



**Wimbotsham & Stow Academy**

## **Fortnightly Newsletter**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Families,

Next week our Year Six children will be completing their SATs. They have worked hard to be prepared, and we know they will try their best. Please could we ask parents across the school to arrive promptly at school next week. We like to get the children started as soon as possible after registration to prevent anxieties building.

Here's our message to our Fabulous Year Six:  
*To our sparky Year Sixes*

*Over the past few weeks - maybe even months - you have put in lots of effort in preparation for your SATs. You will nail them. We know you will. However, not every skill is taught in school and even less are tested. You might be great at Martial Arts, fantastic at fashion design or have green fingers... You might be a people-person, a problem-solver or a poet. SATs are never going to show off all these amazing skills.*

*They don't test whether you're a creative person, can write code, whether you are good at teaching IT skills to your granddad or have a rapport with animals. They don't test your speaking skills or whether you can mend anything put in front of you. They don't measure whether you're arty or sporty, musical or love science. Although subjects like Maths and English are important, never forget you've been given talents in plenty of other areas too.*

*Please try your best to think of these tests as 'something I've got to do', but not 'the most important thing in the world'. The problem is that sometimes we teachers can make them seem important, without noticing what we're doing. We have school targets we hope to meet, and our school has Government targets it hopes to meet. It's like one big chain and there's only one person at the end of it... YOU!*

*But remember this: When you were born, no one said 'What I want most for this child is to reach the expected standard in Maths when they hit Year Six!' (that would have been slightly weird!). The big things - the most important things - are things like your personality, what you believe and think, your ideas and that spark inside you that makes you 'you'.*

*You are sparky. Your parents know it and as a school, we know it!*

*There is a video on the internet that asks you to count the number of passes a basketball team makes. The passes come fast, and you really have to focus on the ball to count them all. At the end of the video it says, 'Well done on counting the passes, but did you notice the moonwalking bear?' You see, you were so busy focusing on watching the basketball; you missed a bear in the background, moonwalking across the screen!*

*SATs can be like that video challenge. We promise as a school not to be so busy focusing on your SATs that we don't notice the amazing Year Sixes you are.*

*I'm sure you all join me in wishing our Year Six all the best.*

**Mrs Arrowsmith**

### Reminders next 2 weeks

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 SATS - it is important that Year 6 children are in all week

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> - Different menu on that day

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> - Last Day break up for half Term

- If your child is unwell, please report their absence to the school office by 9.30am each day or use Parentapps. If no absence is Provided the absence is recorded as unauthorised.

### Trips/Activities on ParentPay

02/06/26 - Federation sports Day KS2 - Need your Permission

03/06/26 - Year 6 London Trip - £30.53 to pay

16/06/26 - Kingfishers Class dance festival - £3.00 to pay

### Free school Meals

If your circumstances have changed and you feel you may be entitled to Free School Meals, please apply online on [www.norfolk.gov.uk/neo](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/neo). All applications are confidential, however please let the school office know if you do apply so they can check the progress of your application.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY - VIEWING CARDS**

Following Pret-a-Portrait's recent visit to take class photographs, a viewing card explaining how you can view and order pictures, was sent home with pupils.

You have the chance to order any pictures you would like at a discounted price before the Early Bird Deadline **13/05/2026**

Head to their website [www.pret-a-portrait.net](http://www.pret-a-portrait.net) and enter your sitting ID, the discount will automatically be applied. If you don't know it

then contact the school office or please contact **Pret-a-Portrait** directly on 0800 021 7626 or [customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net](mailto:customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net)



### Mrs Chris Hay - MSA

After 13 years of dedicated service, we say farewell to Chris Hay, one of our valued MSA's, who will be retiring on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

Throughout her time with us, Chris has been a friendly, reliable and much appreciated member of the school community. We thank Mrs Hay for her commitment over the years and wish her many her many happy and relaxing years ahead.

### Upcoming Events 2026

#### **May**

W/C 11<sup>th</sup> - SATS Week Year 6

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Break up for Half Term**

#### **June**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> - Back to school

w/c Monday 1<sup>st</sup> - Health and Wellbeing week

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - KS2 federation Sports Day at Lynn sport

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Y6 London trip - Lion King

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> - FOWPS Sponsored Event (TBC)

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> - 1.30pm Sports Day (weather permitting)

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> - Kingfishers Dance Festival @ Corn Exchange

Sat 20<sup>th</sup> - Wimbotsham Recreation ground midsummer Fayre

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Transition Day Year 6 to DMA

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> - Herons/swans cluster area sports @ Hillcrest

## **July**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> - FOWPS Summer Fayre

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 BBQ 5-7pm

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Swans at Inside Out Bushcraft

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> - Herons at inside Out Bushcraft

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> - Y6 Leavers Assembly 1.30pm

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - break up for the Summer

## **September 2026**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Back to school