



WINTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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learning together - growing together

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Whole School Newsletter, Thursday 20th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Red Nose Day

Don't forget that it's Comic Relief Red Nose Day tomorrow – Friday 21st March. To help celebrate the day and raise money for the charity, the School Council have decided to invite all the children to come to school in **red non-uniform** and take part in a **Crazy Hair** competition! Both elements are optional, but if your child would like to take part in either, or both activities, could they please bring in a cash donation of at least £1. The School Council will also be running a sweet stall at break time with bags of sweets available for 50p.

Gold Book tomorrow

Class 2 are still squatting in the hall, so it won't be business as normal, but we will be having a Gold Book assembly tomorrow – Friday 21st March. I've checked the weather forecast and it looks good, so we'll go for a **3:00pm start on the playground**, and then we will dismiss at 3:20pm as usual.

Although the carpets are getting fitted at the start of next week and Class 2 should hopefully be back to normal by Wednesday, unfortunately **we won't be having a Gold Book on Friday 28th March**. This is because we have a drama company coming into school to hopefully inspire the children ahead of their end of term writing assessment.

Class 4 Burger Making

Unfortunately, Mrs Broome had to go home unwell today, so we have had to move Class 4's eagerly anticipated Burger Making lesson back to tomorrow. Mrs Ellerton has taken control of all the ingredients and ensured that everything is refrigerated and labelled ready to go tomorrow.

Music Concert

I'm afraid that you're going to have to wait another week for this term's music concert! Mr Stanton has asked if we can push it back a week to allow for additional rehearsal time, so we would now like to invite you to our end of term Music Concert on Wednesday 2nd April, starting at 2:45pm on the playground. Apologies for any inconvenience that this has caused.

Arbor App and Parents' Evening Appointments

We've had a fantastic response with people getting on board with Arbor and booking their Parents' Evening Appointments online. Thank you to everyone who has got on board with this transition to the new system, we think Arbor will be very useful going forward and that everyone will benefit from the improved communication and convenience that the App will provide. If you're one of the six families who hasn't yet

booked a Parent's Evening appointment for Monday 31st March or Tuesday 1st April, appointments are still available, and Hannah will be very happy to help you if you've encountered any Arbor issues.

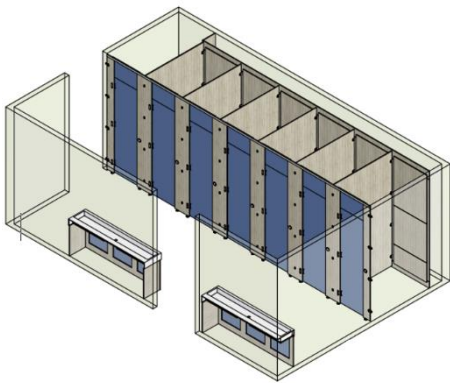
Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Book Fair. It was, yet again, a very successful event and the school was able to benefit from £465 worth of new books – fantastic!

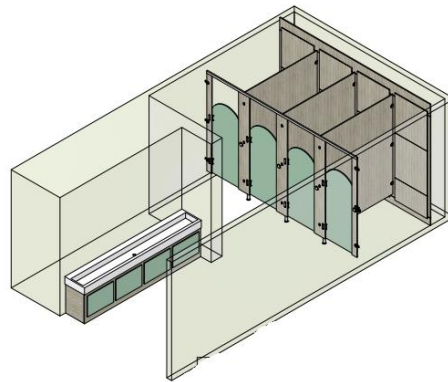
Toilets

I'm delighted to confirm that our long-awaited children's toilet project will finally take place over the Easter holidays. The project will see Class 1 having their own, separate toilets and a complete renovation, enlargement and re-fit for the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 toilet areas. A new staff / disabled accessible toilet will also be created outside Class 1. Most of the work will take place over the Easter holidays, although the Key Stage 2 block won't quite be finished in time. This will mean that Class 3 and Class 4 will need to use the playground gate to enter school on the first week back.

