

WINDERMERE PRIMARY SCHOOL



28th January 2019

Welcome Back!

The autumn term seems a long time ago and the spring term is well underway, but there is a definite chill in the air and after last week's flurry of snow, who knows what the weather holds for us over the coming weeks. Please ensure that your children are suitably attired for the winter weather. Although when the weather is very cold, we open a classroom so that the children can stay inside in the warm during lunchtime, they still need to get some fresh air and need hats, coats and gloves in order to stay warm.

Snow Closures

Have you signed up to the Everbridge notification system? Are your contact numbers up to date on the system?

It is always our intention to stay open, but if we are unable to staff the school adequately or the site is unsafe, then we would need to close. In an ideal world snow would only fall at weekends and be totally clear by Monday morning! However, that is rarely the case. Some schools are able to announce a closure early because they know their school site is likely to be icy and some schools know that they will be able to stay open because their teachers and kitchen staff live within walking distance or on well-gritted main roads. It can be difficult to find the right time to announce a closure: early announcements give parents time to make other arrangements, but the snow may be gone by the morning and the school would need to re-open, late announcements mean that the school is closed for the right reasons, but parents may struggle to find childcare.

If the weather forecast is for snow, then think about a contingency plan for school closure - bring work home so that you could work from home, give Granny a call and ask her to be on stand-by or talk to a friend and share childcare for the day. This way, if we are forced to close, you will be prepared.



Saving the Planet!

Always keen to do our bit for the environment, we are trying to reduce the number of paper letters that are sent out to you. Obviously some will still be on paper, particularly if it is to a small, specific group of children and includes a reply slip. However, letters that are sent to the whole school will be sent electronically to save photocopying costs, paper and admin time. A small number of paper copies will be held at the office. Recently the class curriculum letter was emailed to parents. If you *need* a paper copy, please ask the class teacher.

Please Note: The email service that we use to send out letters is a 'do not reply' address, so please do not click 'reply' if you want to respond or comment on an email. Replies should be sent to admin@windermere.herts.sch.uk

Don't panic... if your child suffers an injury at school, we give them an injury slip, so you have an idea about what happened and what treatment (if any) your child received. Sometimes these are left in drawers or at the bottom of the school bag, so if we think that your child may have hit their head, we also try to contact you so you can continue to monitor your child for signs of concussion after they have left school. This has always been our procedure for significant bumps, but we have extended it to include less serious bumps to the head as well.

Windermere Primary School
Term and Holiday Dates 2019/2020

Month	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Term Dates	2-4	5-7	12-14	19-21	26-28	3-5	10-12	17-19	24-26	31-2	7-9	14-16
Holiday Dates	11-13	18-20	25-27	1-3	10-12	17-19	24-26	31-2	7-9	14-16	21-23	28-30

Calendar Key:
 Term Dates: Days when school is open.
 Holiday Dates: Days when school is closed.
 Inset Days: Days when school is open but staff are on training days.

Inset Term Dates 2019/2020
 Inset 1: 11th September (Staff Training)
 Inset 2: 18th October (Staff Training)
 Inset 3: 25th November (Staff Training)
 Inset 4: 2nd December (Staff Training)
 Inset 5: 9th January (Staff Training)
 Inset 6: 16th February (Staff Training)
 Inset 7: 23rd March (Staff Training)
 Inset 8: 30th April (Staff Training)
 Inset 9: 7th May (Staff Training)
 Inset 10: 14th June (Staff Training)
 Inset 11: 21st July (Staff Training)
 Inset 12: 28th August (Staff Training)

Calendar 2019/2020

You should have received a copy of the proposed term dates for the next academic year. As a maintained school we are obliged to follow the term dates set by the County Council, although we have five Inset (staff training) days and one occasional day that we can choose. In general we place these before or after a holiday, as this then gives parents an opportunity to go on holiday a day earlier or come back a day later than would otherwise be possible. **It is important that you keep to these dates when booking your holidays.**

There is one additional Inset day that has not yet been arranged. I will let you know about this as soon as it has been finalised.



Pedal Power!

A number of parents expressed a desire for more bike parking space. Unfortunately it wasn't feasible to install one adjacent to the KS2

playground, so we have added additional space next to the old bike shelter, replaced the concrete which had been starting to degrade and installed a scooter rack as well.

It took rather longer than intended as the suppliers misread 'December' for 'January' and then didn't send the fixings to put the new shelter together! However, it is finally in place and both shelters are already being well-used.

Diary Dates - Spring Term

- 25th January – Year 5 Sharing Assembly at 9am
- 4th February – Young Voices at the O2
- 8th February – PTA Disco
- 15th February – Cake Sale
- 15th February - School finishes at usual time of 3:15pm
- 18th – 22nd February – Half Term
- 8th March – Year 2 Sharing Assembly at 9am
- 12th March – Year 5 visit to Pizza Express
- 15th March – Red Nose Day
- 19th March – Crucial Crew visit for Year 6
- 20th - 22nd March – PTA Mother's Day Make
- 22nd March – Year 1 Sharing Assembly at 9am
- 25th – 29th March - Book Fair after school
- 29th March – Reception Sharing Assembly
- 1st April – 4th April – Learning Together Week - Maths
- 5th April - Certificate Assembly at 9am
- 5th April – Annual Reports sent home
- 5th April – **2pm End of Term**

Contact Us

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Red, Green, Yellow, Blue and...White!

Herts Catering, our school lunch provider, will be introducing another option to our lunch menu from **1st February**.



In addition to the existing choices, there will be the option to choose 'white', which will be jacket potato with beans / beans-and-cheese / cheese / tuna mayonnaise. We will be offering this as a trial for this term and will then review its popularity

Still saving the planet....



Despite frequent reminders that all children must have a water bottle in school, some still don't bring one in. As a result they are wasting learning time leaving the classroom to come to the office for a disposable plastic cup. Due to the cost and environmental impact, we have stopped buying these cups, so are no longer able provide them to children who have forgotten their water bottle. Instead you will be contacted and asked to bring in their water bottle or go onto SchoolMoney to buy a new one, which only costs **£2.20**.