

**Windmill L.E.A.D. Academy**  
**0115 9150195**  
**Newsletter 22**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup> 2016**  
**www.windmillacademy.co.uk**

Dear Parents & Carers

Our weeks seem to be getting busier and better here at Windmill! We have been welcoming visitors from business and other professions into some of our assemblies recently. Our children have received countless compliments on their superb manners, listening skills and positive attitude to learning – great first impressions are so important and make me feel very proud to be our head teacher.

The next few weeks leading up to Easter are absolutely crucial in terms of your child's development. Spring should be the term with maximum progress and achievement therefore it is vital that your child is in school every single day.

Best wishes



Ellie Green  
Head Teacher

In this newsletter you will find information about the following:

- The GREAT Project
- Attendance Award
- Attendance: Miss school and Miss Out!
- Reading in School – Could you spare half an hour each week to help?
- Smart Uniform



After a very interesting staff meeting on Tuesday, I am delighted that the GREAT Project has been launched today with our Year 5 team.

Equation has delivered early intervention and awareness raising projects in primary schools since 2002. The GREAT Project is a 4 x 2 hour session project designed to promote healthy relationships and raise awareness to year 5 pupils about domestic abuse as part of their PHSE education.

The GREAT Project is complimented by a pupil graduation following the completion of the project. It promises to be a fantastic learning experience for our Year 5 pupils and also GREAT fun!

#### **Attendance Award**

Well done Class 3DH for achieving the highest attendance last week!

#### **Attendance: Miss School and Miss Out!**

*Government expectations for attendance and academic attainment have increased tremendously.* The aim is for pupils to be achieving at or above age-related expectations for their chronological age. Therefore many of our children will need to make accelerated progress during the Spring Term.

**Attending school every single day is crucial.** Children with poor attendance will miss crucial learning opportunities and it is inevitable that they will fall behind their peers. At the moment we do not issue fines for extended holidays during term time however, we may have to consider all

avenues to reduce absenteeism. **It is also extremely important that your child arrives to school on time.**

**Year 2 and Year 6 pupils will be taking SATs (Standard Attainment Tests) at the beginning of the Summer Term. The format for these is new this year and the Government's expected knowledge and understanding of average pupils has increased hugely. It is vital that children are in school every day so they do not miss out on crucial learning, particularly in preparation for secondary school transfer.**

#### **Reading in School – *Could you spare half an hour each week to help?***

Learning to read is one of the most important, if not the most important, skill we can teach children to equip them for life. Thank you to parents who have volunteered to help with reading in school each week. I will be in touch with you shortly.

#### **Smart Uniform**

It has been brilliant to see children proudly wearing their smart Windmill uniforms and sensible footwear. However, a small number of fancy leggings, jeans and brightly coloured trainers are being worn which are not part of our uniform. **Please remember that sensible, tidy uniform must be worn to school.** Our uniform shows that we are all part of a caring team with super-high standards. *Let's keep Windmill looking smart!*  
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#### **Parents & Carer Comments**

**Please use this to let us know your thoughts**  
*(Please tear off and return to the School Office)*

