



Windermere Primary School Newsletter 10th October 2025

A word from the Headteacher

Our Autumn term is ticking along well with children settled into their routines. You should have received the letter about booking parent consultations in the last week of the half term, to find out more about how your child has settled into their new year and things you can help them with at home. If you have any difficulty booking on, please speak to the office who can help. There are a few notices in today's news so please scroll down to page 2 for more.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Sarah Gilliver

Assembly Theme and Value

This half term we are exploring stories and ideas linked to **Patience** and the British Values of **Respect** and **Tolerance**. We have thought about how we can take time out and switch off to help us reflect. We have also begun exploring Black History Month and the important people who made a difference to their communities. We have celebrated children who use moments of silence positively and those who celebrate the diversity of our school community.

Pupil Council

Our Pupil Council help us to take the views of our children on key themes and ideas over the year, sharing individual and collective thoughts. Children have voted for the new Pupil Council representatives this week for their class. Our new Pupil Councillors are: Darcey, Archie, Albert, Amira, Ananaya, Leah, Alyssia, Eric, Inaya and George. We will have our first meeting soon. Well done!

Attendance matters: Seasonal illnesses

Always encourage your child to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. This can help prevent sickness and diarrhoea bugs spreading and reduce the need for time off school. If your child has a sore throat, cough or cold, they can still attend school unless they have a fever or rash. We will send children home if we feel they are too unwell. Flu vaccinations for children will be available in school in November. Please ensure your child is up to date with their other childhood vaccinations.

Book internet link safety warning

We have been alerted by our local safeguarding partnership that a link in books by **Andy Cope (*Spy Dogs, Spy Pups and Spy Cats)**. Within the books, there is a link which encourages children to find out about additional information told during the story. The link is intended to take children to Mr Cope's webpage, however the domain is no longer owned by him and instead the link will direct children to a webpage now owned by a third party that is publishing content that is inappropriate for children to see. There is no suggestion that Puffin or Mr Cope are responsible for the materials and the content of the actual stories are fine to read, however if any children access the link with the intent to learn more about the story online they will be exposed to highly inappropriate materials. Puffin has paused sales, and libraries and retailers have removed these books from their shelves until further notice. We have removed these books from our shelves also. We encourage you to remind your children about talking to an adult first before following any links within books that they read. We will share any further information when available.



Warning from HCC Schools Health Protection- Salt and ice challenge

There is currently a dangerous online trend circulating where children and young people put salt on their skin and press ice on top. This can cause serious cold burns like frostbite, and injuries can require hospital treatment and even skin grafts. Placing salt on skin and then pressing ice on top creates a chemical reaction, rapidly lowering the temperature and causing cryogenic (cold) burns. Children and young people may underestimate the harm as the cold numbs the skin, masking pain until significant damage has occurred.

The risks of this online trend include:

- second- or third-degree burns
- potential need for skin grafts
- lasting scarring
- nerve damage
- impact on wellbeing

Immediate first aid advice:

- Cool the affected area under lukewarm running water for at least 10 minutes
- Do not apply ice, creams or fluffy dressings
- Cover with clean cling film or smooth plastic
- Seek medical attention for deep, blistered or extensive burns

Help to manage the cost of living and Food Bank vouchers

If you have previously received Holiday Food Vouchers due to your child being eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals, please note that these will not be provided by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) for the October and February half terms. If you need additional support, please see the below on HCC's website or contact our Family Support Worker if you think you may be in need of Food Bank vouchers.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/news/cost-of-living/help-to-manage-the-cost-of-living.aspx>

Journeys to school survey from HCC

The survey is open to anyone involved in the school journey-whether they walk, cycle, scooter, drive, or use public transport. Their experiences and ideas will help Hertfordshire County Council plan improvements to local streets to make them easier, safer, and more appealing for everyone. Access via the QR code or

<https://letstalktransport.hertfordshire.gov.uk/school-journeys-st-albans>



Dates for your Diary:

21 st & 23 rd October	Parent Consultations
22 nd October	Y6 day 2 parent consultations
27 th Oct to 31 st Oct	Half Term
3 rd November	Flu Vaccines
17 th Nov	Bikeability Y5/6
19 th Nov	Flu Vaccines
11 th to 17 th November	Anti-bullying Week
28 th November	Occasional Day School closed
12 th December	Rocksteady Concert
22 nd Dec to 2 nd January	Christmas Holiday
5 th January	INSET (school closed to pupils)

Ask Your Child...

This is a way to... start to discuss your child's learning. You aren't expected to know the answers but can encourage them to share what they have been learning about.

R- What can you see from your window?

1/2- What does diversity mean?

3- Why are soils different colours?

4- What features would you find in a persuasive speech?

5- Can you explain what the Mayans invented?

6- Can you name the different parts of the heart?