

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Issue 1 • Autumn 2024

Welcome



It is a privilege to be able to share some of the wonderful opportunities available to our children at Wimbish Primary Academy. Our vision has our children and their experiences, both in and out of the classroom, at the very heart of our journey.

Since the school joined Anglian Learning in September 2023, I have been fortunate to lead the school as the Executive Headteacher, and I am incredibly proud of our teaching and support staff who work hard for our fantastic children in their learning.

We would welcome opportunities to partner with our community as we move forward, following our vision to 'Nurture, Enrich and Inspire' our children.

Nichola Pickford Headteacher

Keep up the good work!

Parent of
Wimbish pupil

INSPIRE

Investing in our children



Wimbish Primary Academy pupil with an iPad purchased by the school in March 2024

One of the largest investments we have made was the purchase of iPads for use in class.

Key Stage 2 children have their own iPad with a keyboard and stylus. Infants have a bank of iPads for use in supporting and supplementing learning in their classrooms.

The children have fully embraced the power of this technology to support their learning and are using the iPads to fantastic effect; researching and presenting their learning to inspire us all.



Learning outside of the classroom



Here is a flavour of the learning opportunities which take place outside of the classroom to support our curriculum.

Oak Class spent an enjoyable day on a local farm learning how to care for animals and have benefitted from weekly forest school sessions in our woodland. We have 5 and a half acres of fields, meadows, orchards, woodlands and a duck lake.

Our Key Stage 2 children had an insightful visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum and learnt about Ancient Egypt and artists in action. They were astonished at the size and contents of the museum.

Willow and Birch classes participated in Anglian Learning's dance festival 'Stage 24', where all schools came together for an inspirational celebration of dance. At our Year 6 residential trip in the Norfolk Lakes, the children worked brilliantly as a team and had an unforgettable experience. The giant stand-up paddleboarding was a real hit!

The school became a temporary foster home for 10 chicken eggs that successfully hatched in the summer. The chicks were cared for by the staff and children until they were returned to their home on a local farm.

The Royal Institution of Science held a full day of 'Explosive Food' experiments. This culminated in a family workshop where all participated in amazing experiments that saw flames shoot into the air, rockets fly and of course, exploding food!



Open communication, friendly and welcoming. Always happy to offer advice and support

Parent of Wimbish pupil

NURTURE

Meet the house teams



One of the children's highlights was the implementation of four new house teams: Gala, Braeburn, Jonagold and Bramley, with house captains and the election of a school council.

The children earn 'apples' for their house team either through individual or group pursuits, hoping to help their team win the golden apple trophy at the end of each half term. There is always eager anticipation when it is time to count up the apples!

Read all about it



Our staff have developed and implemented an inspiring reading curriculum.

We have built daily opportunities for children to be exposed to highquality texts either read by staff, to each other, or to explore on their own. The library has been refreshed and is an exciting place with a plethora of engaging and relevant books

A new Phonics scheme has seen the reading in Oak Class progress rapidly.

Our thanks to our parents and carers who have helped to support the development of reading. Families have participated in our Reading Café to learn how we teach reading and to explore a diverse range of books for children. Other opportunities have included phonics, art and science workshops.

At weekly assemblies, staff share a variety of their favourite books on topics that are pertinent to us as a school community. We have been lucky to welcome community readers into school to hear the children read each week. The children look forward to these visits and are proud of the progress they have made with their reading.

Join us!

We are pleased to confirm our upcoming open-day events for prospective parents and carers to see our school in action:

- 23 September 2024 (am)
- 8 October 2024 at 5pm and 5.45pm
- 21 October 2024 (am)
- 22 November 2024 (am)

Please contact **office@wimbishprimary.org** or call 01799 599245 to book your place or request a visit. We look forward to welcoming you to Wimbish Primary Academy.

We can already see such positive changes in the school, we are kept informed and love the new format of the newsletter

Parent of Wimbish pupil

www.wimbishprimary.org