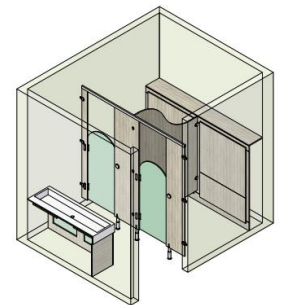
I've included some drawings of how the toilets will look once completed:



Key Stage 2 - door positions haven't changed



Key Stage 1 - expanding into the current disabled toilet



Class 1 - accessible only through their classroom

Clubs

Here are this term's clubs:

Monday, 3:20 – 4:20pm – **Rugby** with Coach Richard for Yr 2/3/4/5/6

3:20 – 4:20pm – **Craft Club** with Miss Beanland for Yr R/1/2/3/4/5/6

Tuesday, 3:20 – 4:20pm – **Football** with Mr Smith for Yr 2/3/4/5/6

3:20 – 4:20pm – **Gardening Club** with Mrs Devenish for Yr R/1/2/3/4/5/6

Wednesday, Lunchtime – **Computing Club** with Mrs Broome for Yr 2/3/4/5/6

Thursday, Lunchtime – **Chess Club** with Mr Cook for Yr 1/2/3/4/5/6

Friday, 8:00am – **Running Club** with Mr Smith for everyone, all family members welcome!

Thanks for your support,

Mr Rob Cook
Headteacher



Weekends
Holidays
Training Days *
Bank Holiday **

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Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.



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ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW STATUTORY RULES MEAN FOR OUR FAMILIES



With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes have come into force for all schools and academies from the 19th August 2024. You can find out more about these changes online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>. Thank you, as always for your support.

WHAT IS IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE?

If your child is absent for 10 or more unauthorised sessions in a 10 week period, this is classed as irregular. Work with your academy to help understand and address the reasons for absence and any barriers.

WHAT IS A SESSION?

2 sessions is equal to 1 day! Attendance is recorded as AM and PM sessions daily.

10 IN 10!

If your child is absent for 10 sessions in a 10 week period (5 days) and these are unauthorised, our academies have to consider referring for a Penalty Notice to be issued.

PENALTY NOTICES

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued after 19th August 2024. Penalty Notices will continue to be issued by the Local Authority, they are not issued by the Trust or our Academies.

PER PARENT PER CHILD

Penalty Notices will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. Example: a penalty notice issued for 2x siblings resulting in both parents receiving 2 fines, one per child, 4 penalty notices in total for the family.

THE FUNDS RAISED FROM FINES ARE PAID TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND NOT OUR ACADEMIES. IT CAN BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATION COSTS AND TOWARDS ATTENDANCE SUPPORT BY THE LA. ACADEMIES DO NOT DIRECTLY BENEFIT.

FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued the amount will be:

£160 PER PARENT, PER CHILD

REDUCED TO £80 PER PARENT PER CHILD IF PAID WITHIN 21 DAYS.

What if I am a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week in term time?...
YOUR REQUEST CAN NOT BE AUTHORISED FOR ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!

A WEEK IS 10 SESSIONS THAT YOUR CHILD WILL MISS AND YOU WILL BE ISSUED A PENALTY NOTICE. THE FINE WILL BE £160 BUT REDUCE TO £80 IF PAID WITHIN 21 DAYS. HOLIDAY ABSENCES CAN NOT BE AUTHORISED.

WHAT IF (IN A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 3 YEARS) YOUR CHILD HAS A 2ND AND 3RD LEAVE OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OR PATTERN OF IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE?...

SECOND OFFENCE

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. No Reduction.

THIRD OFFENCE

AND OTHER FURTHER OFFENCES

(Within 3 years) A penalty notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

ABSENCES REPORTED AS ILLNESS

All absences reported as illness will be monitored. All academies have to refer to the Local Authority, Nottinghamshire County Council once they total 15 days absence collectively. Please don't worry if your child is ill and please don't send them to school if they are not well enough, please do communicate openly with your academy to enable us to support and work together. Not sure if they are well enough for school? Check out <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Our Trust wide updated Attendance Policy can be found at: www.aspire-mat.co.uk/policies