



WINNS WEEKLY

13.2.2026

أتمنى لك نهاية أسبوع
جميلة!

Arabic
Have a nice weekend!



Headteacher: Fiona Judge / The Winns Primary School, Fleeming Rd. E17 5ET
020 8527 1872 / www.thewinnsprimaryschool.co.uk / office@winns.waltham.sch.uk

DATES FOR DIARIES W.B.23.2.2026

Friday 27th February FOTW World Book Day Costume swap (in the playground after school)

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

6ES TAKE US ON A TAXONOMIC JOURNEY

This week, 6ES took us on a fascinating journey through the history of biology. The children showcased their deep understanding of the Classification of Living Things, focusing on the ground-breaking work of Carl Linnaeus.

With great confidence, 6ES explained how Linnaeus's system of taxonomy helps scientists organise every creature on Earth - from the broadest Kingdoms down to specific Species. We were particularly impressed by their explanation of binomial nomenclature and the catchy song they used to remember the hierarchy of life! Well done Year 6!



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CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS & SAFER INTERNET DAY

This week, we marked two vital events: **Children's Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Day 2026.**

In school, the theme for mental health was "This is My Place," focusing on belonging and emotional safety. Our Wellbeing Room remained a popular sanctuary at lunchtimes, and we were thrilled to have the Mental Health Support Team working with many children to explore what makes them feel secure and valued.

Switching to the digital world, Safer Internet Day focused on the rapidly evolving world of Artificial Intelligence. Through assemblies and in-class activities, the children explored how to use AI tools creatively and safely, while learning to spot potential risks and misinformation.

Whether it's finding a sense of belonging in a physical space or navigating the complexities of AI online, the goal remains the same: staying safe, staying kind, and looking after one another.



4EB CONQUER THE STAGE!

Well done to 4EB for their brilliant assembly on Roman Britain! The audience was treated to a wonderful mix of music, historical facts, and a very energetic battle between the Roman legions and the Celtic tribes.

The children's "Roman Quiz" proved they have become real experts on the era, teaching us all exactly what the Romans did for us!

Thank you to Ms. Bairstow and Ms. Monique and a big thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to cheer them on. It was a wonderful start to our Thursday!



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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?

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!



FRIENDS OF THE WINNS - PARENT FEEDBACK SESSION

FOTW would love to hear **your ideas and feedback** on how we can all work together as a community. This is also a chance to learn more about the charity and the proposed events calendar for 2026.

We'll be hosting an **online meet-up on Wednesday 11th March, 7.30-8.30pm**. Joining links will be shared closer to the time, we hope you can make it!

PLAYGROUND MEET & CHAT

Bisi and Vic will be hanging out in the playground near the Team Preloved costume swap stall during pick-up on **Friday 27th February**.

Please come by to:

- Say hi 🙌
- Share your feedback and ideas
- Support the Preloved team by browsing their
- amazing free costume stall

In the meantime, you can:

- Email us at fotwchair@gmail.com
- Share your thoughts via your class reps

The FOTW committee **Matt, Vic, Ness, and Bisi** are always up for a chat.



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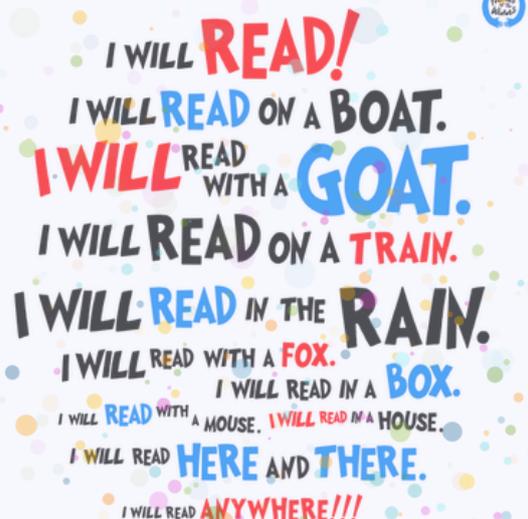
FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

FOTW FUNDING SPOTLIGHT - BOOKS! 📖

Over half term, the school is preparing a brilliant new collection of books for the children.

