



Wimborne First News



Wimborne First School



December 2019



Dear Parents,

I cannot believe it is nearly the Christmas holidays, this term has gone by in a flash. The children have worked so hard this term on their learning

and have thoroughly enjoyed practising for their plays. We had a spectacular Key Stage 2 performance of Aladdin at the Layard theatre. All of the plays this years have been fantastic is was lovely to have so many of you joining us for them.

Can I firstly thank the parents and children for being amazing this term and supporting the school in all that we do. Unfortunately, we have not moved to the new school, which has been disappointing, but as soon as Dorset release more information, we will update you. I have been to visit the new build recently and it is looking fabulous, they have placed the mosaic on the heart space wall and it looks stunning. I cannot wait to show the children!

The PTFA have created Christmas for us this year; with Santa's letters, the Christmas shop, raffles, and the grotto. Thank you so much for all your support it is really appreciated. Next term we will be having a quiz night, so look out for the entry forms, it is always a fun night! A BIG THANK YOU to the PTFA, who have raised money over the last year to fund a climbing frame for the new school. This will be fitted in the spring term.

Thank you to the staff who have committed to so much this term, your dedication for the profession is seen every day. Christmas time is very busy, but everyone works together to make it the most amazing time for the children.

A goodbye and thank you to Mrs Thomas who is leaving at the end of this term. Your commitment to children, teaching and education is phenomenal as you have taught for over 30 years. Luckily, parents and children will see Mrs Thomas back for the odd day as she has kindly agreed to do some supply for us in between gardening.

Welcome to Mrs Chitticks, who will be working in year 1 alongside Mrs Harmer, and



Football Tournament at Allenbourn Middle School - Monday 18th November 2019

The year 3 and 4 football teams for Wimborne First School went to visit Allenbourn Middle School for a football skills session and tournament. The children were brilliant role models for our school and thoroughly enjoyed taking part. Our day started with a rotation of activities to help build our passing, shooting and dribbling skills. Afterwards, we played against a selection of teams from local schools and we are very proud to say that we did not lose a single match. We would like to congratulate the children on trying their best and being such great sports people!

Mrs Corallo who will replace Mrs Britt and Mrs Rogers in year 3. Also huge congratulations to Mrs Ferre who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy called Archie, mum and baby both doing well.

Finally, I would like to say thank you for all the kind Christmas wishes, cards and presents, the staff are truly grateful. Have a happy Christmas and enjoy family time! Personally, I love Christmas time and cannot wait to spend time with my two little girls and be a mum.

Be safe, be kind, look after each other, have a lovely Christmas and New Year. See you on Monday 6th January 2020 when school restarts for the spring term.

Sarah Hartley



Attendance

Our whole school attendance figure is currently 96.2%, with year three having the best overall attendance at 96.7%. Already this term, 30 children have attendance below 90% and are therefore classed as persistent absentees.

Please avoid taking your children out of school during term time. If you feel an absence from school is necessary, please complete a leave of absence request form. These forms can be found on the school website or collected from the school office. Penalty notices are requested for holidays of more than 4.5 days.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's attendance, please make an appointment at the school office.





Marvellous Me

Butterflies and Bumblebees - Reception



Butterflies and Bumblebees have had a fantastic start to their school life at Wimborne First! It has been a pleasure to get to know each and every one of you. Our first half term has been an exciting one. Full of making new friends, finding out about each other, learning the routines of the classroom, eating our lunch together in the hall and joining in with the older children in the playground. It has been lovely to see their eager faces every morning as they enter the classrooms and organise themselves for the day.

The children have been busy being detectives and looking for shapes in our environment. We have loved getting muddy whilst exploring our wellies and waterproofs garden and have even begun learning our sounds. There have been lots of opportunities to practise our fine motor skills using scissors and other small equipment. We have been making the most of our outdoor spaces, looking for signs of autumn, planting new flowers and herbs and exploring the outdoor play equipment. Everyone

has been enjoying learning our rhyme of the week and listening to the stories we've shared with book bear at home. We have been introduced to our Jigsaw friend 'Jenie' who has helped us make a classroom charter and recognise the importance of working together and understanding the many emotions starting school can bring. Thank you for your continued support during this very exciting and important time for your children.



