



# The Windmills News

Issue 3: 1st December 2022

It has been a really, really busy month—with lashings of excitement as well as wind and rain. These year 6 children were absolutely blessed to have sunshine for their 'bikeability' session whereas other children in year 6 had to contend with some of the worst weather that could possibly be thrown at them. I literally have never seen children looking so wet! They certainly showed our school values of perseverance and courage to make it through their session.

We were, however, blessed with the weather for the Christmas Fair—what a success! The new Friends of Windmills Christmas Collective did an absolutely amazing job. **THANK YOU SO MUCH TO**

**EVERYONE INVOLVED.** It was such a joy to see the school positively brimming with Christmas cheer. It was great to see you all. The children did such a great job of getting us in the festive mood with their angelic singing. Year 6 did an absolutely incredible job with designing, making and leading the games stalls. **THANK YOU to the year 6 children and the team for the extraordinary amount of hard work that this took to coordinate—you are brilliant.** More on the games on page 2—



**Girls Football:** With many of the team who were so successful last year still being with us, there were high hopes when the girls travelled to the Mid-Sussex Burgess Hill and Hassocks Girls Football tournament at St. Paul's. They got off to the perfect start, playing some fantastic football and securing a comfortable win

in their first game. The girls then proceeded to go from strength to strength and won all but one of their games to secure their place as tournament winners and progress to the Mid-Sussex Finals. On 28<sup>th</sup> November, the girls met for an early start at St. Paul's to play in the finals. This tournament consisted of all of the other winners and runners up from the different areas in Mid-Sussex so the opposition was considerably stronger than in previous rounds. This certainly proved to be the case in the first game with a well fought 1-1 draw with St. Lawrence. This tightly fought contest seemed to wake the girls from their Monday morning slumber and kick them into life. They then went on to win 4 games back to back and remain undefeated for the entire tournament. I am delighted to say that this crowned them as the Mid-Sussex Girls Football Champions! The girls team now move on to represent Mid-Sussex in the County Cup Finals in January. Congratulations to all of the girls for this fantastic achievement – they have now progressed further than any other girls team from Windmills and we are all really proud of them.



Bikeability is today's cycle training for the 21st Century. Centred around developing healthy lifestyles and giving children the confidence and skills to be able to ride on roads safely. The children undertake the Level 2 course which teaches them:

- **Start and stop** with more confidence
- **Pass stationary vehicles** parked on a road
- **Understand the road:** signals, signs and road markings
- **Negotiate the road:** including quiet junctions, crossroads and roundabouts
- **Share the road** with other vehicles
- how to stay safe on the roads
- Increase confidence, decision-making and self-esteem

Thank you to the year 6 team, and especially Mrs Major, for organising the complexities of having children coming and going to different sessions.

The Windmills' boys football team was in action earlier this month in the Mid-Sussex Boys football tournament at St. Paul's. The boys squads had been training for about a month leading up to this event so they were extremely excited to get going. There was a round robin format which meant plenty of games and they came thick and fast throughout the afternoon. They played some fantastic football. They managed to lose just one game all afternoon, alongside 2 wins and 2 draws. They were agonisingly close to qualifying for the next round – needing a win against St. Lawrence, they were denied by some fantastic goal keeping from the St. Lawrence keeper and the width of a cross bar! Nevertheless, they can all hold their heads up high; they played superbly well as a team and modelled our school values to all that they came across.

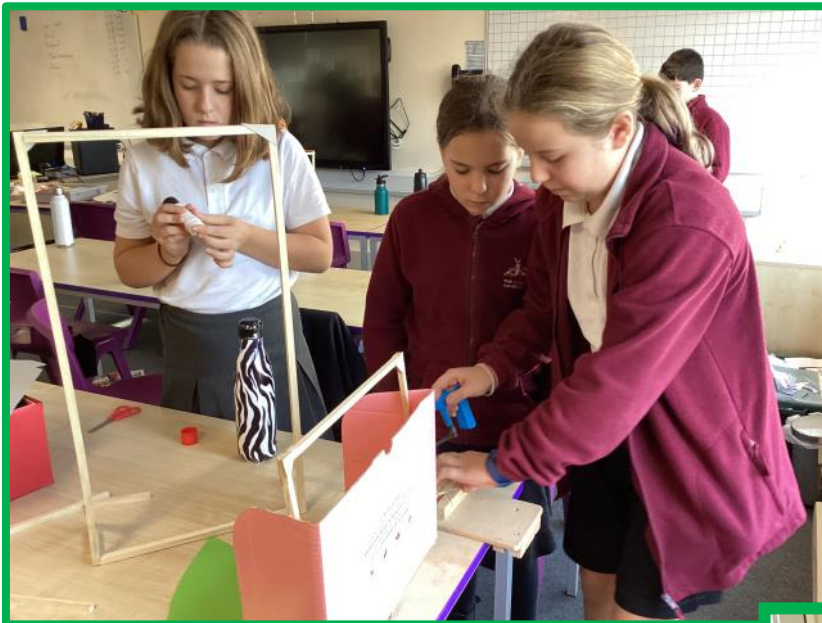
Congratulations to all the boys who took part – Monty, Theo, Noah C, Rhys, Jacob J, Ethan S, Tom, Will, Stanley G and Max B.

