

★★★ Last week's whole school attendance: 96.1% ★★★



WINNS WEEKLY

19.12.2025

সাপ্তাহিক ছুটি
ভালো কাটুক!

Bengali
Have a good weekend!



Headteacher: Fiona Judge / The Winns Primary School, Fleeming Rd. E17 5ET
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DATES FOR DIARIES W.B.5.1.2026

Monday 5th January INSET Day - Staff only

Tuesday 6th January Children return

Monday 12th January After school clubs start

Please remember to subscribe to [our online calendar](#) so that you receive automatic updates into your own calendar.

END OF TERM MESSAGE (CONTINUED ON P2)

As we approach the end of term, on behalf of everyone at The Winns we would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful school community for all your support over the Autumn term.

The Autumn term is always a busy one. We began in September by welcoming new children, new families and new staff into our school, helping everyone to settle and feel part of the Winns community. We end the term with Christmas concerts, shows and parties that bring joy, excitement and a real sense of togetherness. And in between, we do everything we can to ensure that our children are continuing to learn and grow, academically, socially and emotionally. By the end of the term, our children's energy levels reach new heights - perhaps fuelled by sugar and festive parties! And our staff team rise to the challenge, matching their enthusiasm as they look forward to a well-earned break!! A primary school is a very special place to be and despite the challenges we face sometimes, we are incredibly lucky to be surrounded by all our amazing children, staff and community who make our work so enjoyable and worthwhile.

Friends of The Winns - finding words to capture how amazing you are is difficult! Your dedication to our school, the incredible work you do all year round, but particularly this term to make our Christmas fair such a success is extraordinary. Knowing you are doing this often alongside your own demanding jobs, makes it even more impressive. I have watched in awe as this team of hugely talented and committed parents volunteered so much time to our school to make our Winter fair such a success - we are incredibly grateful. Watching our school community come together and have such a great day made us all feel very proud of our school community.

This term we achieved the silver UNICEF Rights Respecting Award. This award recognises the work we



END OF TERM MESSAGE (CONT.)

are doing as a school to place children's rights at the heart of everything we do, to strengthen children's sense of belonging and voice and to create a great learning environment. As we listen to the latest news stories from around the world, including the terrible events in Sydney at the weekend, we hold onto the knowledge that our children shine brightly every day, care hugely about each other and are passionate about making the world a better place.

Over the holidays, please do encourage your child to read lots. Most of our children at The Winns love books and Christmas is a great time to read. Turn off the devices if you can, share books and games together and limit time online. We are all becoming increasingly aware of the risks associated with children spending lots of time on screens, playing online games (often with strangers) for long periods of time or watching inappropriate material on YouTube, unsupervised. Despite the pull of the online world, when we talk to our children about what they really enjoy doing, they tell us that they love being outside, in the park or going for a cycle, they love reading, cooking, playing with Lego or just watching a good movie together as a family. Things that don't cost very much but just require the often hard to find 'Time'. Hopefully, we can all find some of this over the break.

On behalf of all our staff team at The Winns, we hope you all have a wonderful break, are able to rest, see family and enjoy time together. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 6th January.



Y2 ARTIST WORKSHOP

Year 2 brought history to life during our Great Fire of London workshop! The children layered coloured paper to create layers of fire that they added to a street mural, before later adding effective silhouette figures that they drew using a step-by-step shape technique to build body parts.

The children also asked lots of questions to understand illustration process and James portfolio of work, including questions about James' path to illustration from a child who loved reading to one day illustrating them!

A huge thank you to illustrator James Weston Lewis, a friend of our Winns community, and parent Elisa for their invaluable support in making this inspiring day possible.



YEAR 4 MUSEUM TRIP

Two of our year 4 classes visited the British Museum this week as part of their learning around Romans and Anglo Saxons. 4KB and 4MH visited exhibits in the museum featuring the impressive Sutton Hoo hoard and the remains of Roman Villa, including a range of jewellery, tools and silverware. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who accompanied the children on the trip - they wouldn't be able to take place without your support!



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BE ACTIVE AND EXPLORE OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD

As the festive season continues, it's the perfect time for families to wrap up warm and enjoy the great outdoors together. What better way to burn off that extra mince pie (or that second helping of Christmas pudding!) than heading out on a local walk?

The Go Jauntly app is a brilliant way to discover great walks right on your doorstep. It highlights local routes, green spaces and hidden gems, making it easy to explore your area and enjoy some fresh air as a family. Why not give Go Jauntly a try and start the New Year with a refreshing walk?





Go Jauntly Walks

Go Jauntly is a free walking and wellness app that helps bring happiness outdoors and enables users to discover urban walks, nature trails, historic tours and puzzle hunts in-app. You can download the app for free on the App Store or the Play Store.

We're excited to promote a set of Waltham Forest walks that highlight the rich history, hidden nature and vibrant community life of the area.

Together, these routes celebrate the community's commitment to sustainability, heritage, and cultural enrichment, providing engaging experiences for locals and visitors alike.