Colours Bright and Sparkly Lights

Butterflies and Bumblebees - Reception



What a busy second half term it has been! The children have grown so much and made everyone proud. Their learning journey has taken them from new members of Wimborne First School to all singing, all dancing performers on the hall stage! Their first Nativity, 'Shine Star, Shine', I'm sure you'll agree, was a huge success. The children worked so hard to make it a performance to remember and were

thrilled to see so many smiling members of their family in the audience. Amongst all the Christmas festivities, the children have still found time to work with numbers to 10. They have had lots of practise counting on and back, finding the total of two numbers and recognising and describing common 2D shapes. They have also worked hard to learn the 'set one' sounds and to read and write simple green and red words. Our Colours Bright and

Sparkly Lights topic started with a firework fun week, where the children made rockets, colourful repeating patterns and read and enjoyed the story of The Rainbow Fish. Thank you to you all for supporting the children; it was lovely to see so many of you at our Christingle service and Nativity. We look forward to next half term, where the children will continue their learning journey through our new topic: Happily Ever After. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



xbox and spinning tops

Hedgehogs and Mice - Year 1



What a fantastic first term Mice and Hedgehogs had exploring their topic – Xbox and Spinning tops. We kick-started our fabulous term with a visit from the children's grandparents, who came in to share with us toys that they played with when they were younger. It was a wonderful morning watching the children interacting with the grandparents and learning lots about toys in the past. Throughout our topic, the children explored the features of old toys and compared these with toys today. They created written instructions on how to play a range of old toys and became busy shop keepers in our very own toy shop! In addition to all of this, the children got creative, designing and making their very own toys – a puppet with moving parts! To end our fantastic learning journey, we had a visit from the wonderful Priest's House Museum for our fab finish. During their visit, we got to learn some traditional games, examine some very old toys and made our own peg dolls.



Twit Twoos and Cock-a-Doodle-Doos!

Hedgehogs and Mice - Year 1



Why does it get darker in winter?

To begin our topic, the children visited the wellies and waterproofs area and listened to the story 'The Owl who is afraid of the dark', while enjoying a hot chocolate and yummy treat. Since then, the children have had great fun finding out about the dark and how exciting it can be! The children discussed how the dark made them feel, then generated some brilliant adjectives and used these to produce some fabulous descriptive writing. They also became top scientists, carrying out their very own scientific investigation on shadows. The children investigated how moving a light source affects the size of an object's shadow. Taking inspiration from the artist Van Gogh and his starry night painting, the children created their own night scene and silhouette pictures. We also took a journey into space, to find out exactly how day and night happens. Sailing through the seasons, the children became weather forecasters and explored what the weather is like during autumn, winter, spring and summer! We all decided that the dark is in fact quite magical and we are certain that Plop has nothing to be afraid of.

To end what has been a busy, fun filled half term, the children performed their Christmas play 'Little Angel gets her wings'. It was a fantastic performance and all of the children made their families, friends and teachers very proud!

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
From the Year One Team.



EXPERT EXPLORERS

Robins and
wrens - Year 2



Explorers were certainly at the ready in Robins and Wrens. To begin our topic, the children put their explorer hats on and ventured into Wimborne. With them, they took: a map, instructions, clipboard and an iPad, to take pictures of their findings. They had a wonderful time locating: The Tivoli Theatre, Wimborne Square, The Priest's House, The River Allen, The Library and the Minster. They found out lots about the local town and enjoyed following the map to the next location. When we came back into the classroom, the children shared what they had found and began generating questions about Wimborne in the past.

We discussed where Wimborne is located on a map and looked at the four countries in the UK and their capital cities. We then became weather presenters, as the children used the points on a compass to describe the weather in each country. The children looked at Wimborne and compared towns, villages and cities and looked at what made them similar and different from one another.

To finish our 'expert' topic, the children took a step back in time and learnt lots about

Wimborne in the past. They investigated how it has changed over the years and what it was like to live in Wimborne when the parents and grandparents were younger. Thank you to all those who came in and shared their memories, experiences and objects from the past. I think we all enjoyed hearing some of the children ask: 'What were the dinosaurs like when you went to school?'. Best save that for the next topic (Happy Habitats)!



HAPPY HABITATS

Robins and
wrens - Year 2



Year 2 have had a fantastic time learning all about animals and their habitats. We started our topic by becoming palaeontologists for the day, as we took a trip back in time to the land of dinosaurs. To begin with, we dug deep for dinosaur remains as we carefully excavated the bones from the clay. We then made our very own ammonite using salt dough and finished off our sparkly starter by making a paper mache dinosaur egg. What a busy day!

