



Weekly newsletter

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore

Friday 21st November 2025



Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

Yesterday, our Year 5 and 6 classes visited QE School for a tag rugby festival with over 30 teams taking part. Despite the very chilly weather, all teams did well with one progressing to the semi-final. Thank you to Mr Saltearn, Miss McLean, Mr Walter, Miss Jones and Mr Richards for accompanying them.

Some of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in the Utilita Cup at the Exeter training ground on Monday. With over 16 schools attending, they performed brilliantly and held their own against several much larger Exeter schools. We were very lucky with the weather, making it a great day all round. Mr Walter and I were very impressed by the children's resilience.

The rest of the school enjoyed a whole-school production of Snow White by M&M Productions. The children absolutely loved it—highly engaging and full of fun! It was also lovely to welcome Kings Nympton to join us for the day.

On Tuesday, our Key Stage 1 children visited Kings Nympton for a gymnastics morning. They learnt lots of new skills and thoroughly enjoyed the session. It was wonderful to see the two schools working together so positively.

Thank you to everyone who attended parents' evenings this week. We hope you found the meetings valuable, and we appreciate everyone keeping to time. Autumn Term reports will be sent out in the final week before the Christmas break.

Overleaf you will find the visit note from our Educational Consultant, and we are delighted to share the very positive comments received.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs V Fenemore

David Chaplin

Education Consultant Report

20.11.25

We are very pleased to publish the following report from David Chaplin, Education Consultant, following his visit to Winkleigh on Thursday 20th November 2025. Mr Chaplin was particularly impressed with the provision in Early Years and Key Stage One following the re-organisation of spaces within the school.

The federation has recently established its provision for very young children. This provision has been celebrated through media events and visits by parents and staff from other schools. There is a very clear vision for the under-tuos based on a high-quality environment with natural resources. Strong attention has also been given to securing high-quality staffing.

The strong provision through the EYFS has been sustained through support and guidance provided by senior leaders, including the EYFS lead. There is an emphasis on developing vocabulary and independence to secure strong foundations. Interactions between adults and children are very positive. Children are safe within a warm and nurturing environment.

The development of provision for the under-tuos led to a reorganisation of teaching spaces within the school. This has been handled effectively by leaders to ensure the good use of indoor and outdoor space. In Key Stage 1, the learning environment is high quality. There are good prompts to support pupils when learning language, vocabulary and mathematics. There is a clear focus on using challenging vocabulary with pupils, such as 'desolate, barren...' in Year 2. Prompts for mathematics are well-matched to the pupils current stage of learning supporting pupils to speak clearly when explaining the use of 'greater than, less than'. Teaching in Key Stage 1 includes very clear exposition to the class, modelling of learning and a structure that supports pupils to tackle learning independently successfully. Routines and expectations are very well established in the Key Stage 1 provision. As a result, pupils are very attentive in whole class sessions and listen to teachers and other pupils. Pupils' behaviour makes a very positive contribution to learning.

Personal development is well represented in the curriculum taught this term. There are good examples of work that reflects the protected characteristics across classes. The federation's rich curriculum of visits and residential experiences further add to pupils' personal development. A Careers Fair held last term contributes to this area by raising issues of work roles and aspiration.

The governing board has completed the headteacher appraisal process in line with DFE requirements. A review statement has been produced and objectives agreed which reflect the federation's context and the national standards for headteachers. There are plans to provide training for other governors to fulfil the role of appointed governor in the future.

Diary dates

Upcoming week

Week beginning: 24.11.25

Weekly deadlines

- Lunch deadline – midnight the day before
- All sorts – **3pm Friday** before *(call admin to make short notice changes)*
- Early birds – **3pm Friday** before *(call admin to make short notice changes)*
- Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time.
- Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day.

Email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk to make changes.

Monday

- PE today: Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6
- Christmas craft club with Mrs Keast/Mrs Bournier 3.30pm-4.30pm

Tuesday

- PE today: Year 3, Year 4
- KS2 Author Visit – Joffre White in school
- Gardening club with Mr Walter 3.30pm-4.30pm

Wednesday

- PE kit: Year 4, Year 6
- Woodland Robins (Toddler & Baby group) session in the school hall 10-11.30am

Thursday

- PE today: Owls, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3
- 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

Friday

- PE today: Owls, Year 5

Diary dates

This half term

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

Upcoming events

Wb
01.12.25

01.12.25 Y4 Chocolate workshop (in school)
05.12.25 Christmas Family breakfast and open morning
05.12.25 Nursery Christmas crafts stay and play
05.12.25 Santa run

Separate Christmas flier with December events.