Thank you to all the parents who supported with transport for both events – it really is greatly appreciated.





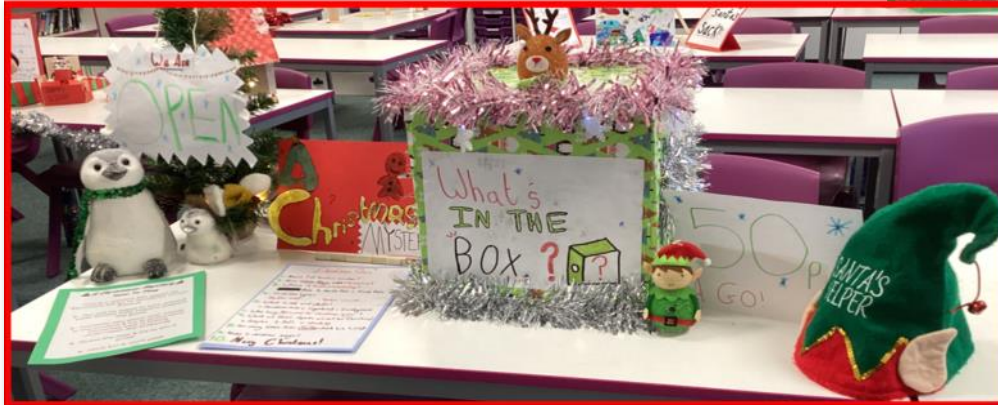
Over the last few weeks, Year 6 have been designing and making free standing Christmas games as part of their D.T. learning. Using a wide range of skills and materials, the children's games were a huge success and drew in many eager visitors at the Christmas Fair. The children displayed the school's values of courage and perseverance throughout and were rewarded with high levels of engagement and participation and helped to raise a huge amount of money for the wonderful Friends of Windmills School.



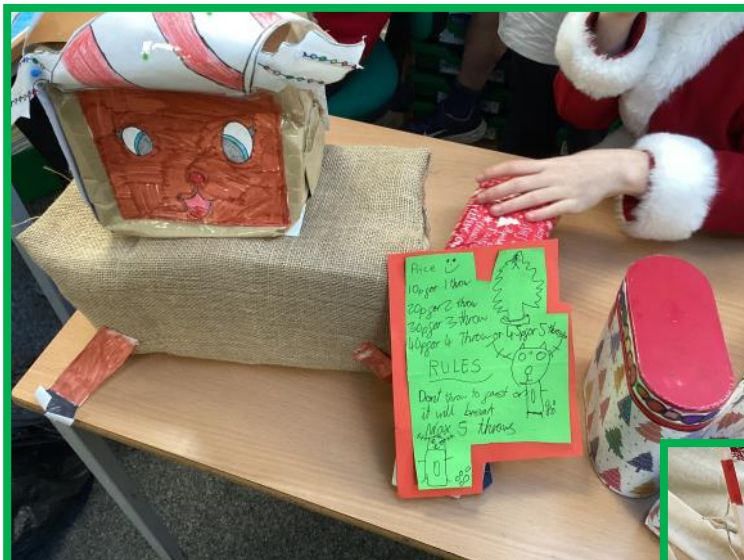
The Christmas fair game making was really fun as we did woodwork and art. It took around 4 lessons, however it was definitely worth it as we raised lots of money for the school.  
Freya G, 6M.







In DT, we have been making games for the Christmas fair. We used butt joints, hot glue, saws and wood to construct the frames and then we operated them all by ourselves. This taught us a lot about money, sales and building. Sophie I, 6M



I really enjoyed making the games for our Christmas fair. We were put into groups and we had around 4 D.T. lessons to complete our projects. It raised a lot of money. Ilia, 6M.