Our dinosaur adventures continued the following week, as we came into school to find a dinosaur egg on the carpet. The egg hatched the next day and what was inside had disappeared! The children completed some fantastic writing about our findings and couldn't wait to hear from all the staff on what they had seen come out of the classroom. Let's just say, we think there may be a pterodactyl loose in Wimborne.

Our topic didn't stop there, as we became super scientists. We conducted a fair test to find the best way of melting ice dinosaur eggs to get the dinosaurs out. We also went to the forest garden and explored insect habitats using magnifying glasses and bug

viewers and made our own bug hotel. Towards the end of the term, all the festive activities started and the children blew our socks off with their incredible singing for the Carol Concert. They also enjoyed a trip to the Christmas shop where they bought some lovely presents for their families. We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers for your continued support and we wish you a very Merry Christmas.



BLITZ AND BLACKOUT!

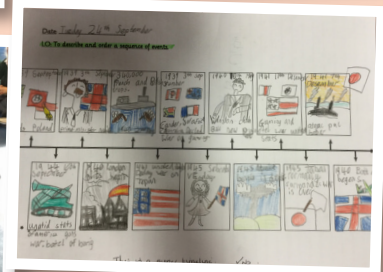
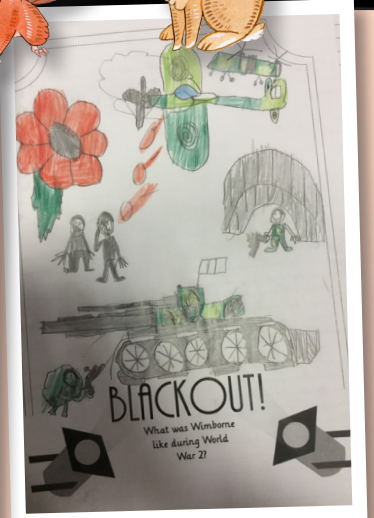
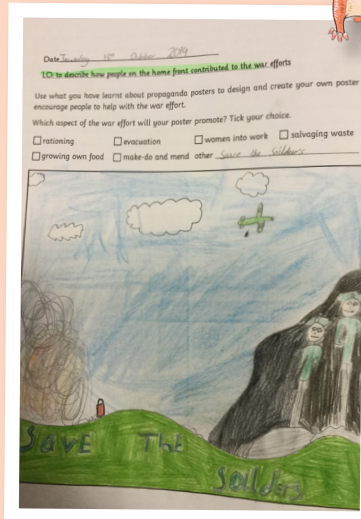
Squirrels and Rabbits - Year 3

The children have had a fantastic start to the year and we are really proud of how well they have settled into year three and the mature attitudes and enthusiasm for learning that they have shown.

A loud siren filled the classrooms to kick off our first topic, 'Blackout'. We learnt that this was the siren used in World War Two to signal to people to take shelter in case of bombing. This has been a fantastic topic that has captured the interest of us all. We have learnt all about the children who were evacuated during the war and during our English lessons, we followed the story of a little boy called Lenny and his experiences when he was evacuated. During our topic lessons, we have loved finding out new facts and exploring ration books, photographs, medals and more! We have drawn timelines of events that led to World War Two, learnt about life on the home front and created our very own propaganda posters. To finish our topic, we enjoyed a fantastic trip to The Tank Museum where we explored a 1940s house and life as a soldier. We even had the chance to go in a real tank!

Samba and Sounds

This half term, we have been lucky enough to have Dorset Music Service in to teach us Samba as part of our music lessons. We thoroughly enjoyed our lessons and especially being able to share our learning with you all at our samba concert in November. We hope you enjoyed it.



Let's Go Potty!

Badgers and Foxes - Year 4

This half term, year 4 were lucky enough to have a special visit from the Priest's House Museum. They came to school for two sessions with the children to teach them all about the history of pottery and gave us a brilliant challenge to complete. After learning about pottery from different periods of history, the children were given their own portion of clay, which was mixed with a different material. Some of us were given moss, some were given stones and some were given grass. We mixed our material into our clay and created a pot using the special techniques we had been taught. After a few weeks, our guests returned to help us fire our pots on a real open fire on the paddock! It was brilliant to see how people would have done this in the past and we loved waiting to see if our pots survived the firing process. Luckily, most of them did! We learnt a lot about how pottery was made and really enjoyed working with our visitors!