Share these walks with your school community to encourage them to be more active and explore their local area over the festive period!

Waterside Walkabout: This route takes you along the River Lea and Tottenham Marshes, showcasing Walthamstow Wetlands, an internationally significant nature reserve. It also includes a visit to the William Morris Gallery, a museum dedicated to the famed designer.

Mosey on the Marsh: Explore the green spaces of the Lea Valley, including Ive Farm Community Garden and the Christopher Robbins Woodland Walk. Highlights include Friends Bridge, steeped in history as a former boundary between Anglo-Saxon England and Viking Danelaw.

Walthamstow Village Walk: Celebrating 10 years of the Sustainable Transport program, this walk features Walthamstow Market, the longest outdoor street market in Europe, the soon-to-be-reopened Soho Theatre, and St. Mary's Church with its new arts focus.





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AUTHOR VISIT - Y4, Y5 & Y6

We are delighted to share that author Janeen Hayat will be visiting The Winns on Friday 16th January 2026 to work with children in Years 4, 5 and 6. Janeen is the author of *Evie and Maryam's Family Tree*, and this visit will give pupils a wonderful opportunity to hear directly from an author about her writing and the inspiration behind the book.

Families may wish to pre-order a signed copy of the book for their child. Orders should be placed by 10am on Monday 5th January 2026 to ensure books arrive in time for the visit.

Further details, including the ordering link, can be found [here](#). We're really looking forward to welcoming Janeen to The Winns and sharing this exciting experience with our children.

YEAR 3 COOKING

Year 3 have been hard at work this week in the kitchen, baking some seasonal puff pastries. They look delicious - well done year 3!





FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

WE'RE ALL FRIENDS OF THE WINNS

As a parent/carer to a child or children who attend the Winns, you are already a Friend of the Winns. The Friends of the Winns is a **registered charity** which organises opportunities to connect, share ideas, volunteer and support the school through fundraising, wellbeing and social activities.

Did you know?

As we appeal for your kind support, donations and volunteering time, did you know that as a registered charity, **if the company you work for offers paid time off** for volunteering leave, this can be used to help with Friends of the Winns events!

🎄 WINTER FAIR SHOUT OUTS - PART TWO! 🎄

Thank you all, Friends of the Winns community- it's hard to do justice to the **care, time, support and effort** our community put in to make the Winter Fair a great success, and following on from last week, we are going to do our very best over this issue to continue to recognise the contributions many gave.

We're also aware that many of our volunteers pivoted between sessions and stalls, thank you for your flex! **You may only clock your name against one of the activities listed over this issue or last weeks and yet, we know you worked across many other parts of the fair.** From the FOTW 25-27 committee, the warmest of thanks to:

Team Prize Table

Where would the Winter fair be without the Prize table? A crucial part of the fair experience, this station is mobbed from start to finish, as excited games victors come to trade in their winning tokens for prizes. What did your tokens get you? A big thanks to our team manning the stall across the day. **Powered by volunteers: Cris, Mary-Ann and Su May**





FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

Team Books

There were so many wonderful donations, we didn't have enough tables to put them on! Thank you for your generosity everyone. A great way to get us set up for the soon approaching World Book day in March where FOTW will be supporting the school with a month of book related activities. Watch this space!

Powered by volunteers: Char, Bridget, Henry, Heather, Isabel, Suzy, Martina.



Team Craft & Lego

Offering space for creative play and calm moments, Team Craft and LEGO gave children and carers a chance to pause from the buzz of the fair. From LEGO creations to decorated baubles, the tables were a big hit and kept many families entertained. **Powered by volunteers: Emily, Barbara, Johanna and Duncan.**

Team Bric-a-Brac

Bric-a-brac, toys and books are stalls entirely powered by your generous donations. Behind the scenes, teams worked hard to sort, organise and price every item, balancing affordability with fundraising for the school - no mean feat!

Powered by volunteers: Tamsin, Rosie, George, Tahir and Surna.



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

Team Smartphone Free

Creating space for parents and carers to learn more about the Smartphone Free movement, the Winns Smartphone Free group returned to the Winter Fair to answer questions, share experiences and offer advice. We were delighted to welcome them back. **Powered by Volunteer: Amie**



Team Festive Decorations

This was a new stall offering for 2025 showcasing second hand festive decorations - enabling clear-outs, winter sparkle and recycling, all in one go! It was a great hit and we hope it becomes a regular Winter fair stall. **Powered by volunteers: Karen and Frances and a fab team of students and former Winns students: Cassia, Annalise, Rosie and Marya.**



Team Toys

A hugely popular stall at the Winter Fair, from big cuddly toys to brand-new finds and the all-important rummage box. Thank you to Team Toys for all their work both on the day and in the lead-up to the fair. **Powered by volunteers: Steph and Marlene.**



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

Team Face Painting

Team Face Painting kept the creativity flowing at the fair by offering out a variety of designs, small and large, at inclusive prices. As ever, they managed the queue with grace and aplomb. Thank you!

