



Willoughby Primary School
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Head Teacher: Miss Beatrice Smith

'Learning For Life'

2020 February

Dear Parents/Carers

I write with an update as we approach the half-term break. Please can I remind you that **school is closed on Monday 24th February** as staff are at a professional training day with other colleagues across the Rushcliffe Schools Alliance. We return after the holidays on Tuesday 25th February.

This issue contains:

- Farewell to School Governors
- Parent governor election
- Former pupil award
- Recycle, Reduce, Reuse
- Willoughby Award Winners
- 'Willoughby Sings' Event ...
- Bikeability
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- School Meals
- Drumba
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- Book Week
- Sport Relief
- Finally...

Farewell to School Governors

I'm sure you have all heard the sad news about the passing of two of our former governors, Bas Haynes and Liz Merriman. Bas was our Chair of Governors for a number of years and was still a co-opted governor, always ready with wise words and experience. Liz had also been a governor, who always had time to talk to staff and children. They will both be sadly missed by us all in school.

Parent Governor Election

The Governing Body now has a vacancy for a Parent Governor. The Governing Body is made up of parents, teachers and other members of the community. Governors play a key role in the school, working as a team to provide support as well as challenge and influence strategies. Every term the Governing Body meets to support the work of the school, and together with the headteacher is responsible for making sure that the school provides a good standard of education for pupils. We are hoping that parents will nominate themselves or others and help us by contributing ideas and influencing decision making.

Outlines of procedures will be set out in the nomination letters (which will be sent out on Tuesday 25th February) but please contact me directly if you want to talk informally about being a School Governor.

Former pupil award

Huge congratulations to Joseph Auty who was recently presented with the top award at The South Wolds Academy ceremony in January. He was given the 'Outstanding Achievement Award' by the Governors. We are so proud of him! Joseph is currently studying Chemical Engineering at Loughborough University and is at present saving to do a Machu Picchu Trek for Action Against Hunger. Follow the link if you would like to support him: <https://machu-picchu-trek-2020.everdayhero.com/uk/joe-s-machu-picchu-charity-trek-2020#>

Recycle, Reduce, Reuse

Our theme for the term has been extremely well received and the children have embraced it with a lot of enthusiasm! So far everyone has made a New Year recycling resolution and started a challenge card with 12 things to have a go at over the term. Everyone that joined in successfully swapped a toy at the recycle a toy day and there were plenty of empty plates for Waste Free Lunch Wednesday. The packed lunch room bin was also practically empty! We have also had a visit from the Schools Action Waste Club who taught the KS2 class what to do with scrap paper and made recycled paper with the Reception and KS1 children. The Year 6 girls have been running a recycling art club with different year groups and we will be having a poster competition over half term. Thank you for all of your support with all of these activities.

Willoughby Award Winners

Congratulations to our recent winners of the Willoughby Award, awarded for effort in work, behaviour and other aspects of school life:

10/1	Henry H (Y2)	24/1	William B (Y4)
17/1	Arabella (Y3)	31/1	Willow (Y6)

'Willoughby Sings' Event

Please note the date change to our singing event in March. We will now be holding it on **Friday 27th March** from 6pm to 8pm in the village hall. We are calling it 'Willoughby Sings' and it will be a gentle mixture of songs and a celebration of singing from all of the children. FOWs have kindly offered to organise some refreshments and it should be a lovely way to start the weekend! Put the date in your diaries.

Bikeability

The pupils in the year 3/4 class have recently completed their Level 1 training with the Nottinghamshire bikeability team. Over the 2 hour training the pupils learnt how to check that their bike is safe to ride, learnt how to improve their basic riding skills and were introduced to the Highway Code. Each participant received a Level 1 certificate and a bikeability badge to show they had completed the course. Years 5 and 6 will complete both Level 1 and 2 training over two days at the end of term.

FOWs News

Thanks to the generous donation from fund raising by FOWs, we now have 10 new I-pads with cases, as well as a storage and charging unit, in school. These are primarily aimed at our Reception and KS1 children who have been lacking in up to date IT equipment for a while. We hope to have them in the classroom very soon, once they have been properly set up and new apps have been installed.

Thank you to those of you who have submitted your recipes to the FOWs cookbook. Anyone wishing to add a recipe to the collection should talk to Susie Bateson who is coordinating this exciting project.