**A massive well done to everyone in 6R for working so hard to create such fantastic festive games in D.T. and for giving everyone so much fun at the Christmas Fair (as well as raising £).**





In Year 4, we were inspired by *the* 100 year anniversary of the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, so we created our own tomb for the children to 'discover'. Complete with glowing hieroglyphics, spooky sound effects, tunnels to crawl through and an actual mummy in a sarcophagus. The children had a brilliant learning experience. From this, the children wrote as if they were part of Howard Carter's exploration team in 1922.

Read some of their wonderful extracts below!

5th November 1922, 9:45am. The tomb was finally open. The dark, dusty stairs led steeply downwards. All around me were blood-stained walls and hieroglyphics.

I held my lantern higher up to take a better look. My heart stopped beating and I felt a quiver going down my spine. The sight I saw was the best any adventurer could ever see: an untouched tomb entrance.

**Nina 4F**

I shouted for the servants. They dug and dug and *dug* until there it was—a gate sealing the entrance. It said something in hieroglyphics. I called for the decoder. He told us it read: "Okinisis's tomb. Whoever enters will die from the curse of the Pharaoh."

**Rufus 4F**



**Tutankhamun: 100 year anniversary of the tomb's discovery**

I took my first step into the tomb. We were the first to enter in 3000 years! My heart hammered as we got deeper and deeper. We smelled bad odours of the deep, dark tunnel. We could see dust falling from the ceiling.

**Monty 4RT**

Excitedly, I followed Howard Carter to the end of the hallway. Then Carter chipped away at the wall and peered in. I asked "Can you see anything?" and Carter replied, "Yes, wonderful things."

**Lawson 4RT**





Reluctantly, I got onto my hands and knees and entered the passageway. I crawled past the unstable walls as they collapsed to the floor. My heart started beating faster and faster as I picked up speed. It felt like the passage would never end but then finally the fog and gloom of the tunnel melted away and a glow shone brightly into my eyes.

**Alys 4ET**



As I strolled slowly in, thoughts were dashing through my head. The walls felt so cracked and ancient as I peered all around me. There was so much rubble and debris. I felt so worried in case there were any torturous traps. Dr Carter made a little crack in the door determined to look through the small hole. I shone my lantern through the crack,

"What can you see?" I asked.

"Wonderful things!" he replied.

**Poppy 4ET**

When we removed the seal on the door, inside there were lots of things like amulets and jewellery. I was so pleased I had found this after 5 long years of searching! The thing that stunned me the most was a chest built with the finest wood and gold. It was very full of lots of very precious and valuable items.

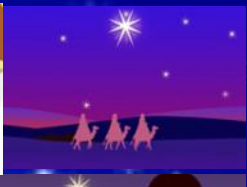
**Ashwin 4ET**



Still looking for King Tut, I broke through a door in the wall carefully. I didn't know what was behind it. I was so excited! I entered the coffin chamber and there were 3 sarcophagi and the golden coffin inside. I couldn't believe my eyes! King Tut was here in all his glory, his burial mask was pure gold. I was a part of history!

**Sam 4RT**





In RE, we have had great fun reenacting and retelling the Christmas story. The children have learnt its importance to Christians as well as reflecting on what Christmas means to them.



# THE NATIVITY



For Christians Christmas is when everybody gets together then prays for Jesus. They also celebrate when he came to Earth to show everybody how to live properly.

3SH



1. Angel Gabriel came down to tell Mary and Joseph they were going to have a baby <sup>3SH</sup> they will call him Jesus.



Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem because of the census ~~but all the~~ when they arrived all the inns were full but one kind inn keeper let them in his barn.

3W



Mary and Joseph had the baby Jesus and lay him in the manger as they watched him go to sleep.

3SH



Far far away was some shepers were minding  
 there ~~one~~ <sup>seed</sup> ~~bird~~ <sup>and</sup> were a angel and ~~seed~~ <sup>and</sup> a  
 new king has ~~been~~ <sup>born</sup> you must go!

3W



When the three wise men saw the  
 big, shining star they new it was  
 something speshel so they got their  
 sistz and went to find the stabel

3W

When ~~evenon~~ everyone gathered round  
 they celebrated and the three wise  
 men gave Jesus gold, gnankincense and  
 Myrrh.

3W





Last week, we were very lucky to have the amazing Sports Leadership students from Downlands come to Windmills and show us the brilliant games of **Boccia and New Age Kurling**.



