



Winterton Primary School & Nursery Newsletter

19th December 2025

News From the Academy Head



Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all of your continued support this half term. We are incredibly grateful to the many parents and carers who have supported the school through a range of activities, maths and reading workshops, attending celebration assemblies, the Nativity performance, and the many other opportunities to come into school. Your involvement and encouragement make a real difference to our school community.

It has been a really positive term, during which we were delighted to welcome Mrs Bradley and Mrs Gomulak to our school. After half term, we will also be welcoming back Mrs Ross, and the children have been pleased to see her during her occasional visits into school.

The end of term, particularly the Autumn term, is always a valuable time to reflect. Many children have completed their first term in a new class, formed new friendships, and stepped into a new year group with new expectations.

This term, I have been incredibly impressed by pupils' continued positive attitudes to learning. The many visitors we have in school frequently comment on our pupils' strong sense of responsibility and their willingness to help and support one another. This is something we actively promote as part of our school culture through the learning characteristics that we teach and encourage pupils to reflect upon. Our school vision is centred on developing the whole child, supporting academic success while building the foundations that enable pupils to become active and responsible participants in society.

Please also look out for the curriculum maps from each class, as well as the homework menu for Seal and Shark classes. These outline the learning planned for the half term ahead and provide useful guidance on how you can support your child at home. If you are unable to locate these in school, they can also be found easily on the school website.

We continue to actively encourage pupils to read at home, with reading recorded in their reading records, and to complete regular Numbots or TTRS practice. The children may have shared the weekly challenges set by Miss Bane, which are a great way to build confidence and fluency in maths.

As part of our reflections, there are a couple of gentle reminders that we will also be reinforcing with the children in school. Pupils should have water in their water bottles each day, and we ask that snacks at breaktime are healthy options such as fruit, vegetable sticks, raisins, or savoury breadsticks.

With an ever-increasing online presence in pupils' lives, it is important that we keep up to date so that we can support our pupils in using the internet safely and responsibly. Further information on online safety can be found later in this newsletter and on our website.

As we approach the end of the term, we would like to thank you once again for your ongoing support and partnership. We wish all of our families a restful and enjoyable break and look forward to welcoming everyone back next term.

Warm regards,
Jemima Williams
Academy Head

Starfish Class News



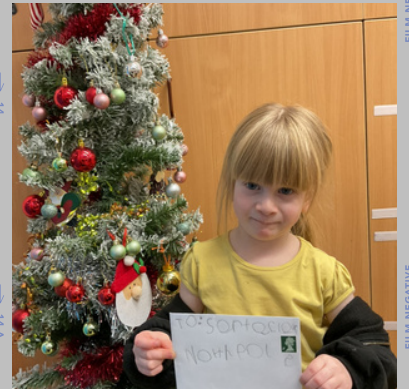
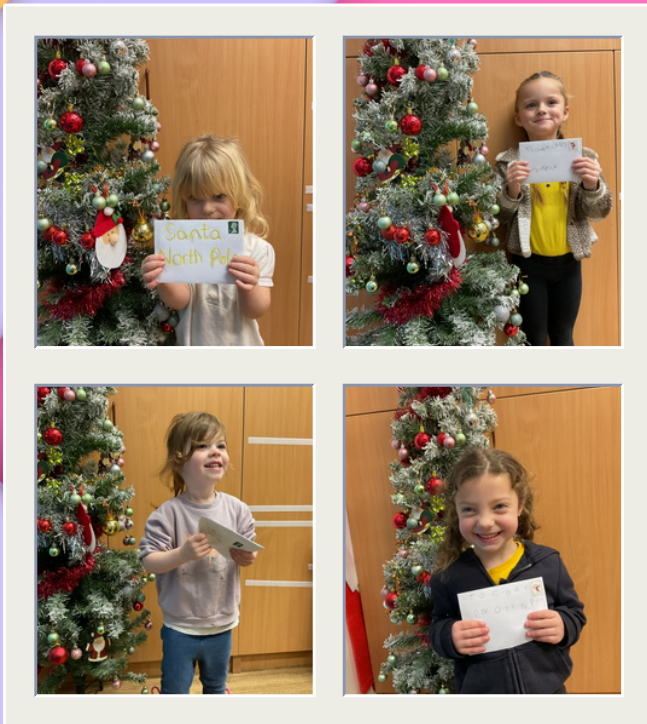
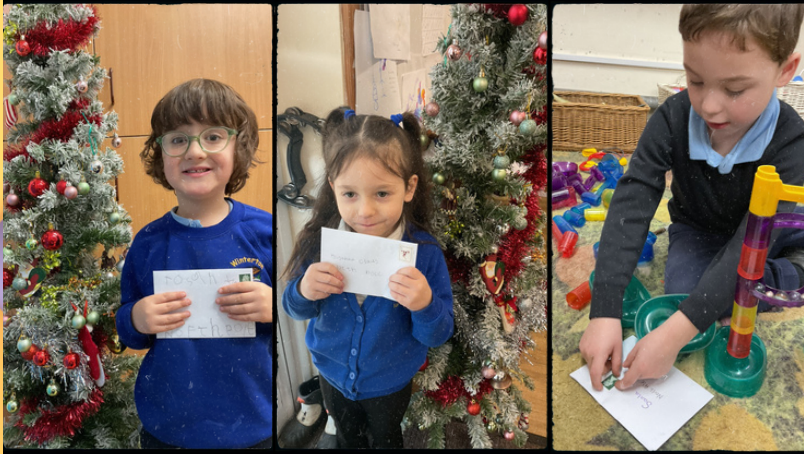
This half term, Starfish class have been busy enjoying and exploring the story Dear Santa. The children showed great enthusiasm as they talked about the book, shared ideas, and learned about letter writing.

