



Windmill L.E.A.D. Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy

# Windmill News

**Date: Spring 1**

Dear Parents/Carers

I'm pleased to tell you the children have made a super start to the new year. I am impressed with how smart they look in their uniforms and the efforts they have put into their homework and reading at home. Teachers have worked hard to ensure your children have exciting projects this term. Please read the class newsletters for more details.

## Twitter

The school now has a Twitter account as all schools in the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust do. You can find us at <https://twitter.com/windmilllead>. Please follow us and find out what has been happening in school. We also have a link on our school website.

## Clubs and booster classes

There are a range of clubs running over the Spring Term, letters were given out last half term, but if you would like further details, please check our school website. We are running additional booster classes across the school also, these are in maths and English. You will be contacted if your child's teacher thinks that he/she may benefit from attending one of these.

## Club for new English speakers

We are very lucky that Mrs Roberts and Mrs Edwards will be running a club on Mondays for our very new to English speakers. Parents are welcome too. You will be contacted if this club will be suitable for you.

## Thank you!

Thank you to all of you who helped with our multi-lingual signs. Before they go up around school, we would like you to come and do a final check. If you are able, please come into school on Thursday 1st February at 3pm to help check we have the signs correct. Mrs Roberts will be in the school waiting area by the office.

## In this half term...

- Twitter
- Clubs and booster
- Club for new English speakers
- Thank you!
- Helping your child to make progress at school
- Relish newsletter
- Star Learners
- Team Around the Child (TAC)
- Learning Conferences
- Goodbye and Hello
- Values
- Drop-in session
- Building works

## Helping your child to make progress at school

One of the most important roles a parent/carer plays to help their children make progress at school is to talk about what they have been learning about. Ask questions such as: What did you learn about in maths today? Can you explain to me how you worked out the problems? Can you prove to me that you were correct? Being really positive is so important to build up children's confidence. Give them opportunities to practice their reading or work and praise them. Keep encouraging them to do their homework regularly. Set a quiet time aside with tv, gadgets turned off so there are no distractions. You'll be surprised what a difference 30 minutes a day with you can make to your child's progress in school. So to summarise:

- Talk
- Ask questions
- Listen
- Be positive
- Encourage
- Set a quiet time

We are developing guidelines for homework and on-line learning packages. These will be on the website soon.

## Relish newsletter

The Relish newsletter from our kitchen team will be going out shortly.



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## Star Learners

Every day, two children are chosen by their teacher to be the Star Learners of the day. These children have shown a great attitude to their learning and have understood their learning very well. Adults and children around school then ask them to talk about their learning, hence giving them more opportunities to explain. The more children have the opportunity to verbalise their learning, the better it will stay with them. If your child comes home with a Star Learner sticker on, please ask them about it!

## Team around the child (TAC)

One of the first initiatives I introduced to the school when I started working here, was the development of the 'Team around the Child.' The team consists of Ms Aggus (our Special Needs Co-Ordinator), Ms Jodie Burton (our Family Worker), Ms Melanie Jago and Ms Lauren Bradshaw (our Attendance Officers). This team is there to help you with special needs, support at home and support with ensuring your child gets to school every day. Please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting with any of the team. Children also come to this office to share any concerns they may have. There is a 'worry monster', where they can put their worries, this is checked every day.

## Learning Conferences—Tuesday 13th February

After listening to your views from the last parents evening about timings, we will be making the appointments ten minutes long and will lengthen the opportunity to meet with your teacher until 7pm. If you are unable to have an appointment on the 13th, your child's teacher will see you after school the following day.

## Good bye and hello

We are sad to say good bye to Mrs McLaren, who has been working in Year 2 with Mrs Bester, but wish her luck in her new post at the Nottingham High School.

We would like to say a big welcome to our new Site Manager, Grzegorz Kuzniar, who joined the Windmill team on Wednesday 24th January.

## Values

In January, we launched our values-based education which will help develop children's citizenship, so that they grow up to be responsible members of the community, who operate with integrity. They are principles which guide our thinking and behaviour. Each month, we have a different value, there are 11 values altogether. January's value is 'diversity', understanding how great it is that we are all different and valuing differences.

## Drop-in session

Dawn Eley, our school nurse, will be holding a drop-in session for parents on Wednesday 31st January from 9am—10am.

## Building works

We are still hoping to start our building works to the entrance of the school in mid February. I will send out details nearer to the time on how we will manage this work.

## Finally

Thank you for your ongoing support. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment with me if there is any aspect of school you would like to discuss.

Best wishes

Teresa Shrestha

## **Diary Dates**

13th February—Learning Conferences  
Pancake Day

16th February—Chinese New Year lunch  
**Half term begins**

26th February—**INSET DAY**

27th February—Children return to school