I liked that the activities were actually quite hard! Leo 3W

It was fun! I liked seeing Boccia like in the Paralympics. I also liked playing New Age Kurling. Gwen 3W

It is really good for hand-eye coordination. 3SH

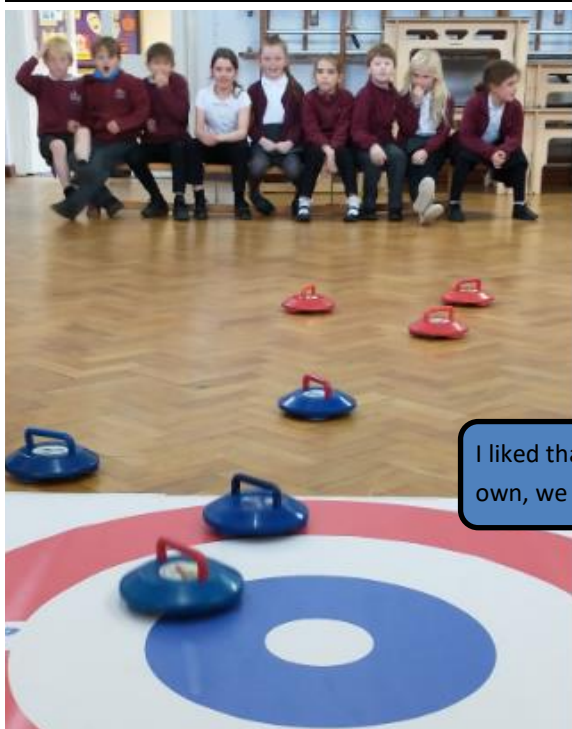
It is very challenging to touch the Jack. 3SH



Boccia is a game of precision, skill, and tactics - get the ball as close to a white target ball as possible. It is played by people of all ages and disabilities. Internationally, it is played by athletes with severe physical disabilities. As a fully inclusive sport, Boccia enables all pupils to take part, having a positive impact on individual development.

Along with Goalball, they are the only Paralympic sports that have no Olympic equivalent.

New Age Kurling is similar to bowls, but is traditionally played inside and uses a static target rather than a moving ball. Players are permitted to move the stones with their hands, feet, or using a ramp in the case of those with severe impairments.



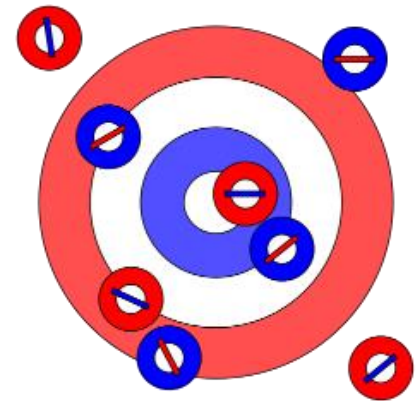
I liked that we didn't play on our own, we played in a team. Henry 3W

I enjoyed winning but also cheering the teams along! Tabitha 3W

It is exciting because you think you are winning but someone else can knock you off the target and steal the win!! 3SH

'It is so much fun.'  
'You have to use a lot of control.' 3SH







# YEAR 5 PERSUASIVE WRITING

This week, Year 5 were given a fictional scenario to inspire their writing. They were told that Mrs Murray and Mr Kingcome were going to expand the no-mow and destroy the woodland area in order to make room for more sporting activities. All the children got to work immediately, visiting the scene, interviewing Mr Winter and taking notes. We were very impressed with the range of arguments for and against that the children produced. Here are just a few of the letters the children wrote.



Dear Mrs Murray and Mr Kingcome,

Harry, 5L

Firstly, I believe this decision will damage the local ecosystem because the oxygen levels will decrease and frogs, newts and toads will die due to losing the pond. The ecosystem will fail in our local area because of the loss of wildlife. Animals will no longer thrive and predators will likely die of starvation.

Secondly, you should be keeping the shelter. It is new and it keeps us sheltered from bad weather and rain. Are you just going to throw away something that you recently paid for and your staff worked hard on?

Dear Mrs Murray and Mr Kingcome,

Ivy, 5B

I am writing to you today to inform you that you would be making a grave mistake destroying our beloved woodland area. Every year group adores this school feature because it gives us the rare opportunity to learn about nature first-hand. I am going to explain my reasons.

As you know, taxes and electricity bills are on the rise so why would you even think about replacing our lovely environment with a hump of plastic? The money can be better spent on things for our enjoyment, like the tree-line, proper football goals, and fixed netball/basketball nets. No Mow is so expensive to replace that you would be better off spending your money on these other things. Be careful, you don't want to waste money.

Dear Mrs Murray,

I am writing to you today to talk about the serious matter of expanding the no-mow.