We worked especially hard on writing our very own letters to Santa, thinking carefully about what we wanted to say and how to present our work. The children were incredibly proud of their letters, and so were we!

To celebrate and bring our learning to life, we culminated the half term with a lovely walk to the local post box to post our letters. This was a very exciting experience and a perfect way to finish our topic.

Well done, Starfish class, for a fantastic half term of learning. We would like to wish all Starfish families a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season! 🎄 ✨





Seal Class News



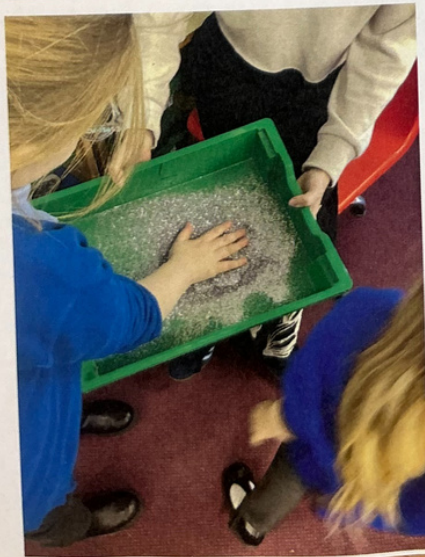
Science in Action: How Do We Stop Germs from Spreading?

As part of our science topic “How do animals, including humans, survive?” the children in Seal Class took part in a fun (and very sparkly!) experiment to explore how germs spread.

To help us see what normally can’t be seen, we used glitter to represent germs. After a small amount of glitter was placed on one person’s hands, we watched as it quickly spread to others through handshakes, shared objects, and classroom surfaces. Before long, glitter was everywhere! This clearly showed just how easily germs can travel from person to person.

The timing of this experiment was especially memorable, as it comes alongside a large amount of chicken pox circulating at this time. This made our learning even more relevant and helped the children understand why good hygiene is so important for keeping ourselves and others healthy.

We then investigated the best ways to stop germs from spreading and discovered that one of the most effective methods is something simple we can all do every day: washing our hands properly with soap and water. After washing, we could see how much less “germ glitter” remained, reinforcing just how important this habit is. The children were highly engaged and came away with a better understanding of how humans survive by taking care of their bodies and protecting one another. A sparkly lesson with a very important message!



Shark Class News



This term Sharks have been exploring irreversible and reversible changes.

Most recently, we looked at dissolving which many people think is an irreversible change. We learnt about evaporation - a process where water warms and becomes a gas called water vapour. Following this, we devised an experiment to check if dissolving really is irreversible or if we could get the sugar and salt we dissolved into water back again.

Hopefully, after Christmas the water will have dissolved from our salt and sugar solutions leaving only the sugar and salt crystals behind. Tune in, in January to see if we were successful.





SENDCo Update

From Mrs Waters

Important information about eye tests for children

Could your child need glasses?

Have they had their eyes tested?

Statistics show that 1 in 5 children have a sight condition and need to wear glasses. Due to this, it is recommended that all children have an eye test at least every two years.

Unlike adults, children don't always realise when something's wrong with their vision. That's why it's important for parents to know the signs that could suggest their child needs glasses.

Your child's eyesight develops from birth, so early checks help catch any problems before they affect learning or development. Opticians recommend that children have their first eye test before starting school to identify lazy eye, squint or focusing issues before school starts and before any issues may affect progress at school.

It's often difficult to tell whether your child has sight problems, which is why they should have an eye test at least every 2 years. There are a number of things to look out for. If you notice one or more of these signs, it could be time to book a free NHS eye test with a local optician.

