



Windy Arbor Primary School



Newsletter - Spring 1 - W2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Friday everyone!

What a wonderful full week we've had in school! No snow and milder temperatures - is spring on its way? As we move into this new half term at school, please remember how important it is for children to come to school every single day. We truly believe here at Windy Arbor that we can not equip and empower children to be the best version of themselves unless they come to school everyday and access all the wonderful learning that is on offer here. Attendance is improving, which we are really proud of, but we still haven't yet reached our school target of 96%. If you have any worries or concerns around attendance, please do get in touch with Laura Brookbanks our Attendance Officer or Eleanor Sherrington who is our Senior Attendance Champion. From looking ahead in the school diary, I can see lots of surprise events in the diary for this term, so lots of lovely things for the children to look forward to!

This year, the National Literacy Trust have announced that 2026 is the Year of Reading which excites me greatly! Many of you know how much I love reading and know how much I love to promote a love of reading to the children at Windy Arbor. On Wednesday, I spoke with some Year 5 children who seemed to have lost their way with reading a little and we spoke about how important reading is. Research states that 'reading to hospitalized children increases their oxytocin and reduces their pain and stress. During storytelling, something happens called "narrative transportation." The child, through fantasy, can experience sensations and thoughts that transport them to another world, a place different from the hospital room and far from the adverse conditions.' I truly believe that once children find the book they love or an author they love to read, this will transport them into a new magical world where they can get lost in a story which will develop their own reading skills and story telling. The National Literacy Trust states that '45% of 0-2s are read to daily or nearly every day. This increases to 58% of 3-4s, in part to get them 'school ready', and by 5-7 years, parents reading daily to their children drops back to 44% as the notion takes hold that reading is a subject to learn at school. By this age, parental involvement can often be simply ensuring reading homework is done'. With this in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to ask that all children at Windy Arbor read to their parents or parents hear their children three times a we

Have a great weekend!

Many thanks,

Mrs Curry



GO
ALL
IN.

National Year of
Reading 2026

[Click here to
find out more at
the Year of
Reading](#)

DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE.

Calendar Dates



21st January

Year 4 Science
Workshop - 9:15am

22nd January

Year 3 Science
Workshop - 9:15am

28th January

Year 6 Science
Workshop - 9:15am

29th January

Year 5 Science
Workshop - 9:15am

29th January

Letterbox 3 - invite only



IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS WEEK AT WINDY ARBOR..

Year 6 G&T event

This week our year 6's have been out on a Maths G&T event. They had a great morning stretching their brains completing some tricky problem solving and reasoning questions!



BCFC Foundation

The BCFC Foundation have been in twice so far this half term to work with the children in KS2. The children are thoroughly enjoying their time with Mr Chapman and some of our boys are having a great time after school, training and building their team work skills in the football team!

Clubs - What's running this half term?

Tuesday - Dance 5 & 6
Wednesday - Gymnastics 3 & 4
Wednesday - Cross Stitch Club
Thursday - Girl Power
Thursday - Year 5 podcast club
Friday - Yr 1 & 2 youth club



Nurture - Weaving Rugs

Weaving is a fantastic way to introduce children to traditional crafts that supports nurture, while creating something practical and beautiful.

Materials Needed:

- Old t-shirts or fabric scraps
- Cardboard loom or simple wooden loom
- Scissors
- Yarn or string

Instructions:

1. Cut the t-shirts or fabric scraps into long strips.
2. Create a simple loom using cardboard or wood, wrapping yarn around it to form the warp (vertical threads).
3. Show the children how to weave the fabric strips over and under the warp threads.
4. Once the weaving is complete, tie off the ends to secure the rug.

- Avoid the use of public Wi-Fi networks for sensitive transactions.
- Back up important files on a regular basis.
- Maintain an open dialogue about your child's online activities.
- Ask children to share their favourite websites, applications, or games with you.
- Use current news stories about online safety as conversation starters to raise awareness about staying safe online.
- Encourage children to confide in you if something online makes them feel uncomfortable.

BE SMART ONLINE



SMART Award Winners

- Nursery - Hugo
- Reception - Emerson and Theo
- Year 1 - River and Rubey
- Year 2 - Brooklynn and Elsie-Jai
- Year 3 - Braxton and Marlie-Mai
- Year 4 - Mya and Isaac
- Year 5 - Oscar and Taliyah
- Year 6 - Rayyan and Amelie
- ARC - Poppy and Belle

PE Star of the Week

- Year 1 - Myla and Samuel
- Year 2 - Leah and Finley
- Year 3 - Alina and Carter
- Year 4 - Addison and Mya
- Year 5 - Taliyah and Harrison F
- Year 6 - Amelie and Skyla

Attendance

96%
School target



Book vending machine, this week's winners...

To be announced next week

100%
Attendance



Blue Caterpillars	90%	ARC	94%
Purple Butterflies	94%	Yellow Butterflies	95%
Bluebells	93%	Daffodils	86%
Snowdrops	86%	Foxgloves	84%
Beech	93%	Ash	93%
Hawthorn	97%	Ivy	95%
Maple	92%	Oak	90%
Willow	94%	Sycamore	94%

Golden Ticket Award Winners

Every Minute Counts



Lateness = Lost Learning

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost
25 minutes late each day	19 days lost



**PROSPER
TOGETHER**
Multi Academy Trust



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www.windy-arbor.solihull.sch.uk