*Please note, in a change from the diary dates for the year sent out previously, the **Colour Run** provisional date has been changed to **Friday 10th July**.*

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
06.06.26 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



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

A warm, welcoming space for bumps, babies, and little learners to grow together.

Wednesday mornings (term time)



10am-11.30am

Winkleigh Primary School Hall
£2 per session

Refreshments included

Join us for stories, singing and a wonderful opportunity for play and exploration. We would love to welcome you into school for quality interactions with children and families.

Baby weighing available.

*Weds 10th December – **Time change:** 9-10.30am*

Trips & Activities

Year 5/6 Utilita Cup – 17.11.25

A group of Year 5 & 6 children attended the Utilita Cup football tournament on Monday which was held at the Exeter City training ground. Both teams played well with smiles on their faces, unfortunately both losing tightly contested games in the knockout stages.



Trips & Activities

Whole Federation – Pantomime – 17.11.25



Trips & Activities

Key Stage 1 – Gymnastics – Kings Nympton – 18.11.25



Trips & Activities

Year 5/6 – Tag Rugby – QE – 20.11.25

Well done to all of Year 5 & 6 who battled the cold weather this week at the rearranged tag rugby event at QE. These opportunities as a whole class are pivotal to meet our PE objectives and the children show great pride and teamwork to represent the school.



Class news

Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear Families,

This week, our nursery children have been exploring the wonderful world of Rumble in the Jungle! We have been diving into the colourful rainforest, meeting exciting animals, and learning through play, stories, and songs. The children have loved listening to the rhythmic and rhyming verses from the book. We've talked about different jungle animals including the sounds they make, how they move and their colours and patterns. This has supported early literacy skills, listening, and attention.

Thank you for your continued support. The children have been full of curiosity and enthusiasm and we've been having a wild time on our jungle adventure!

Below is a song we have been singing.
Have a wonderful weekend,
The Nursery Team

Walking in the Jungle(If You're Happy and You Know It)

If you're walking in the jungle, stamp your feet (stomp, stomp),
If you're walking in the jungle, stamp your feet (stomp, stomp),
There's a lion over there,
And a monkey in the air,
If you're walking in the jungle, stamp your feet (stomp, stomp)!



Class news

Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Mrs Rowcliffe

What a wonderful week we've had in Owls! The children have really enjoyed exploring Funnybones, especially creating their own skeletons and linking this to our learning about animals at the vets. A highlight was the arrival of Mr Skeleton! He came in pieces, which caused great excitement, and the children worked brilliantly together to figure out how to put him back together. Their curiosity and teamwork were lovely to see.

In maths, we've been focusing on repeating patterns such as triangle, square, triangle, square. The children created their own patterns using loose parts and showed fantastic creativity.

We've also continued practising our Christmas play songs. Owls are performing as children, so they will only need their own coats, hats, and gloves as costumes.

Phonics continues to go well, and we really appreciate your support with this. We are working individually and as a whole class, and it's wonderful to see everyone making steady progress, especially with letter formation.

Finally, thank you to everyone who attended Parent's Evenings. We have not had face to face since before covid and it was great to meet with you that way again. We hope you found your meetings as positive and encouraging as we did. Have a lovely weekend!



Class news

Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

We have had such a lovely and busy week in Year 1.

We began the week with a fantastic performance of Snow White by M&M Productions. We invited our friends from Kings Nympton Primary to join us for the day, and it was wonderful to enjoy the pantomime together. The children loved the dancing, singing and joining in with all the fun.

On Tuesday, we visited Kings Nympton for the KS1 Gymnastics Morning. Year 1 enjoyed practising balancing, stop-freeze movements, and jumping and landing safely. It was also lovely to meet so many of you during our Parents' Evening on Tuesday and Wednesday. We really enjoyed the opportunity to talk about how the children are settling into year 1.

In English, we concluded our Curious Quest based on The Gingerbread Man. The children have been wonderfully imaginative, designing new boats to help the Gingerbread Man cross the river, creating jetpacks and rocket ships to help him escape the hungry fox, and writing their own alternative endings to this much-loved tale.

In Maths, we continued our learning on addition and subtraction, focusing on finding fact families using part-whole models. The children are growing in confidence and beginning to recognise the relationships between different number sentences.

This week in History we revisited some of our favourite toys from the past and explored our Investigation Station of Toys from Tiverton Museum. We talked about the toys we played with when we were babies and how these changed as we grew older. The children enjoyed comparing old and new toys and discussing how materials and designs have changed over time.

