



Wimbish Primary Academy Newsletter  
12th January 2024



## **Happy New Year**

Welcome back to the spring term. We hope you all had a good Christmas and enjoyed some family time.

We have been so impressed with the behaviour and attitude of the children at the start of this term - well done everyone!

This term is looking to be a busy one with lots of exciting learning and opportunities for the children to participate in.

We are busy organising some hands on experiences for the children with workshops and visitors into school. We are continuing to plan exciting learning opportunities and are doing so with our new learning themes.

Birch are focussing upon 'Where in the World', looking at settlements in the USA and comparing these to the UK, along with reading Holes as a class novel.

Willow are focussing upon South American Adventure, looking at rainforests, artists and much more.

Oak's learning theme is 'What's up There?' focussing upon space, flight, aeroplanes.

**More information about learning will follow in the overviews that will be sent home at the end of next week.**

**Reading Cafe - Tuesday 16th January 8.30am-9.40am.**

Further to communication sent out on the reading letter by Mrs Butcher before Christmas, and the invite sent home yesterday with your child, we look forward to welcoming as many of you or a family member or carer to our first 'Reading Cafe' next Tuesday. There will be a short information session in the hall, followed by time in classrooms working with your child. We run these sessions regularly at The Meadow (our other school) and they are incredibly popular and successful, with attendees saying how useful they find them. Pre school children are welcome to attend but i am afraid we cannot accommodate pushchairs in the classrooms.

**Reading Cafe**  
**Tuesday 16th January**  
We would like to invite  
parent/carers into school from  
8.35-9.40am to find out how  
we teach reading and to work  
with your child on some  
reading based learning. Pre  
school siblings welcome too  
(no buggies in classrooms).



**Building Developments and Updates**

Over the Christmas holidays, we have had some work completed to put in additional cabling and improve the infrastructure for technology in school - this is really important as there is some very exciting news coming soon to support our children, so watch this space!

Anglian Learning Trust are supporting Wimbish to continue to improve our building. Following a number of surveys and assessments, we now have a whole programme of works planned, these include new lighting outside of school for the evenings, improved fencing around the Nest and Oak Class, a new footbridge to the playground, improved security to the external and internal doors, upgrades to the fire alarm system, a new carpet/flooring in Oak Class, upgraded phone system, and hopefully some further re-decoration.

**Homework**

Thank you to those who have shared feedback with us about homework. Towards the end of next week, we will be sending home some CPG learning books for your child to work on at home, alongside a menu of writing activities.

We will send home details of what should be completed each week and more information next week.

**Learning in school this week:**

**Oak Class:**

This week in Oak we have all been exploring the difference between fiction and non-fiction books and how they can help us when we are curious about a particular subject. It was lovely to see the children working in small groups to look through the books and they were all keen to share the things that they had noticed or read.

Focus sounds for phonics for Year 1 and 2: ou as in soup and group, oul as in would, could.

In maths we are focusing on number bonds, to help us unlock our maths knowledge, useful songs

[I Can Say My Number Pairs 5 | Math Song for Kids | Number Bonds | Jack Hartmann - YouTube](#)

[I Can Say My Number Pairs 6 | Math Song for Kids | Number Bonds | Jack Hartmann \(youtube.com\)](#)

**Willow Class:** Willow class have been very busy during their first week back! We have recapped and almost finished writing our holiday brochures for our English unit, and we have completed our mid-unit quizzes in maths!

We've created a new and exciting display for the hall that is all about our new topic, 'South American Adventure'.

A few members of Birch joined us this week for Geography, and we had a lovely afternoon learning about the continents.

We have started a new class text; Holes, by Louis Sachar, which has been a hit!

**Birch Class:** We have begun a new writing unit which is inspired by 'Holes' a book written by Louis Sachar. This, in turn, has become our new class text following on from Matilda. The children have shown joy and excitement with reading, which is something we would like to capture and celebrate.

We have re-capped fractions and working hard to finish this unit in its entirety before moving on. It is important subjects in maths are revisited to ensure information is retained. On Friday we are going to see if we can write Roman Numerals to 10 off by heart, as is required in the curriculum.

### **Rewards and Celebrations in School**

Before Christmas we introduced the children to some new rewards. Children can now earn merits on their merit card 10 merits earn them a bronze certificate, 20 a silver, 30 a gold and 40 a platinum certificate.

Children who earn a certificate in our celebration assembly on a Friday also now earn an apple for their apple team house which they can put in our new reward display.

Golden apples are given out by Senior Leaders. These are given to children who do something 'wow'. This might be demonstrating exceptional care and manners, a superb attitude to something, a particular piece of work that is fantastic.

The children are eagerly counting the apples in their house team tube as they walk past, desperate to be the winners at the end of this half term!



### **Upcoming Dates**

Tuesday 16th January - Reading Cafe 8.35am-9.40am, all welcome.

Monday 19th February - Half Term week

Have a lovely weekend

Nichola Pickford