- *Straining their eyes or tilting their head to see better
- *Frequent eye rubbing
- *Losing their place while reading, or using a finger to guide their eyes
- *Sensitivity to light and/or excessive watering of the eyes
- *Falling behind in school
- *Complaining of headaches or tired eyes
- *The presence of a 'turn' in the eye or a misdirection of the eyes
- *Consistently sitting too close to the TV or holding a book too close
- *Avoiding activities which require near vision, such as reading or homework, or distance vision, such as participating in sports or other recreational activities
- *Closing one eye to read, watch TV or see better
- *Avoiding using a computer or tablet because it hurts their eyes
- *A 'white reflex' in photographs. This is similar in appearance to red-eye, except it's white. It is extremely serious – if you notice it, you should seek medical attention immediately

If staff in school notice any of the above signs of a possible vision concern with your child, they will notify you and ask you to book an eye test for your child. However, we also recommend booking your child a routine eye test (especially if they have never had their eyes tested before) just to support good eye health.

Afterschool Club

News

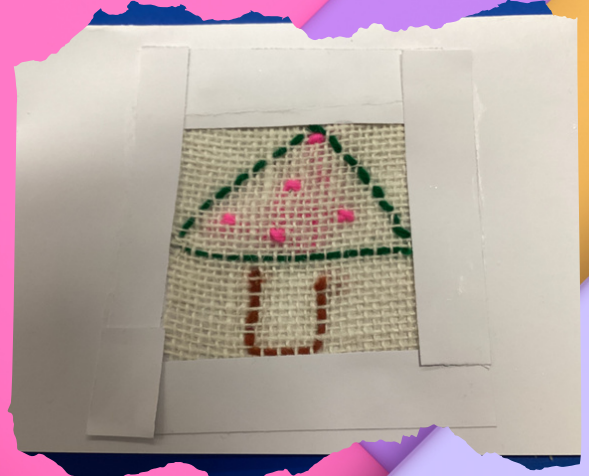
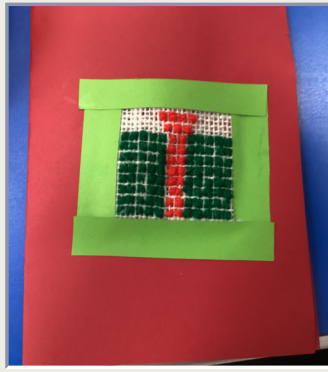
Pottery Club - We continued with our clay projects and decorated them

Craft Club - The children have had a wonderful time in Craft Club this half term, creating a wide range of Christmas-themed items as we've moved closer to the festive season. Items made this term include advent candles, Christmas cards, bookmarks, firework bangers, snowmen, and Christmas trees. The children showed great enthusiasm and pride in their work, making each session both fun and rewarding.

As Craft Club continues to be very popular, we will be carrying on in the new year.

Cross Stitch Club - This half-term in Cross Stitch Club, the children have worked hard to design their Christmas picture, sew it using cross stitch or running stitch, and then fix it to a card template to create a beautiful Christmas card.





Emergency Point of Contact

Our Trust, schools and pupils are supported by robust safeguarding and emergency point of contact and safeguarding support during school closure periods.

Please view our emergency point of contact and safeguarding support for the forthcoming School Holiday Closure Period below.

The Emergency Point of Contact (EPOC) & Designated Safeguarding Lead during the Christmas school closure period (19 December to 5th January) will be:

Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne, CEO

Tel: 07908 262623 or

Email: a.aalders-dunthorne@consortiumtrust.org.uk

After hours Property/Estates emergencies should be reported to Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne, CEO Tel: 07908 262623

School Uniform

As we look forward to the new term and welcome our new families, we want to ensure that everyone is informed about our school uniform guidelines.

Our uniform consists of a royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, a white or pale blue polo shirt or school shirt, and navy, grey or black trousers, shorts, skirt, or pinafore dress. During the warmer months summer dresses can be worn - please see picture below. Please wear plain white, black or grey socks. While a range of branded clothing with our school logo is available from Screens Schoolwear, you are not required to purchase these items. You may also find suitable jumpers and t-shirts in similar colours from most retailers.

Children will need comfortable black school shoes which are safe for running around outside in. Some pupils may wish to bring trainers or wellies to change into for outdoor play, especially in the wetter and colder months.

For students in Years 3 to 6, our blue and yellow school tie is part of the uniform – Please see picture below.

For PE, please ensure your child has a T-shirt, shorts, and plimsolls/trainers. T-shirts can be white or yellow (see picture below) and shorts must be navy or black. In colder weather, your child will need trainers and a tracksuit or a sweatshirt and jogging bottoms for outdoor games. PE tracksuits must be plain navy or black and void of any logos.

Additionally, the Friends of Winterton Primary have a pre-loved uniform shop if you require anything, please ask or email the school office.