Finally, we have already received some Christmas costumes, which is greatly appreciated. As the weather gets colder, please can we remind everyone to label all items coming into school – especially hats, scarves, gloves and any costumes. Thank you for your continued support.



Class news

Year 2 – Mrs Keast

On Tuesday we had our Gymnastics Day at King's Nympton which was a great experience. We enjoyed being teammates with the other children and applied some good gymnastics skills. It was lovely to use some of the benches and equipment (especially the springboard!) to explore movement and balance.

In English we are writing a new version of The Man on the Moon and have been thinking of good adjectives to use when describing planets. There is a big focus on joining our letters together and we are trying hard to perfect this.

This week, our Maths has included comparing number sentences using the greater than, less than and equal to symbols. There has been some interesting discussion about which symbol to use and we have been good at supporting our answers with resources.

We were green-fingered this week in Year Two. The outdoor area has been tidied with great enthusiasm! The leaves have been swept and we have started to build a bulb lasagne for us all to enjoy in 2026!

Next week we will be focusing on our reading and maths "quizzes" which will inform our assessments for the end of term report.



Class news

Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

In Year Three this week the children have been busy writing their own mischievous Paddington adventures to end the teaching sequence. We are very much looking forward to moving on to our Christmas narrative next!

In maths, the children have been consolidating their learning around multiplication and division and have thought about how to solve problems using pictures.

They thoroughly enjoyed the pantomime on Monday. It was wonderful to see them singing, dancing and joining in so well with the performance.

They worked beautifully as a team on Wednesday to help tidy up the garden, creating a lovely new seating area. Have a lovely weekend Year Three, and wrap up warm!



Year 4 – Mr Walter

It has been another hard working week in Year 4. In English, the children have been focusing on using direct speech correctly, learning how to punctuate dialogue with inverted commas. They

have also been developing their understanding of apostrophes, recognising the difference between those used for possession and those used for contraction, and applying this confidently

in their writing. In maths, we have reached the end of our first multiplication and division

sequence. The class has strengthened their understanding of multiples and explored different strategies for multiplying three numbers together. We have been able to apply these methods

to increasingly challenging problems. We will move onto a short sequence on area before

continuing with multiplication and division. In science we carried out our own water cycle experiment. The children were able to clearly observe the four main stages and explain how

they link together in nature. In history, we continued learning about the Mayans, discovering more about their religious beliefs and the rather gruesome sacrifices that formed part of their

culture. A major highlight was our pantomime performance of Snow White, which was greatly received by all. Finally, in gardening, the children worked hard to help maintain the track, carefully filling in holes that had formed along the inside edge. It was lovely to speak to so many of you at parents evening this week, your time was appreciated. Have a great weekend!



Class news

Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

Year 5 have been continuing with their work on Kensuke's Kingdom and have been learning about Kensuke and how he got to the island. We have been thinking about a variety of questions, such as is he keeping Michael prisoner? Why is he being nice or is he being nice? We have then been thinking about Michael's first impression of him and writing about this. In Science, we have been working in groups to plan an experiment to test which style of cup is the best thermal insulator. In DT, we have been working within our Christmas games groups to plan and design our games for the Christmas games, the children enjoyed working with Year 6 throughout the afternoon. On Wednesday, we took part in our gardening day and worked as a class to help maintain the inside of the running track. It was fantastic to see the children work together and collaboratively to tackle this task. On Thursday, all of Year 5 and 6 travelled to QE to take part in a day filled with tag rugby, all the children embraced the chilly temperatures and enjoyed the day. Have a great weekend Year 5.



Year 6 – Miss McLean

Year 6 had an incredible day on Thursday at the QE tag rugby event. They all played brilliantly in their mixed 5&6 teams, some even reaching the final! Thank you to Mr Walter for organising the day and accompanying us too. In English, they have worked with dedication on their final piece of writing as part of our Northern Lights sequence. They have written some creative stories that link to the book and have made good use of the grammar and punctuation that we have looked at so far in Year 6. We have finished the first fractions sequence in maths this week having looked at adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. For the next fractions sequence, we will move on to multiplying and dividing a fraction as well as finding a fraction of a number. In D&T this week, the children worked in their groups with Year 5 to plan their game for the Christmas Games event that the whole school will take part in closer to the end of term. There have been some innovative designs in their first plans that we are looking forward to them bringing to life in D&T week next week. Have a lovely weekend!!