- FOTW is **matching the school's £2,000 investment**, creating a total of **£4,000 to spend on new books**.
- **Team Library** have been busy reviewing inventory, identifying gaps, and suggesting titles to fill them.

We can't wait to see this **treasure trove of books** supporting World Book Day activities across March!



FOTW SPONSORED ACTIVITY 2026 - READATHON! 📖

In the spirit of the **National Year of Reading**, we're excited to announce that this year's FOTW sponsored event will be a **Readathon for the children, running in May 2026**.

The Readathon will encourage children to **discover books they love and inspire them** to keep coming back to reading. Our last school Readathon in Spring 2023 was a huge success, and we're thrilled to bring it back. More details to come soon - watch this space!

TEAM PRELOVED - COSTUME SWAP

The Costume Swap is coming! This is a chance for children and carers to find a costume, **for free, ahead of World Book Day**.

We kindly ask for **donations of good-condition, second-hand kids' costumes and accessories** to be dropped off at the main office during school hours from **Monday 23rd February until 2pm Friday 27th February**, so they can be moved to the stall.

Class reps have been sharing **appeals for volunteers to help on the stall on Friday 27th February**. If you'd prefer to reply by email, please contact fotwsecretary@gmail.com.



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

THE WINNS STORY WINDOWS TRAIL 2026

Can your home join the Winns Story Windows Trail?

We currently have 26 homes signed up to decorate a front window - thank you! We'd love to see even more homes join in. In 2024-25, over 40 homes took part.

Thank you also to those hosting sponsored estate agent signs - promoting the trail and raising funds along the way. With a target of 100 homes, we could raise £1,000 for the school library. Can you help?

Decorations can be based on **any book theme**, a favourite story, character, or tale, and it's a fun chance for children, parents, and carers to get creative together.

The trail promotes a **love of reading** in the lead-up to World Book Day on **Thursday 5 March 2026**, and we're thrilled that **Central Estates** has increased their sponsorship, helping us reach our fundraising target.

Ways you can get involved

- **Decorate a front window** in your home for the trail
- **Host a sponsored sign** outside your home
- **Or do both** - just let us know which
- option(s) work for you



You can host a sponsored sign without decorating a window. Sponsored signs will be displayed from 1-31 March. If you rent your home, please check and obtain permission from your landlord before hosting a sign. If you're decorating, we'd love your window to be **ready by 1 March and to stay up until 31 March**, so as many people as possible can enjoy the trail.

We'll email you a special **Winns Windows blue plaque** to print and display next to your window. If printing at home is tricky, just let us know and we can arrange one to be collected from the school office.

An interactive map of the trail will be created and shared for families to enjoy throughout March. Closer to the time, we'll also share more ways we're increasing interactivity so every child can join in. [Sign up here](#)

Apologies reception families, a mistake was made on the published form omitted an option to share you are a reception family. Please do add that info in the free text.

- Deadline to host a sponsored sign:
- **Monday 23 February (midday)**
- Deadline to decorate a window:
- **Friday 27 February (midday)**



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

WORLD BOOK DAY:
THURSDAY
5TH MARCH

WORLD BOOK DAY - MORE EASY DIY COSTUME IDEAS

By Lucy and Myfanwy from the Preloved Team

World Book Day is on **Thursday 5 March**. If you're after **something you can pull together without buying anything new**, these ideas use everyday clothes with small creative touches.

They're also a lovely option for a half-term activity to do together, if that works for your family.

Idea 3: Characters Using Everyday Clothes

- **Matilda**: blue dress + red ribbon
- **Katie Morag**: green/plaid skirt, jumper, wellies
- **Pippi Longstocking**: mismatched socks, patched dress, bunches
- **Tintin**: white shirt, blue jumper, brown trousers (quiff optional!)

Idea 4: Superheroes

From books and graphic novels- all you need is three things:

- **Mask**: paper plate or cereal box
- **Cape**: scarf, fabric or sheet
- **Logo**: drawn or stuck on

Homemade, shop-bought, simple or last-minute, it all counts!