At Winterton Primary School and Nursery, we strongly encourage adherence to the school uniform policy as it fosters a sense of belonging and supports high expectations in all aspects of school life.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Attendance

Every minute matters

If your child arrives late to school every day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



Attendance for this Year:

Starfish: 90.01%

Seals: 94.31%

Sharks: 95.33%

Whole School: 93.38%

National Average: 96%

Attendance Facts

- Attendance of 95% for the year equals 10 days that your child has been absent, that is 2 full school weeks of your child's learning missed for that year.
- Attendance of 90% for the year equals 19 days that your child has been absent, that is almost 4 school weeks missed.
- Attendance of 85% for the year equals 29 days that your child has been absent, that is almost 6 school weeks missed.
- Attendance of 80% for the year equals 38 days absent per year that is over 7 school weeks missed.

Rockpool Afterschool Clubs

All of our curriculum enrichment after school clubs are chargeable and we would like the children to book for the whole half term if possible, as we will be completing projects throughout the sessions. If childcare is needed after 16:15 please contact the office.

Please make sure your child has been booked onto the club as once the club is full we cannot accept any other children.

Due to lack of demand, we have decided not to run a club on a Friday evenings. If you need childcare on either day please speak to Mrs Saunders.

Please remember that all clubs need to be paid in advance and clubs are for Reception to Year 6 only

These clubs will be running from Week Commencing 5th January. Please book in under Rockpool Clubs on Arbor.

	After school Club	
Monday 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Archaeology Dig and Ancient Maps Club with Miss Cossens Cost: £3.70	
Tuesday 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Movie Club with Various Staff Cost: £3.70	
Wednesday 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Craft Club with Miss Williams Cost: £3.70	
Thursday 3:15pm - 4:15pm	Winterton News Crew Club with Mrs Waters Cost: £3.70	

Please remember to send a healthy snack for your child to eat before the start of the clubs.

Club Descriptions

Archaeology Dig and Ancient Maps Club Club - With Miss Cossens - Digging for Gems and Making old Maps

Film Club with Various Staff - Watching movies and popcorn

Craft Club with Miss Williams - We will be starting the new term by making calendars, and we're looking forward to another exciting and creative term ahead.

Winterton News Crew Club with Mrs Waters - We will be creating our first edition of the Winterton Newspaper, all budding journalists will be needed. Look out for the first edition at the end of this half term.

Breakfast club

Breakfast club will run daily from 8:00 – 8:30am. There will be a standard charge of £2.65 for the first child and £1.10 for each sibling attending on the same day. A healthy breakfast will be provided. **Please ensure you book your child onto the days they will be attending in advance so we can cater accordingly, please remember that payment for clubs should be in advance.**

Please come to the hall door through the car park for entry to Breakfast Club. The doors will be opened at 8am, please do not arrive before then or use the front door as this may be locked.

PE Days

On your child's PE Day, as listed below, please ensure they come to school dressed in clothing suitable for PE. Lessons may be indoors or outdoors so please send warm clothing with a t-shirt or shorts underneath in case they get hot. Children must wear suitable footwear such as trainers and have separate shoes for indoors, such as plimsolls, if they do not have wellies to wear outside at playtime. Please ensure that long hair is tied up and all jewellery is removed before coming to school.

Tuesday - Starfish, Sharks and Seals

Diary Dates

Monday 5 th January	All Day	Inset Day
Tuesday 6 th January	8:30am	School Reopens
Tuesday 6 th January	AM	Sharks Start Swimming Lessons
Thursday 15 th January	AM	Harrier Judo Taster sessions
Thursday 15 th January	15:15	Friday Enrichment - Parent Meeting
Thursday 29 th January	2:45pm	Celebration Assembly - Parents Welcom
Thursday 12 th February	4.00-5.00pm	Friends School Disco
Friday 13 th February	3:15pm	Break up for Half Term
Monday 23 rd February	8:30am	School reopens
Thursday 26 th February	1:00pm	Road Safety Workshop
Thursday 26 th February	3:30 - 5:30pm	Parents Evening
Friday 6 th March	All Day	World Book Day
Thursday 12 th March	3:30 - 5:30pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 26 th March	3:15 PM	Friends Easter Fayre
Friday 27 th March	15:15	Break up for Easter
Monday 13 th April	08:30	School Reopens
Monday 27 th April	ALL Day	Norfolk Cricket Taster Session
Thursday 21 st May	3:15pm	Break up for Half Term
Friday 22 nd May	All Day	Inset Day
Monay 1 st June	8:30am	School Reopens
Thursday 16 th July	16:30pm	Friends Leavers Disco
Friday 17 th July	3:15pm	Break up for Summer
Thursday 3 rd September	8:30am	School Reopens

Academic Calendar

Academic calendar 2025/26

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1				1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5							1
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9							1
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

PD Days

1/9/2025 - Statutory Training
 2/9/2025 - School Directed
 5/1/2026 - School Directed
 22/5/2026 - School Directed
 20/7/2026 - School Directed Wellbeing