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.



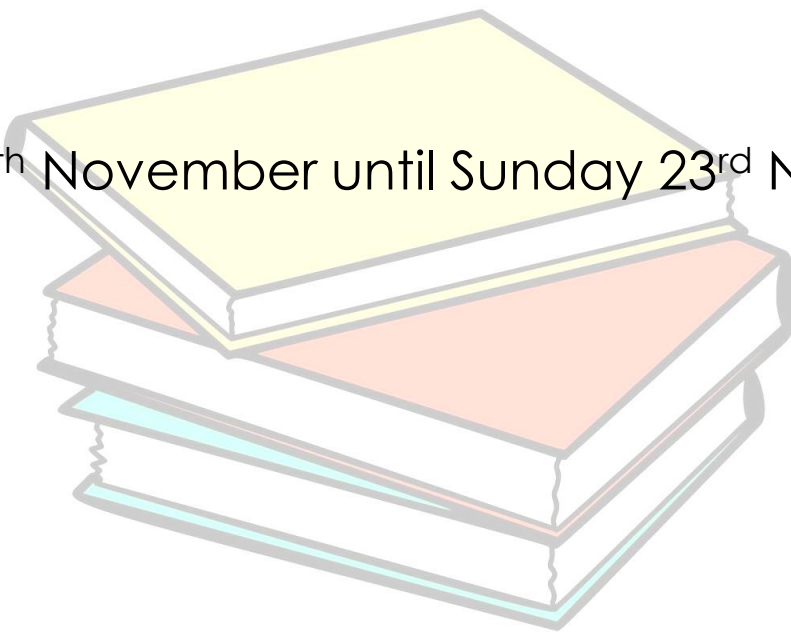
Virtual book fair

https://gobbledybooks.co.uk/?fbclid=IwY2xjawONG-9leHRuA2FibQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzknZg4MjAwODkyAAEeJxOHwA2NQJ0ewHy8fNX32UUIQkZxHoEPHyGFeVApRX0PAC5hLWcgFHuxWM_aem_vgO4Nc5MZrapt9HuH4bZXQ

Gobbledy books

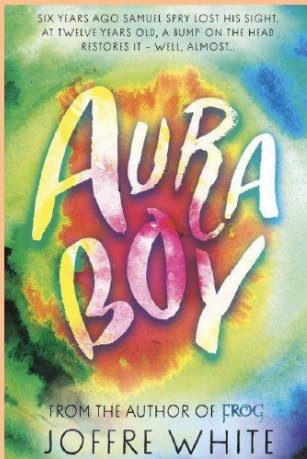
Use the code: **woodlandfederation** to earn free delivery.

Friday 14th November until Sunday 23rd November



For each book bought, school receives money to grow our libraries.

Author visit



Joffre White

Author,
and a UK Patron of Reading,
will be visiting

Winkleigh Primary School

On
Tuesday 25th November 2025

If you would like to purchase personally
signed copies of his thrilling new adventure

AURA BOY

£8.50 (rrp £8.99)



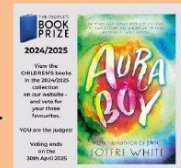
Or the legendary FROG fantasy adventure, they will be available on the day.
'Frog' paperback - £7.50 each (rrp. £8.99)

Books are also available for pre order through your school library.

(Cash, bank transfer or PayPal QR on the day.)

"Joffre White is a master storyteller; his books leave you breathless." –
Alexander Gordon Smith, UK Award-Winning Author.

www.joffrewhite.com



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 child's water bottle please

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

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Disco

Disco Meal Bag £3.50

This will include:

Hot Dog (Pork sausage from Winkleigh Butcher)

Drink

Packet of crisps

Small packet of sweets

Please pre-book by sending £3.50 per child into school in a clearly marked envelope with your child/children's name and class on.

Alternatively, you can pay by BACS, but please also accompany the BACS payment with an email to f.o.w.s@outlook.com to say which child/ren the payment is for (FOWS Account number: 22077944 Sort code: 54-21-14).

The deadline for ordering the meal bags is **WED 26th NOV 2025.**

We will hold a list at the tuck shop and ensure everyone has their bag.

Please pay £2 on the door for entry.

If you'd like your child to have any additional sweets (20p or 50p), crisps (50p) or a tattoo (30p), please let your child have additional money.

Vegetarian sausages available, please make a note with your payment if you require a vegetarian sausage.

MEAL BAGS & SEPARATE HOT DOGS ARE **NOT** AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT