

## **Headmistress' Newsletter**

## Week Commencing Monday 29th January 2024

Dear Parents,

There was great excitement this week when **Gardening Club** were able to move into the new polytunnel for the first time. A huge amount of time has been spent by the Grounds Staff in clearing the site, digging the holes for supports and building the polytunnel itself. We are extremely grateful to them and to the **Friends of Winterfold** for funding the project. Soon, hundreds of plants will be transferred from the greenhouse to the polytunnel ready for our spring/Mother's Day sale. There are lots of exciting gardening projects being planned to use our new facility. Watch this space!





Last Friday, some of our Winterfold musicians enjoyed a wonderful day at Shrewsbury School for their **Big Band Day**. Over ninety children from various prep schools attended this event and during the course of two hours, joined forces with the Shrewsbury Big Band and learnt five new pieces of music. These were then performed to parents and guests during the afternoon. The children and staff enjoyed excellent hospitality from Shrewsbury and came away with some fabulous ideas for a new repertoire of music.

Radio Winterfold will be going LIVE across the nation from 10am to 12pm tomorrow during Open Morning. The live show (which will become a podcast soon so you won't miss out) will feature music, interviews, quizzes such as 'Rockbusters' and 'Did you know?' and will welcome back a very popular feature, 'Winterfold's Weird and Wonderful World of Wow'. It will be presented entirely by the children and promises to be a two-hour spectacular which will have you dancing in the isles. Tune in to <a href="https://my.schoolradio.com/users/217/player">https://my.schoolradio.com/users/217/player</a> or click the QR code.



Congratulations to Heidi H (Year 3) who is the current Frame of Fame winner for her brilliant Henri Rousseau inspired jungle painting in watercolour, acrylic and Posca pen.

Good luck to our budding young entrepreneurs over the next 6 weeks. Nearly every pupil in Years 6, 7 and 8 have signed up to the **Winterfold Young Apprentice** challenge with all profits made going to our partner school, Ncemaneni, in South Africa. There will be a Winterfold Young Apprentice fair in the courtyard on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm where they will be able to show their ideas and sell any last items that they have.

## ☆ Stars of the Week ☆

1G - Mace B; 1W - Alexander A; 2C - Stanley M; 2J - Elliott L; 3B - Darcy H; 3W - Georgie M; 4B - Myles E 4W - Dominic G; 5F - Lilly-Mae C; 5L - Joseph W & Arjan K; 6L - Poppy C; 6S - Harry F; 7D - Sophia O 7M - Amelia W; 8B - Imogen W; 8S - Isaac M

Congratulations to Swifts who are this week's winning Pack.

**Year 5** enjoyed a fabulous cooking session in their CDT lesson this week. They cooked koftas on a bed of roasted vegetables, peppers, cherry tomatoes, and red onion. They served it with couscous, flatbread and their own homemade yoghurt and mint dressing. With each session their cooking skills are improving, and it is lovely to see them trying out new foods. Not many children had tried koftas before, and they proved to be very popular.





Our U8 and U9 girls enjoyed netball fixtures at Wolverhampton Grammar School on Tuesday. They were notably stronger than the opposition, working well within their teams to create a number of opportunities, showing lovely sportsmanship throughout the afternoon. The U11 & U10 girls had a challenging afternoon of netball against Blue Coat. All of the girls played with the right spirit and worked hard to show their developing skills. Well done to our U13 C & D netball teams for their great performances in their recent matches against Bromsgrove. Despite facing tough competition, our girls showcased exceptional teamwork, sportsmanship and determination resulting in well-deserved victories. The U13 B girls also had a competitive afternoon against Bromsgrove, with lots of end-to-end action. In the final quarter, Bromsgrove were able to capitalise with a couple of goals in the final minutes.

On Tuesday, the Year 3 and 4 boys played triangular football fixtures with King's St Albans and King's Hawford, demonstrating their improving skills. Wednesday saw all of the boys from Year 5-8 involved in matches with Moor Park, King's Hawford and King's St Albans. The 1st and 2nd teams continued their outstanding season with a couple of positive results, displaying high levels of skill and teamwork. More importantly they are showing respect for their opponents and displaying excellent sportsmanship. The Year 5 teams played away at King's St Albans and had excellent matches whilst the Year 6 teams had a triangular fixture at King's Hawford. All



eight matches were very close, and the boys played some excellent football, displaying some superb teamwork, skill and work off the ball.

Year 2 children thoroughly enjoyed their clay tile workshop with Eastnor Pottery. They followed instructions well and produced some creative designs. In Mathematics, all of the children designed their own menu and researched the prices of their meals, and in English they have been exploring the features of a letter and focused on using the past tense. Year 1 children completed their English work with Alan the Explorer by creating a journal entry for him. In Mathematics, they mastered measuring a variety of objects with rulers and moved on to identifying odd and even numbers. In PSHE, they learned how to break goals down into clear, achievable steps with the aid of a jam sandwich!



In Early Years, Reception class enjoyed creating warning posters for the Three Billy Goats Gruff in Literacy. They explored doubles and one more and one less in number work and had a super time with the visit from Eastnor Pottery. Kindergarten 2 children focused on Antarctica and considered the environment and how animals from the Arctic survive. The children demonstrated their creative skills when designing and making penguins by tearing different kinds of paper. Kindergarten 1 children have been pretending to be as tall as a giraffe after reading the story 'Giraffes Can't Dance'. They matched animals by their skin patterns and enjoyed creating dance movements, including the cha-cha, boogie, and leap.



In the **Nursery**, the Cygnets began their new topic of 'Fruit and Vegetables'. They enjoyed the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and had fun collaging and painting various fruit pictures, as well as using chopped up apples for apple printing. The Goslings have learnt about wild animals. They created giraffes using paint and collage materials and read the story 'Giraffes Can't Dance'. Meanwhile, the Ducklings created Valentines Day pictures using a range of tools, as well as enjoying some outdoor walks around the School grounds.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Denise Toms Headmistress

## In Memory of Paul Kenny January 1967-January 2024

An Old Winterfoldian, who had many happy memories of his time as a boarder. When he had his daughter Annabelle, he said Winterfold was the only school he would consider her going to. Annabelle went on to become Eagles Pack Leader, which made her father extremely proud, as it had been his Pack.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this sad time.