Powered by volunteers: Ben, Jenny, Amy, Vivian, Nic, Kalia.



Team Games

A huge category of activity contained under this one team, Team Games kept kids and carers entertained with Reindeer Quoits, Knock Down Festive Penguins, Turkey Roll, Lucky Coins, Festive Higher or Lower, Wine Pull and Tombola. Festive fun from start to finish!

Powered by volunteers: Ana, Eleanor, Niamh, Jonathan, Amy, Suyin, Anna S, Amy Morris, Ife, Kelly, Grace, Minky, Caroline and Sarah.





FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

Team Bouncy Castle

It wouldn't be a Winns fair without them! Anchored indoors thanks to the weather, the excited screams didn't stop all day across the two castles. Huge thanks to our brave volunteers who kept smiling and supporting amid the rising decibels. **Powered by volunteers: Fiona, Brennan and Kate.**



Team Musical Performers

Thank you to **Mr Marshall and Mr Cook** for supporting piano and woodwind students ahead of the Winter Fair performances in Green Hall from 2-2.30pm. It was such a joy to hear the children perform. We're also delighted to share that we've already booked music teachers and clubs across the school to **showcase at Summer Fair 2026**.

And thank you to everyone who joined the wintery singalong too - such gorgeous voices from our parents and carers! **More to come soon on plans for a FOTW parents and carers choir.**





FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

External Vendors

Part of the interest of the Winter Fair is the involvement from outside **local businesses**. We hire stall spaces out for **£15 each**. Even though space was tight this year (owing to needing to move to the wet weather plan), we managed to squeeze in **5 external vendors**, mixing their offerings amongst the school offerings to maximise interest for the kids and carers. Thanks for joining us!

Team site services and caretaking

Whether it was collecting fruit boxes for us to use, breaking down classrooms to create the fair zones or helping us get everything back up in the loft, we could not have done the fair without the tireless efforts of **Manny, Juliano and Joao**.

Other thanks

There were **so many parents, carers and staff across the Winns community** who helped make the fair happen. We'd also like to thank **Debbie, Laura, Ana, Maria, Natasha, Emma, Abi, Allison, Tina and the whole school kitchen team** plus all the many helpers who supported in the lead-up to the day. **Note:** If we have accidentally missed anyone between last week's and this week's shout-outs, we're sorry and will correct that mistake. Please email fotwchair@gmail.com to let us know so we can give proper thanks.

Team Set-up & Pack-down

From stocking first aid kits and putting up signage to stacking teddies high and getting stalls ready, the set-up and pack-down teams were essential to keeping the day running smoothly.

Powered by volunteers: Louise, Ewa, Clare S, Joe, Oksana and Andrew.



Feedback

We'd love to hear your thoughts on the Winter Fair – what you enjoyed, what you'd like more of, or less of. Your feedback helps us make future events even better for our school community. Please share your thoughts [via this short form here](#) Thank you!



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

🎄 RAFFLE 🎄

A huge thank you to everyone who donated, promoted, or bought tickets for the FOTW Winter Fair raffle – together we raised an amazing **£1,600** for the school!

Raffle prizes can be collected from the school office (Fleeming Road main entrance) until 4.30pm on Friday 19th December.

Special thanks to **Malwina** for her work bringing in extra donations, and to **Team Raffle**.

A big shout-out also to **Eleanor** for all her work managing the RallyUp site.

GRAND TOTAL FOR THE WINTER FAIR! 🎉

Now that the raffle has been drawn, sponsorship funds and any CAF donations have been added, along with all the cash and card raised on the day itself, we're thrilled to reveal...

An incredible achievement – thank you to everyone who came, donated, volunteered, and supported the Winter Fair!



CAF DONATIONS – THANK YOU! ❤️

A special thank you for the generous CAF donation of £200 from **John Bloomfield** at Utility Engineers Watertec Solutions Watertecsolutions.co.uk, which contributed to the £7,500 raised.

The CAF is an annual fund donation option that runs throughout the school year, allowing for one-off or regularly scheduled contributions to Friends of the Winns, a registered charity. Every donation can be gift-aided, helping us raise even more! [Link to donate here](#)

LOOK TO THE FUTURE NOW...

In the New Year, we'll be sharing our fundraising **priorities for Friends of the Winns for 2026**. Keep an eye on your Winns Weekly to find out more about the exciting opportunities and initiatives ahead - and how we can continue coming together as a parent/carers community to support our school.



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

AUTUMN/WINTER TERM RECAP ✨

Together, across second-hand uniform sales, the quiz, the Christmas cards, and the Winter Fair (including the raffle), we've raised a total of **£9,610 for our school this term!**

From the FOTW committee, a **huge thank you to our brilliant school community** for enabling an amazing start to the 25/26 school year.


Wishing you all a peaceful, restorative festive break – see you in 2026 for more FOTW fun!



Season's Greetings



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Friends of the Winns

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LEWIS



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Exclusive retailer offers



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A warm feeling inside!

Over
£60m
raised for UK good causes

£0
extra cost to anyone