



## WINTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*learning together - growing together*

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### Whole School Newsletter, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Flood Update

What a day! Firstly, massive apologies for having to shut the school at such short notice. I hope you all know us well enough to know that things must have been bad for that decision to be made! We had had a substantial leak from the pipework in the disabled toilet which had flooded throughout the night, totally drenching Class 2, the Key Stage 1 Cloakroom and into the hall. We've had a long day of mopping, sorting and removing sodden and damaged carpet from these areas, but I think we're just about dry now!

**We will definitely be back open again on Monday.** However, Class 2 will be being taught in the Hall next week as their classroom certainly came off the worse.

#### World Book Day

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 'design a shoebox scene' competition. There were some fantastic entries, and I could tell that the children had really enjoyed making them with some great creativity on show. We have managed to get all the shoeboxes on display in the hall, and I think you'll enjoy looking at them next time you are in school. The children all voted on which ones were their favourites, and I was going to announce the winners in this morning's Gold Book Assembly...! We'll push this back to next week now, which will still give the victors time to spend their book token prizes at the Book Fair.

#### Book Fair

Our annual book fair returns next week, running from Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March until Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The first book fair session will be straight after school on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, in the kitchen classroom. Please go back out of the playground gate and in through the outside door, accessed by the bins from the school car park. The book fair will then be open from 8:30am-8:45am and 3:20pm-3:45pm for the following week, with the final session being after school on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

The school earns cash back in the form of new books for every purchase made at the fair, so we really hope we can be as successful as previous years. Your child has brought home a £1 World Book Day voucher which can be redeemed against the cost of a book at the Book Fair and the winning vouchers from the shoebox competition can also be spent there. You can pay either by cash or online by scanning the QR code that will be available at the Book Fair. If choosing the latter option, you will need to input your card details, so please either have your card details saved on your phone or your card with you.

#### Arbor

Thank you to everyone who has already downloaded the Arbor App and signed up to the moon trip! Can I really encourage everyone who has not yet done so to do this please?

## **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 **

September 2024							
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April 2025							
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July 2025							
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August 2025							
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Activate Windows  
Go to Settings to activate Windows.



# 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](http://www.aspire-mat.co.uk/policies)