SCULPTURE



Throughout this term, every year group has had the opportunity to take part in a workshop with Peter Margerum, a local visual artist. During these workshops, the children have been creating sculptures out of recycled plastic, metal and wood. These workshops have been hugely successful and the children have thoroughly enjoyed getting hands on with the materials and tools. All pupils showed excellent teamwork skills in order to complete their masterpieces.

Reception took on the challenge of making individual flowers to be displayed in the raised flower beds at the new school and will add a lovely splash of colour on the walk into the grounds.

Year 1 created some amazing and imaginative bees out of an assortment of materials. These will create Wimborne First's very own beehive at the new school.

Year 2 took on the challenge of snails and butterflies. They worked brilliantly in groups and we look forward to seeing these displayed around the new allotment garden.

Year 3 created some extremely colourful and quite large dragonflies which we are very much looking forward to displaying around the new school pond area.

Year 4's first sculpture day involved them making some very tall scarecrows, which we hope will protect the precious crops we will be growing at the new school allotment. The second year 4 sculpture day was using wood to create branches of a tree, which will be displayed in the heart space of the new school.

As teachers, we were even lucky enough to get involved in the sculpture making and enjoyed a staff meeting making all of the leaves for the wooden tree sculpture; some of us got extra creative and made some birds to sit in the tree.

As a school, we cannot wait to display all of the sculptures at the new school and look forward to seeing them all in their new homes. We would also like to say a massive thank you to Peter for coming in to work with the children and showing them that there can be no limit to your imagination and allowing them the opportunity to work with materials and tools they may never have worked with before.

Look out for the splashes of colour at the new school!



ALADIN SHOWSTOPPER

All the KS2 children were treated to a showstopper of a sparkly starter this term, when Charlotte from Mainstage came in to work on dances for the upcoming performance of **Aladdin – A Lad in Trouble**. After year group warm ups that left everyone rosy cheeked, Charlotte worked with each class to choreograph, practise and perform dances for Aladdin.

Year 3 became magical as we entered the land of the Genie to create an upbeat dance to show the Genie's enthusiasm for granting Aladdin's three special wishes. We hope you enjoyed our spectacular Zumba dance with our brilliant movement and engaging sequence.

Later in **Year 4**, things got spooky as we entered Aladdin's dark, cold cave of treasures to perform a ghoulish dance. The tension the children created was outstanding. The Arabian Nights dance proved to be a dramatic opener for the show, which transported our audience to the desert landscape in which Aladdin is set. Alongside the dancing, the children



designed the tickets and programme for the show, and spent time perfecting their acting skills and stage presence. We had a fantastic time sharing all the children's work during

the performances on 17th December. The whole cast absolutely wowed both audiences with show to remember.



The children at Wimborne First have continued being very active this term, working towards achieving the Chief Medical Officer's guidelines of being active for 60 minutes per day.

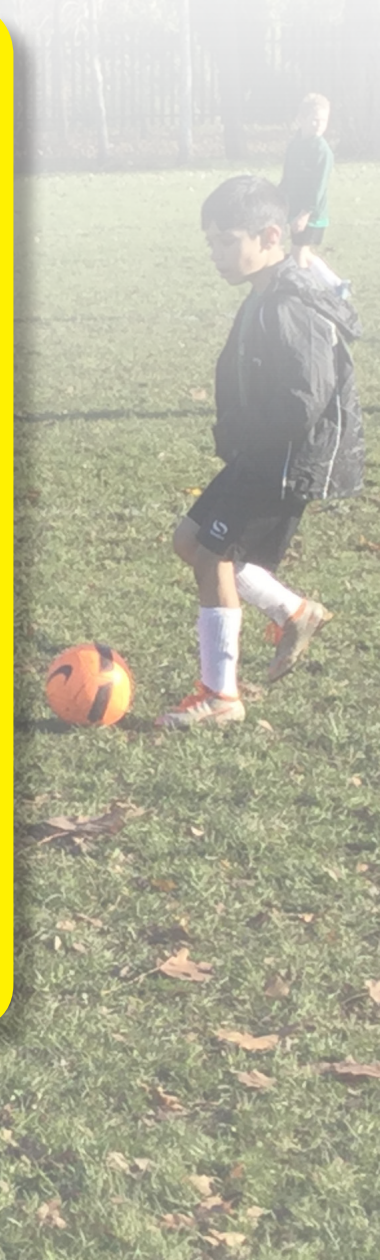
The children have been trialling exercise routines during the school day as a 'brain break' from their learning. This is part of our brand new 'Fitter Futures' programme that we will be introducing in the spring term. Through this programme, each class can complete as many active and engaging 10-minute breaks as they wish and we feel that this will really support our children with their concentration levels in the classroom. You will also receive a log on for home that your child will be able to use to follow a fun routine for 10 minutes using a tablet or computer. We are really hoping that this will encourage all our children to have fun whilst being active. To start this new programme off, we would like to invite you into school from 2.30pm on Tuesday 21st January to participate in an exciting work out with your child and to

find out more about how to use it at home. More details about this will follow in the spring term.

