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Winns Weekly

Wow, the first half term simply flew by! The children and staff have been amazing and have shown great resilience as always. Children have made incredible progress over the past 7 weeks and produced some wonderful pieces of work, some of which we have shared later in this newsletter. A big thankyou goes out to everyone who took part in the non-uniform/crazy hair day. It was lovely to see parents getting behind us with a few crazy hairdos of their own. In total, we raised well over £600 to go towards new playground improvements. We have had a full timetable of after-school clubs running over the past half-term and you will have received news of clubs running for the second half of this term as well. It was also nice once more to be able to invite parents back in to school for our series of reading workshops and also for our parent consultation meetings. Slowly but surely, we are returning back to normal. After half term, we will be going one step further and allowing parents back onto the playground at pick-up time. You will have received an email with the new arrangements. Please call the school office if you have any questions.

The second half of the Autumn term promises to be even busier, with trips scheduled for Years 5 and 6, class assemblies for 5AF, 6PB, 4KB, 5EP, and 6AM, and cycle training for Year 6 children. We will also be hosting Christmas performances and The Winns Winter Festive Fete. More details to follow on these.

ParentPay - our new online payment service

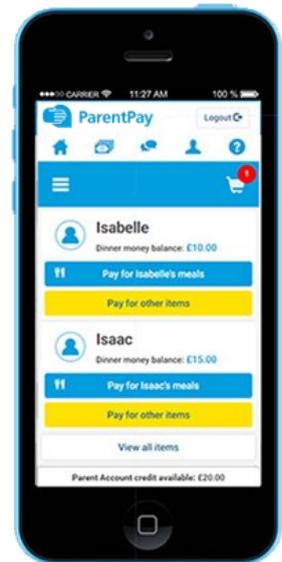


We are pleased to announce that we will shortly be switching to a secure website called ParentPay. You will be able to pay online using your credit / debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

How to get started with ParentPay?

After half term, we will send you your account activation details. Once you receive these:

- Visit www.parentpay.com
- Enter your Activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage.
- **NB. These are for one-time use only, please choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process**
- Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account - registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders.
- Once activation is complete you can go straight to Items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket and proceed to complete your payment.
- If you have any questions, please contact the school office. For more information, visit www.parentpay.com/parents/



Art Projects for Schools

Your child should have returned home before the half-term break with an 'Art Card' artwork they have been working on in school. These have a unique barcode on the reverse for you to scan, log on to the Art Projects for Schools website, and order a variety of gifts based on your child's work. You will then need to return the artwork to your class teacher so that it can be sent off and scanned. **Without your child's artwork, the company cannot print your order.** This is a wonderfully creative art project that enables The Winns to raise funds while providing engaging activities for your children that result in a professionally finished product that can be treasured by the whole family.



New Drop-off and Pick-up arrangements

As we have stated in the past, we wanted to take gradual steps in allowing parents back into school when it was safe to do so. We are also mindful of the need to reduce congestion on the pavements surrounding the school. With this in mind, we are planning to allow parents onto the school grounds at pick-up times after the half term break from Tuesday 2nd November. The morning drop-off arrangements will remain the same, with the gates open at 8:50am and children making their way to their classes. We are, however making changes to pick-up arrangements, and these are outlined below:

3:20pm – Nursery and Reception gates on Fleeming Road will open. Parents of children in Nursery and Reception will be allowed in to collect their children at this time. If families have older siblings, you can then make your way to the designated waiting zones, (see attached diagram)

3:20pm – Both gates on Elphinstone Road will open. Parents can then make their way to the designated waiting zone, (see attached diagram).

3:30pm - Children will come on to the playground to be collected by parents. Year groups will enter the playground at different points, (see attached diagram). 2CF and 2JS children will be handed over at the two side gates close to their classrooms. Once you have collected your children, we would ask that you make your way off the school grounds as quickly as possible.

3:35pm – We will begin closing gates so that we can allow after-school clubs to begin.

All gates will be closed by **3:40pm**.

We would also remind parents to make every effort to pick up their children on time so that we can clear the playground as quickly as possible. Any child not picked up on time will be taken to the school office for collection. It is also important to stress, for safety reasons, that at pick-up times, the climbing frame in the main playground and the playground equipment on the Reception playground should not be used.

Hopefully these new arrangements will run smoothly, and we welcome your support in helping us to make these work. Slowly but surely, we are returning back to normal and this next step will help in that process.

Thank you

Black History Month and Inclusion

While black history is celebrated all year round at The Winns, Black History Month is marked annually. It recognises and values the inspirational individuals and events that have shaped the black generation. During Black History Month, we remember and celebrate important people from the past and also those who contribute to and help our society today. It also gave us the opportunity to talk about inclusion and all our origins. This led to some marvellous pieces of work across the school. We thought we would share some from our Year 5 children.

I am a joyous sun but also a sad, grumpy raindrop.
 I am a melody changing every minute.
 I am a continuously loud chatter box, chatting to my friends.
 I am pizza waiting patiently to be eaten and enjoyed.
 I am a leg, beautiful and fragile.
 I am a messy artist having fun doing art.
 I am a frightening shark but also a kind, loving bunny.
 I am ripped pieces of paper in a sketch sketch book.
 I am a creative piece of art sitting up and being free free

I am a stupendous sea
 But a thunderous sky.
 I am a textbook waiting to be read.
 I am England, Spain and in my
 Heart France.
 I am a snowflake gently falling
 To the ground.
 I am a fire igniting a bomb
 At night.
 I am a line through a word.
 I am a flame that never goes out.
 I am English, Romanian and a tiny bit of
 French and a smidge of Spanish too!
 I am a fizzy drink being shaken
 Violently.
 I am a rushing artist

I am a football flying across the sky.
 I am like numbers waiting to be put
 together.
 I am a pair of warm gloves.
 I am English but a tiny splash of Turkish.
 I am 9 but I still act like I'm 3.
 I am a pizza with no toppings.
 I am a school with no rules.
 I am a dog with brilliant skills.
 I am a boy with a great personality.

Crazy Hair Day.....

Thank you so much for joining in with our Crazy Hair/Non-Uniform Day today. The children had a great time and it was so lovely to see so many colourful hairdos and outfits. You will be pleased to know that we raised well over £600, and this will go towards playground refurbishment.



A Big Thankyou

We would like to say a big thankyou to all parents who attended the series of Early Reading workshops before the half-term break. All workshops were well attended and allowed parents to gain a better insight into how we teach phonics and early reading here at The Winns. The feedback was really positive and we hope to have further workshops as we run through this academic year. This is just one of the changes we are making to ensure that we return to normal post-covid. Look out for more workshops later this half term and in the Spring term as well.