School Meals

The cost of a school dinner remains at £2.30 per meal for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Dinners are free under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme for Reception, Years 1 and 2. On the last visit from our auditor we were advised that should a child owe for more than five meals we should not continue serving that child a school dinner. Obviously we do not wish to withhold dinners from any child and therefore appreciate prompt payment when bills are issued.

Drumba Sessions

I hope your child is enjoying their Drumba sessions on Fridays. These are being paid for out of our School Sports Premium. It is an exercise format that combines drumsticks with dance steps to create a fast paced, intense cardio workout for the upper and lower body. As a school we are

required to show the impact of this funding stream and consider the benefit on pupils' physical well being. Drumba offers us an alternative activity alongside traditional sporting activities, is inclusive and ensures full participation rates.

Little Wickets

Little Wickets are now taking bookings for half-term with early booking discounts available until 9/2/20. Please see their letter attached to the end of this Newsletter.

Book Week

Our School Council have discussed World Book Day, which is on Thursday 5th March. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a fictional character on this day. This is not a fund-raising event; it is part of our Book Week which runs from Monday 2th March. Staff are planning book activities and story swaps for the week. On World Book Day, every child will receive a token that can be exchanged for one of twelve (exclusive, new and completely free) World Book Day books. If you would prefer, you can use your book token to get £1 off any full-price book or audiobook instead. Also on that day children can bring in a book and swap it for a different one.

Sport Relief

School Council have also decided that the school should support Sport Relief which is on Friday 13th March. Children can come into school dressed as a sport's person on that day for a small donation.

Finally ...

- Unauthorised absence - Please note holidays cannot be authorised during term time. As our cohorts are small taking your child or children out for just a day or more can have an adverse affect on the attendance data for our school. Please plan ahead and book holidays during the school holidays!
- Also a reminder that if your child is ill and cannot come in to school please can you phone the office to let us know every day they are off. It saves us so much time. Thank you.
- Parent/Teacher Meetings - a reminder that we hope to see all our parent/carers on Wednesday 12th February. Where parents are unable to make this date, alternative arrangements have been made. If you have not made an appointment, please contact the office to discuss a suitable time.

Many thanks for your on-going support for all that we do to ensure the very best learning experience for our children.

Yours sincerely



Beatrice Smith
Head Teacher



"Championing Teamwork, Fair Play & Fun"



**February Half Term
Softball Cricket Fun**

For All Primary School Boys & Girls

Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th February 2020

Rushcliffe School, Boundary Road, West Bridgford NG2 7BW
Indoors

9am – 3.30pm

Registration from 8.30am & Pick-up by 4pm



More than just batting, bowling & fielding; the qualified, vetted and experienced Little Wickets' coaching team ensure that the 'Spirit of Cricket' and good sportsmanship is at the heart of all the soft-ball cricket-based activities. Separated into small groups based on age and ability your children will develop all-round technical skills, a sense of fair play and teamwork. Games throughout the day will ensure their new skills are put to the test.

Most importantly they'll have FUN!

Book anything from a Half Day to all 3 Days

Morning-only kids can be picked up at 12.15pm or stay to eat lunch and be collected at 1pm.

Kids should bring their own packed lunch & plenty of drinks

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE UNTIL

Sunday 9th February 2020

Full Day - £25 Half Day - £15

From 10th Feb Standard Prices Apply

Full Day - £30 Half - £20

PLACES ARE LIMITED - DON'T DELAY

10% Younger Sibling & Twins discount (book via email)

e: info@littlewickets.com t: 0115 671 0565

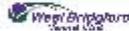
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Tots' Hot Shots

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Active Holiday Fun For Toddlers

Activity Morning for 3 - 5 Year Olds

Friday 21st February 2020

Friday 17th April 2020

Friday 29th May 2020

9.00am - 11.30am

(Registration from 8.45am)

West Bridgford Tennis Club, Little Bounds off Wilford Lane, West Bridgford NG2 7QA

- An exciting & unique opportunity for 3-5 year olds
- Fun & games with two great sports - cricket & tennis
- Parents/carers can sit back and watch or leave them to enjoy the fun in safe hands.
- Qualified, vetted, experienced and enthusiastic coaching team.

Squash & biscuits included

Indoors

£20 per morning

For 10% younger sibling & twin discounts
please book direct & not online.
Please email info@littlewickets.com



Book online at www.littlewickets.com

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