



Dear Widmer End families,

It has been lovely to see the sun this week which has lifted all our spirits. This week, children have been learning about how to keep their minds healthy during Mental Health Week. Our wonderful Year 6 Peer Mentors led an assembly yesterday and we all agreed we would all try and make one small change to help keep our minds healthy. One idea was to have less screen time and play more with our friends and family. I am looking forward to hearing how children have done this when I see them again next week.

Year 6 went on an amazing trip on Wednesday to the Lincolnsfield Centre, where they studied what it would have been like to live through World War II. They came back so enthused and had learnt so much by acting as evacuees themselves and experiencing life as a child in the 1940s. Mrs Archer-Doran has explained more, below. Certainly a trip we will be rebooking for next year!

It won't be long before we celebrate World Book Week after half term (wb 3rd March). Please remember to try and join us one day straight after school to come and buy books at the Travelling Book Fair. Last year, this event raised £1000 for our school to spend on books and the children loved browsing the shelves for the latest titles! More details of this and what we will be doing on World Book Day itself (6th March) to follow soon.

Our School Councillors have been busy organising a special competition on behalf of the House Captains: they have asked children to create their own house mascot. The winning design will have pride of place in the hall and will be used to display weekly house point totals. Children will have an A5 piece of paper coming home at some point next week. The deadline for entries is Monday 24th February with winners announced on the 28th February in assembly. Children must try to link their mascot to their colour or name in some way; eg if in Fire house, they could draw a fox or a phoenix. Please make sure the children's designs have a blank space somewhere on them to write the weekly house point total after the design has been laminated.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Marshall



Dates for your Diary

Monday 10th February

- Choir to Wembley Arena Concert

Tuesday 11th February

- Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February

- Year 4 Trip to the Living Rainforest
- Year 2 Sharing Assembly 9-9:20am
- Year 1 Multiskills Tournament at HGSS
- Break up for Half Term

Monday 24th February

- School reopens, 8:30am

Tuesday 25th February

- Reception trip to Woodfine Farm

Wednesday 26th February

- Year 3 Trip to the Ashmolean Museum

Storytelling Week

This week was Storytelling Week in Reception. We had so many adults who took time out to come and read stories to us.

The children have all agreed that they would like to make it a permanent feature! We really appreciate lots of you stepping out of your comfort zone to read your favourite stories and help us to celebrate Storytelling Week together, thank you.

Mrs Ilić



Attendance

School average this academic year

← 95.3%

This week:

Reception - 100%

Year 1 - 85.71%

Year 2 - 96.67%

Year 3 - 96.3%

Year 4 - 93.75%

Year 5 - 84.38%

Year 6 - 90.32%

Oh wow, look at that attendance from our younger pupils! Congratulations, Reception. Miss Allen is very happy!



Pre-School Updates

This week is Storytelling week!

We have been looking at Fairy Tales and have read a different story every day.

Can you remember the 5 fairy tales that we have read?? The children all made lovely, fun gingerbread men by putting their bodies together. They look great. As one parent said, "They are all doing a different yoga pose". ☺

A big thank you to our parents that came in to Pre-School this week to read their favourite books to our children. We had some lovely new stories read and the children loved seeing their parents!

Deborah



Chiltern Music Academy Assembly

Key Stage 1 and Year 6 were treated to a special afternoon assembly, last Friday.

"Widmer End pupils were a delight to work with! During our [Chiltern Music Academy](#) singing assembly, Widmer End School pupils from Key Stage 1, Early Years and Pre-School behaved beautifully, sang lustily and engaged enthusiastically with all we did! A special thanks must go to Year 6 who joined us and provided us with a very professional beatboxing accompaniment to the Recycling Rap! Many Congratulations to everyone!

We would love to offer every child in the school a [Golden Ticket](#) to visit Chiltern Music Academy, and look forward to seeing lots of Widmer End Sea Creatures at our [Under the Sea](#) musical party for 3 -7yr olds on March 15th! Places are limited, so please visit the [Box Office](#) without delay!"

Kate
Schools Partnership Manager
Chiltern Music Academy



Year 6 Lincolnsfield Trip



Year 6 had a fabulous time visiting the Lincolnsfield Centre to experience what it was like for people to live in WW2. We started the day in the school room, sat at 1940s desks, and learned what it would have been like to attend school in the 1940s and the very different methods of disciplining the children. It was quite a shock to be treated as a 1940s school child who was seen and not heard!

Next, we went to the Victory garden and saw the inside of an Anderson shelter which was incredibly cramped, with only a bucket to go to the toilet in! We took lots of photos of the children pretending to put out fires using a pump and bucket full of water. The accompanying adults were very pleased with how sensible Year 6 were and that none of us got wet! We were also shown how an air raid siren worked and what it meant - it was rather loud!

The class then split into two groups; one group went to the Blitz experience while the other went inside the 1940s house. In the Blitz experience the children learned all about how an unexploded bomb would be diffused before going into a bunker. It was very dark and cramped, we were sat on benches like sardines in a tin! The children were horrified by the thought of having to go to the toilet in a bucket in front of all their friends!

In the 1940s house, we were shown a Morrison shelter; a metal indoor shelter with caging around. We saw examples of the different types of clothes people wore; how little the children who were evacuated could take away in their suitcases and even a knitted swimming costume worn by girls and boys! We also saw what a living room and kitchen was like and all the differences to the modern day house. One highlight was going into the playroom and being able to play lots of 1940s games. Some even dressed up in the hats and jackets they would wear.

We finished the trip by visiting the gift shop before heading home after a fun but tiring day.

Mrs Archer-Doran

