



Wimbotsham & Stow Academy

Fortnightly Newsletter

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear Families,

Currently, we are having a push on handwriting and spelling. The English Subject Team have been reviewing handwriting and have put together a new set of expectations. They are sharing this with staff at our staff meeting on Monday and then we will share it with the children.

What we have noticed is that many of our children in Key Stage 2 are able to join their writing and present this beautifully, but they do not do this consistently across their writing. For children to meet at least expected at Year 6 they have to show they are able to 'maintain legibility in joined handwriting when writing at speed.'

In Early years children take part in lots of fine motor skills activities to ensure they are ready for writing. As they learn new sounds, they learn to form those letters. In Key Stage 1 the aim is to ensure children form their letters correctly, so they are ready to begin joining in Year 2.

We are planning to invite parents in to find out more about our approach to English so watch out for the date on the diary.

Louise Arrowsmith - Executive Headteacher



Residential 2026

Hérons class Parents - Thank you for your payments so far. The final balance is due by 25/02/26. Packing list and Medical /contact details form went out last week. Could I please have these back asap! Thank you

Threadworms

It has been brought to our attention that we may have a case of threadworm in school. It isn't usually serious, but it is not very pleasant to have. It is particularly common in children of 5-12 years.

Signs and symptoms

In infections where there are symptoms, itching around the anus occurs, especially after a warm bath or at night causing sleep disturbance. Sometimes the worms can be seen either in the stools or around the anus. Threadworms look like thin, white cotton threads. Further information can be found by visiting the NHS website using this link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

If your child is infected, then please get the relevant advice and treatment necessary by visiting your local chemist. You do not need to visit your GP. Threadworms don't require children to have time off school, but treatment must be started immediately, and the child must be able to follow the hygiene measures required.

Thank you very much for your support in this matter.

ParentPay Reminders

Please could all outstanding monies be paid as soon as possible
Please remember to pay when booking your child for lunch,
Afterschool Childcare or Breakfast Club. If you are having trouble

paying your account, please contact the school office and we can set up a payment plan. Thank you

A Big well Done to Grace Dey from the Herons Class

Grace was selling festive pin badges over December on behalf of the children & Young Peoples Cancer association and has raised £142.00 for this great charity.

She would like to Thank everyone for all your support with buying these.



PE Clothing/Jewellery

Some pupils are just wearing T-shirt and shorts for PE. Sometimes we are experiencing colder weather, so please ensure appropriate clothing is worn for PE. Ie plain jogging bottoms, school sweatshirt, spare socks and outdoor trainers. Please remember whenever possible PE is done outside.

A quick reminder that children should not be wearing jewelry to school apart from stud earrings. It is important that children can remove their earrings themselves when getting ready for PE. We also ask that children do not come into school wearing make-up.

Thank you.

Holidays

Whilst we do not authorise term time holidays, we do ask that you let us know. Please ask the office for an Absence form should you need one - Thank You

Headlice

Headlice has been reported to the school this week. Please could you check your child/ren and treat them accordingly.



Thank you

Upcoming Events 2025/26

January 2026

Swans swimming this Term on a Tuesday
Herons Bushcraft sessions every Monday afternoon

February

Wednesday 11th - Swans trip to KL museum

Friday 13th - Break up for Half Term

Monday 23rd - Back to school

Thursday 26th - NEW DATE! Young voices

March

Monday 2nd & 3rd - Bikeability year 6

Monday 16th - Selected Swans Cluster Bee netball Event

Wednesday 25th - 27th - Herons Residential

Friday 27th - break up for easter Holidays

April

Tuesday 14th - Back to school

Thursday 16th - Pret a Portrait Class Photos

Thursday 23rd - Year R and Year 6 - vision and Hearing Checks

Tuesday 28th - Selected Swans Tri golf Event

Thursday 30th - Year 6 Crucial Crew Event afternoon session

May

Monday 4th - School Closed May Day Bank Holiday

W/C 11th - SATS Week Year 6

Friday 22nd - break up for Half Term

June

Monday 1st - Back to school

Wednesday 3rd - Y6 London trip

Tuesday 16th - Dance Festival Kingfishers

Tuesday 30th - Herons/swans Hillcrest cluster sports

July

Friday 17th - break up for the Summer