Meanwhile, the wet and frosty weather has meant that we have had to postpone our whole school 'Daily Mile' session but we are hoping that the spring term will bring some much needed sunshine to dry out the field so that we can start this up again.

Elsewhere, year three and four have formed a football team, which is coached by Matty from Wimborne Town Football Club. Both our girls' and boys' teams have been practising their team work, been working hard to develop their football skills and have participated in their first match.

We run a number of after school sports clubs; dance, football, martial arts, tennis, gymnastics and multisports. If you would like to find out more about how to enrol your child to attend one of these clubs, then please see the extra curricular clubs section on our school website <https://www.wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk/our-school/extra-curricular-clubs>



PTFA news

Hi Everyone.

The PTFA has been a little quiet on the newsletter front lately, so we just wanted to give you an update on who we are, the things we have up to recently and where some of the money that you lovely parents have helped to raise has gone.

We are the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association. The main aim of the PTFA is to organise events and activities for families, children and parents that help embody the community spirit of the school.

Through running such activities, we raise money and this fundraising is our second aim. The money pays for facilities, equipment and events that help towards the childrens' education and school experience that are beyond the limits of the school budget.

Our annual AGM meeting took place on 18th October. Alice Metcalf has stepped down as secretary, a role that she has held for the last couple of years. Thank you Alice, we appreciate all your hard work. Gary Plummer is continuing as Treasurer, with Ingrid Fido as the assistant treasurer and I have stepped into the Chair role. Minutes are available if you would like any further details.

So, where does the money we raise go? Some of the things that the PTFA have bought or contributed towards recently include:

- The school receives £1000 per term for extra (nice) resources at their discretion
- A 4m x 1.5m mosaic that is in the heart space of the new school
- A climbing frame at the new school
- The sculpture artist who came into school to work with all the children. These sculptures will be placed around the new school grounds

- We have also commissioned an artist to work with all the children so that a piece of artwork can be on the side of the building for all the parents to see (this will start in January and every child will make something).

Recent Events:

Thank you to everyone for all the luxury items that were donated on the non-uniform day on November 22nd. The items were all made up into hampers coordinated by Christine Gerlach and Jenny Lushcombe, to be raffled off at each Christmas play or event. Thank you Christine and Jenny and their team, they looked fab.

For all those that wrote a letter to Father Christmas, thank you to the elf who has been helping coordinate his replies. If you haven't received your reply yet, I'm sure it won't be far away.

We currently have some busy, busy elves preparing the Santa's Grotto ready for him to visit. Thank you in advance to Nicky and her team. I'm sure it will be an amazing experience for the children.

In the new year, we are planning on holding a casual open information session for all who would like to come and find out a little more about who the PTFA are and what we do, so watch this space for details to be confirmed.

In the meantime, if you would like to help in any way - for one event, or more depending on what you are able to do or are interested in doing, you would be very welcome. Please email ptfa@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk to express your interest or ask any questions (A DBS check done via the school is required for a number of activities – not all. Please speak to reception for further details and this will be done at no cost to yourself).

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and enjoy the break from the school run - I will be!

Mish Samways

PTFA Chair

WFS Christmas Shop

So we wanted to say phew, the Christmas shop is complete for another year! A large majority of the school visited the shop along with some staff. We sold approximately 1400 presents - which works out to be about £700 raised for the school.

We would like to send out a two BIG THANK YOUs:

One to our Elf helpers, because without you these kinds of events wouldn't happen.

Two to all the people who contributed the amazing homemade items, they were both beautiful and popular. See the pictures below!

By the time you are reading this, we will probably already be out shopping or planning our next trip out for the bargains and getting ready for the 2020 shop. If you, or anyone you know, would like to contribute any homemade items to next years' shop, please get in touch via the PTFA email - ptfa@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk and let us know, they would be gratefully received.



PTFA@wimbornefirst.dorset.sch.uk