



Dear Parents and Carers,

Winter has truly made its presence known this week, bringing frosty mornings and chilly afternoons! Inside, our classrooms have been buzzing with energy and the sound of Christmas singing rehearsals is keeping everyone cheerful! Pupils have shown great enthusiasm, embracing new learning opportunities and engaging wholeheartedly in the activities planned across the school. From lively lessons to special events such as our Film Festival activities, trips and even welcoming a mobile planetarium into school! Here's what's been happening



over the last two weeks



### Keeping Warm This Winter

As the colder months settle in, we want to remind all our pupils to wrap up warm for school. Frosty mornings and chilly afternoons are here, so please make sure children come dressed in coats, hats, scarves, and gloves, ready to enjoy playtime and outdoor learning comfortably.

Layering is a great way to stay warm, and don't forget to label all items to help keep track of belongings. By dressing appropriately, children can stay cozy, focused, and fully enjoy all the activities we have planned, no matter the weather!



Let's make sure everyone stays warm and happy this winter.

### Eco Council Elections

This week, our school has been busy electing new representatives for our Eco Council. Pupils across the classes have shown great enthusiasm, putting themselves forward, sharing their ideas, and voting for the classmates they feel will make a positive difference.

It has been wonderful to see how passionate our children are about caring for the environment and improving sustainability within our school community. Our Eco Council team will be playing an important role in helping our school become more environmentally friendly. Members will meet regularly to discuss ways we can reduce waste, save energy, improve recycling, and look after our outdoor spaces.



Key dates for the next 2 weeks:

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Christmas pantomime in school for all pupils.
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Managing Feelings and Emotions Course 9-11am
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 4 Brass Concert for parents 3pm
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Rock steady concert to parents 9:15am
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch





## Join Us for the Christmas Pantomime!



We are excited to invite all our pupils to a magical festive treat – Aladdin and Princess Jasmine’s Christmas Wedding! The pantomime will take place on **Monday 1st December**, and promises a fun-filled adventure with lots of laughter, music, and festive cheer.

Children will have the chance to see their favourite characters come to life on stage, enjoy spectacular costumes, and be part of the festive spirit with songs and audience participation. It’s the perfect way to kick off the Christmas celebrations at school!

We can’t wait to share this magical experience with all our pupils – it’s sure to be a day full of smiles, surprises, and holiday magic.



## Film Festival Fun



Over the last two weeks, our pupils have had an amazing opportunity to take part in a special film festival. As part of the event, classes were invited to the cinema to enjoy screenings chosen to inspire creativity, spark discussion, and deepen the children’s love of storytelling.

The excitement was clear from the moment we set off, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the chance to experience the magic of the big screen together. For many, it was a first-time trip to the cinema with school, making the event even more memorable. The films provided a great springboard for follow-up activities back in the classroom, from lively conversations to creative writing and artwork inspired by what they had seen.

We are grateful to have been included in this fantastic opportunity and proud of how well the pupils represented our school throughout the visits. It has certainly been a highlight of the fortnight!



## Year 4 Trip to the River and Rowing Museum

On Thursday 20th November, our fantastic Year 4 class visited the River and Rowing Museum in Henley. The children took part in five hands-on workshops, exploring different river processes alongside a range of river-themed activities.

They also enjoyed a pleasant walk down to the lock, where they were able to see their classroom learning brought to life. The class discussed how the water level would rise or fall to help boats travel uphill or downhill through the lock - an exciting real-world example of their recent lessons.

To top off a wonderful day, the children filled the coach with enthusiastic singing on the journey home. It was a memorable and enriching experience for everyone involved!



## **WPA Choir Shines at Christmas Light Switch-On**

On Thursday 27th November, the WPA Choir joined the Kingsgrove community to celebrate the annual Christmas Light Switch-On. It was wonderful to hear the choir perform a beautiful range of carols, accompanied by the Wantage Silver Band. Their festive voices and the lively music created a joyful atmosphere for everyone attending.

With the lights now twinkling and the music still echoing in our ears, Christmas truly feels on the way!



# FoWPA news



## What's Happening

### 🎄 Christmas Bauble decorating competition - baubles available Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Dec

From 1st December, blank baubles will be on sale for £1 from the office or class teachers. Children can decorate them at home, hang them on the school tree, and enter the FoWPA competition. Please label baubles with your child's name and year group and return by Tuesday 9th December. One winner per year group. We look forward to seeing everyone's festive designs!

### 📧 Christmas Cards

Your children's festive cards are on their way and will be arriving in school very soon! Keep an eye out for more details – we'll share updates through the Year Group WhatsApp groups and via email, so you won't miss a thing!

## Fundraising Successes

### 🌳 Kingsgrove Woodland Junior ParkRun - Thank You! 🌟

A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered and baked for the recent Junior ParkRun! The bake sale raised over **£130** and it was wonderful to see so many WPA faces running, walking, or cheering from the side lines. We can't wait to serve up more sweet treats at future WPA takeovers! 🍰

## Coming Up Soon

There's plenty of festive fun ahead!

🍷 We'll be selling **refreshments** at the end-of-term **performances 17-19 December** - cash and card accepted.

📷 Look out for our **Christmas Selfie Scavenger Hunt** to enjoy over the holidays.

## Other Ways to Support

📖 We're continuing to build the school's **Reading for Fun** collection! If you have good quality chapter or picture books to donate, please drop them off at the school office.

🛒 Sign up to **easyfundraising** and your online shopping this Black Friday and Christmas can raise money for us at no extra cost! The retailers donate, not you. **Scan the QR code** to sign up!



## Get Involved

We've moved our WhatsApp into **Communities**, making it super easy to stay in the loop and support FoWPA events! If you were in the old group, check the **pinned post** for the link to hop across.

New here? **Scan the QR code** below or email [pta@wantageprimaryacademy.org](mailto:pta@wantageprimaryacademy.org) for more info.





**£1 per  
entry**

**Entries  
due  
9 Dec**



Friends of WPA  
invites you to

# Decorate a bauble!

All proceeds will go to FoWPA



Buy a blank decoration at the  
school office or from your class  
teacher from Monday 1st December

Submit entries to your class  
teacher with name & year group  
on the back by  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December**



Prize per year group by end of term!





# BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED

We're on a mission to expand our Reading for Fun collection and we need your help!

We're looking for good-quality picture books and chapter books to inspire a love of reading in our pupils.

Have any books your children have outgrown?  
**We'd love to give them a new home!**



**DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED AT THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE DURING NORMAL SCHOOL HOURS**

# junior parkrun

Promoting a healthier and happier planet for everyone.



JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR WPA TAKEOVER EVENT  
SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER



WE'RE PROUD TO BE A 2025-2026  
PARKRUN PRIMARY!



## A Reminder About Safe Driving Near School

We kindly ask all parents and carers to take extra care when driving near the school, especially during busy drop-off and pick-up times.

For the safety of all our children and families, please ensure you drive slowly, follow the road markings, and use the designated school car parking spaces provided.

Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe.