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

BOOK SWAP - VOLUNTEERS & DATES

Class reps have been kindly sharing an appeal in parent/carer WhatsApp groups for **volunteers to support the Book Swap stall.**

If you'd prefer to volunteer by email, please contact fotwsecretary@gmail.com.

The brilliant Book Swap will be back in support of World Book Day!

- **Thursday 12 March:** Years 3-6
- **Friday 13 March:** Nursery-Year 2 and Class 4LT

More details on donating books and volunteering will be shared soon.

We ♥ our Volunteers

WORLD BOOK DAY:
THURSDAY
5TH MARCH



27th February:
Team Preloved
Costume Swap

1-31st March:
Winns Story Windows trail

12th & 13th of March:
The Book Swap!

11th March
Online Parent Feedback
Session

Save THE Date

Save THE Date



Sing Education Newsletter

Music this term at The Winns

A message from your music teacher

Year 3 and Year 4 students should feel very proud of the progress they have made with playing the recorder! Eye of the tiger was sounding fantastic across the year groups and special shout out to Patrick in year 4 for his amazing solo playing in our first lesson. Reception and year 1 have been doing a fabulous job with finding their voices and learning about pitch - I have been blown away by your beautiful singing voices. Year 2 are always so enthusiastic in music and have been showing me time and time again their love of music making. Year 5 have been rocking through the term learning "We will rock you" and have impressed me so much with their amazing playing and singing skills. You should all be very proud of yourselves and I'm looking forward to next term when KS1 and KS2 will be creating their own music and composing!

Miss Helsing



EYFS were looking at pitch-matching

In **Nursery**, we explored our singing voices and practised matching the pitch of the teacher. We used actions and instruments to help us find our voice and sing with confidence

Reception practised listening carefully to match our voices with others. We explored high and low sounds to build our confidence in singing together.

In KS1 we were focussing on Pitch

We explored high and low sounds in **Year 1** by listening and moving. We used dot notation to see the shape of the music and improved our pitch-matching.

Year 2 developed our music reading skills using dot notation. We followed the pitch moving up and down to help us sing and play with accuracy.



Singing Assembly Song of the Term:

Try Everything and Don't stop me now (y3 and Y4)



The KS2 focus area was Performing: Instrumental Performance

Y3 and 4 learnt recorder or glockenspiel

Year 3 began playing instruments together as an ensemble. We used call and response and staff notation to play in time and listen to each other.

In **Year 4**, we advanced our ensemble skills by playing melodies and accompaniments. We read music from the stave to perform different parts that fit together.



Y5 and 6 learnt ukulele or glockenspiel

Year 5 explored pop music by creating arrangements and improvising. We learnt to play chords and melodies to perform familiar songs as a group

We focussed on playing chords and bass lines in **Year 6** to perform pop songs. We read complex notation and worked together to create a full band sound

What's happening in Extra-curricular?

The KS2 choirs have been focusing on positivity and working on three songs for a performance in the last singing assembly of the term. "Brighter days" by Emeli Sande has been a hit. We have also been learning "Cover me in sunshine" by P!nk and "I'm one of kind" to focus on positivity and singing together to brighten up the winter months. Particular shout out to the Year 5 & 6 choir, who ALL got star singer in their first week because they were so fantastic and worked so beautifully as a team. Year 3 and 4 choir are also making an incredible sound and working so hard on these songs, which are quite tricky. I am always blow away by the complexity of the songs the children can manage in choir and the quality of their voices! Thank you for such an amazing term so far!

Coming up...

	Spring 2
EYFS Focus Areas	Rhymes, Songs and Stories
Nursery	Telling Stories Through Music
Reception	Rhymes, Poems and Songs Old and New
KS1 Focus Areas	Composing
Year 1	Creating Music 1: Sound Effects and Storytelling
Year 2	Creating Music 2: Musical Conversations
KS2 Focus Areas	Composing and Improvising
Year 3	Composition Skills 1: Pitch, Rhythm and Structure
Year 4	Composition Skills 2: Sequences and Pentatonic Phrases
Year 5	Creating Music for Film and TV: Character, Atmosphere and Environment
Year 6	Composition Project 1: Improvisation, Composition and Notation

