



Friday 19th December

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Stars of the Half Term**

We always feel very proud of all the children at Winnington Park for their superb attitude towards their learning and their brilliant behaviour in class and around school. An extra special congratulations this half term goes to these children who have been chosen as our 'Stars': Orla, Kyle, Izzy, Isabella-Grace, Rory, Eliza, Stelly, Alfie, Max, Gabriel, Kyan, Nancy, Gracie, Reeve, Grace, Jude, Edith, Emily, Micky, George, Obie, Ted, Evelyn, Teddy, Charlotte, Winnie, Flynn, and Tilly.

### **Events in School**

It has been a busy half term with many additional opportunities and experiences for all of the children. Y1 visited St John's Church to learn about the Nativity, as did Y5 and Y6 for Hartford High School's Performing Arts Morning, and to take part in their Big Sing. Year 5 also visited Northwich Islamic Centre. Year 2 visited the Lowry Museum and Lowry Theatre for a production of the Enormous Crocodile. Year 4 took part in the Lanterns Parade and Northwich Christmas lights switch on. Year 3 had a visit from an Egyptologist who led their Ancient Egyptian theme day. Year 3 and Reception have been taking part in Forest Schools and Nursery visited Hartford Methodist Church to learn more about the Christmas story.

There have been many fantastic festive events happening in school over the last few weeks. The Nursery Christmas Sing and Play, Reception Nativity, Key Stage 1 Christmas Show, and the Key Stage 2 Carol singing were all wonderful events, and were very well supported by families. We all felt very proud of the children for their brilliant performances and lovely singing.

It has been very special to welcome so many family members into school over the last few weeks to support and celebrate the children in their Christmas performances. The Nursery Christmas Sing and Play, Reception Nativity, Reception Grandparents' Sing-along, Key Stage 1 Christmas Show, and the Key Stage 2 Christmas Singing were all wonderful events. Everyone felt very proud of the children for their hard work as they delivered some fantastic festive entertainment. Well done everyone!

Our whole school trip to see the pantomime 'Aladdin' was great fun. The children joined in fully singing, booing, hissing and keeping the cast on their toes! Thank you to all the volunteers for giving their time to make the trip possible. Party Day was lovely as the children had fun with the staff taking part in different games, activities and dancing together! Everyone looked very festive and smart in their party clothes. Our Elf Run today, in aid of St Luke's Hospice, has been another enjoyable event, with the children doing their best to raise money for this worthy cause that has supported so many WPPS&N families. Sponsorship money can be returned in January.

Mrs Dean and the kitchen team have once again served over 500 traditional Christmas dinners and party lunches to the children this week. With our Midday Assistants in their Christmas jumpers and the tables and hall decorated, the children have been treated to a very special week of festive food and celebration at lunchtimes. Thank you to everyone who works so hard every lunchtime for the children.

### **Fundraising**

The PTA Christmas Fair was another brilliant event raising over £3000 for school. Thank you to everyone in the PTA for their hard work and to everyone across the school community for their generous donations, and for braving the weather, to make the events such a success. Thank you also to our PTA, on behalf of our Year 6 pupils, for their Leavers Hoodies received this week.

Thank you to everyone who was able to visit the Pop-Up Christmas book fair at the end of November. Your purchases raised over £300 for school. Children in Need also raised over £300 for worthy causes – thank you to everyone for their generosity.

## Safer Eating

To keep our youngest children safe at snack and mealtimes, we follow the recommendations set out in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) health and safety guidance and NHS choking-prevention advice. These guidelines highlight that certain foods present a higher choking risk for young children and must be avoided or prepared safely. Round foods such as grapes, cherry tomatoes and blueberries should always be cut lengthways into quarters, and hard items like raw carrots or apples should be cut into thin strips. Sausages should be sliced lengthways rather than into rounds, and foods such as nuts, popcorn and whole grapes should not be brought into school at all. Please ensure that any food sent in lunch boxes is prepared accordingly before coming into school. Thank you for helping us follow Early Years best practice and keeping every child safe at mealtimes.

## School Uniform Change

Our school uniform policy is inclusive, flexible and allows choice. Jewellery and nail varnish are not part of our school uniform. Trainers should only be worn on PE days. When children have a genuine difficulty with aspects of the uniform policy we work with families to find sensible compromises to support them.

Governors have agreed that from January, PE kit will now include the option of wearing a dark blue, plain, round neck t-shirt. This can have a school logo, but does not have to.

Please contact Mrs Nicholas our Family Support Worker, through the school office, if you would like to discuss school uniform. We always have free school uniform available for those families who need it.

## School Places for Reception September 2026

The closing date to apply for a September 2026 Reception school place is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Parents of children who attend our school Nursery will need to apply for a school place. All applications should be made online through the local authority [CWAC School Admissions](#)

## Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality at school supports a child to achieve their full potential, boosts confidence, improves enjoyment of learning and a pupil's relationships with their peers. A child must attend school every day that they are required to do so unless an exceptional circumstance applies and holidays should not be taken in term time. Our school policies promote good attendance and punctuality, which are recognised and rewarded as achievements.

Our school's attendance for this term is 95.0%, a slight decrease on this time last year. However, unauthorised absences in the same period have reduced by half, which is very positive. Congratulations to all the children who achieved the Gold and Silver Attendance Awards today. Thank you to all our families for making an effort to improve their child's attendance and punctuality.

You will receive an email today with a link to download your child's Autumn Attendance Report. You will be asked to input your child's date of birth to access the report.

## Thank you

Thank you to all the staff, children, families, volunteers, governors and our PTA, for all their hard work this term. School reopens to the children on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Have a lovely break and best wishes for the new year.

Your sincerely,  
Mr Rob Cole  
(Headteacher)

Winnington Park Primary School and Nursery, Firdale Road, Winnington, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 4AZ  
Tel: 01606 74371 email: [admin@winningtonpark.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@winningtonpark.cheshire.sch.uk) website: [www.winningtonpark.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.winningtonpark.cheshire.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mr Rob Cole email: [head@winningtonpark.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@winningtonpark.cheshire.sch.uk)