I agree with you because we can't go on the field for most of the year. I know this because I only go on the field in the summer, when it's not muddy. If the no-mow is extended, we can do football and rugby all year round and Year 5 and 6 can both do football at break.

In this school, we don't have a disabled ramp for the field, although we do have some lifts, ramps and disabled toilets. When the no-mow is extended, we can add disabled ramps.

Henry, 5C





Dear Mrs Murray and Mr Kingcome,

I am writing to you to ask you not to get rid of the outdoor learning area.

I feel very strongly about this because it will damage our local ecosystem and affect our lungs when you chop down the trees. If you get rid of the pond, it will damage the frog and bird habitats.

It will cost more than £50,000 and think, what else could you buy?

William, 5L

Firstly, if you cut down these trees, birds could die because trees are vital to their survival. Also, other animals suffer and they will have to find new homes.

What you are doing goes against the school values: not being respectful or kind. Ten out of ten people I spoke to do not want the woodland area destroyed. You would be replacing a nice peaceful place into boring plastic grass which is not environmentally friendly. There are houses popping up everywhere in Hassocks and as a result animals are having to leave their homes. Do you really want to be the people to get rid of more animals?

Stan, 5B



This natural place is an important part of our lives. Without the woodland area, we would be unhappy. All you would be doing is hurting nature. Whenever I go to forest school, my sister Elle always spots a frog in the pond or under shelter. We have proof!

There's no point in it as the children will be stuck inside for a while, when it is being built.

Destroying the shelter would be a waste of money and they have only just made it!

The no-mow is dangerous. For example, lots of people have been slipping over on the no-mow in the wet weather. You don't want to make more people slip do you?

Georgia, 5C

**Keep our amazing  
outdoor learning  
space**





Dear Mrs Murray and Mr Kingcome,

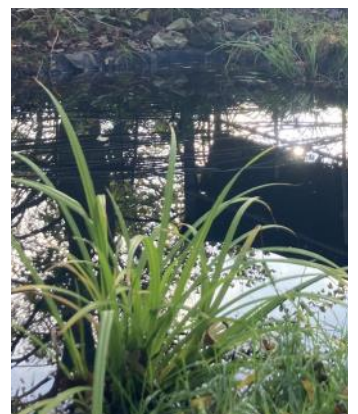
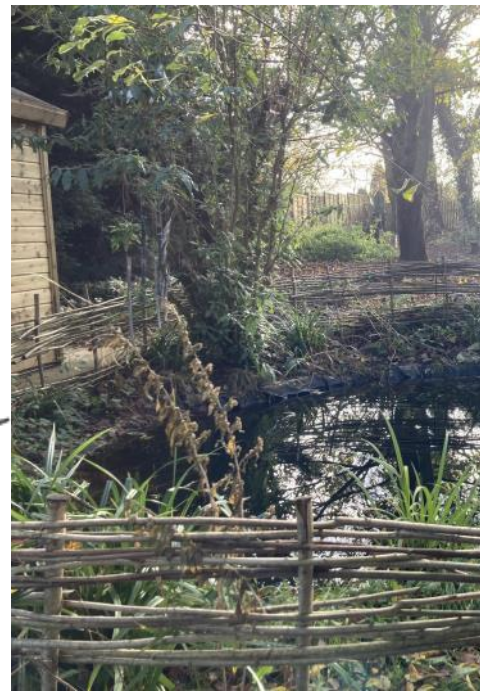
I am writing to you today to inform you that you are making a grave mistake destroying our beloved woodland area. Every year group adores this school feature because it gives us the valuable opportunity to learn about nature first hand. I am now going to explain my reasons.

Firstly, I feel that many animals are already losing their homes because of the building work around Hascocks. Do you want to destroy their second chance? Our woodland area provides ecosystem and our trees provide oxygen to us and many others. I know that two of our school values kindness and respect turn against what you are doing. Do you want to break your own rules?

Secondly, say we will be saving money actually we'll be losing it because taking down the no-mow costs and putting up the no-mow costs. Instead why not use your money on a new basketball court or tennis net?

Finally, every child in this school looks forward to this event and sees it as an opportunity to learn in the wild. Other schools don't have this land and would dream to have a forest school area for their children. Do you want to make our school as boring as others or keep it brilliant?

In conclusion, this proposal of yours is the worst decision of your life. When year 2 parents come and decide if their child will come to school. They will decide no because of the unfriendliness to the environment. Therefore you will lose more money.



Yours sincerely  
Elena Torrey 5B