this information between us.