



Pride News...

Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 15.07.22

I would like to thank the children and the parent community at Willow for making me feel so welcome during my first few weeks. It has been great to begin to meet families and if you are ever interested in what Nico and I get up to you can find this in Nico's blog here

Sports Day

It was great to see so many parents, carers and other family members at Sports Day. Well done to all the winners and for surviving in such hot conditions!

Parent Survey

I have been sharing the results of the recent parent survey during the 'Meet and Greet' sessions. The areas of positivity were:

- Parents / carers felt children were safe and happy
- Parents / carers felt children were well taught
- Parents / carers felt children made good progress at school
- Parents / carers would recommend this school to another family

The areas for improvement were:

- Leadership and management
- Communication
- Academic challenge including homework

To address some of the areas for improvement we will be implementing a full schedule of parents' evenings next academic year and will hold Open Afternoons for all year groups before the Summer Holidays. Further Open Forum sessions with the Head Teacher and other relevant staff will be implemented from September. Keep an eye out in the newsletter for these sessions.

Learning at Home Policy

Following the parent survey, we have implemented a new Learning at Home Policy from September 2022. Learning at Home will begin in the second week of term and all learning will be a consolidation of learning that has happened in the classroom. The policy is available on our website that can be found [here](#).

Car Park

Just a reminder that during pick up and drop off times the car park should not be used for pedestrian access. We have several vehicles that must come in this way due to children arriving at the Piper Centre and it makes it unsafe to have pedestrians in this area. Many thanks for your cooperation.

There will be a short newsletter next week and I hope that you have a great weekend and manage to enjoy some more of the great weather we are having.



Pride News...

Can you help?

Reception are looking for some additional resources for their classroom.

If you have any of the items listed below, and would like to donate them to us, please bring them to school where the children will enjoy them!

Please note that these toys need to be in a good and safe condition.

Barbie dolls and accessories

Dressing up clothes
Age 4-5 and 5-6

Spare screws,
nails, nuts and bolts,
screwdrivers

Wicker baskets/picnic baskets

Wooden play food

Doll accessories

Children's wheelbarrow and gardening tools

Thank you in advance; your help and generosity is appreciated.



Pride News...

Sports Day!

We had our Sports Day!

Thank you so much to all the parents and visitors to come to cheer on the children. It was a lovely, positive feeling listening to everyone outside.

A huge Congratulations to ALL the children for their perseverance and determination even when potatoes fell, and shoes came off! During the afternoon children had a go at other activities e.g. hurdles, space hoppers and javelins!





Pride News...

Predicted Extreme Heat Weather Warnings

The Met Office has extended an [amber extreme heat warning](#) for Sunday 17 July, Monday 18 July and Tuesday 19 July, as temperatures will build this weekend and early next week for much of England and Wales.

The amber warning highlights likely adverse health effects for the public, not just limited to those most vulnerable to extreme heat.

Temperatures could be in excess of 35°C in the southeast, and more widely around 32°C within the [warning area](#), with Monday and Tuesday most likely to see temperatures around this level.

There is clear government guidance on [looking after children and those in early years settings during heatwaves](#), including the use of ventilation, keeping children hydrated, and avoiding vigorous physical activity, encouraging children to wear loose, light coloured clothing and sunhats with wide brims, to use sunscreen, and providing them with plenty of water.

Individual school leaders are responsible for managing their own local circumstances. We are not advising schools to close.





Pride News...

Visit of Andy Seed

Visiting Author – Andy Seed

We learned a poem about a cat.

It was a fun day.

His favourite book was about tigers.

Acorn Class

On Friday, we had a visiting author in school. Andy Seed writes factual books, which are full of information about animals. He shared his books, helped us perform poems, played games and signed copies of his books for us.

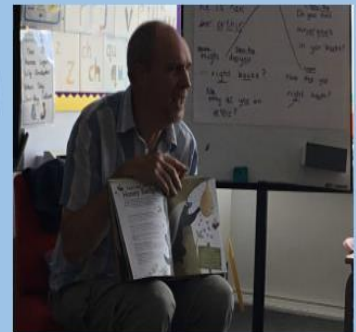
We all had a wonderful time!

I liked it when he talked about the machine that he used to talk to sharks.

I liked it when he showed us his books.

I liked it when he taught us the poem. It was funny!

Birch Class





Pride News...

Acorn

Acorn class are still thoroughly enjoying their learning about under the sea!

We have now completed our class display. We created coral reef, jellyfish, fish and starfish all on our own, using the skills Miss Simmonds has taught us (folding, cutting, printing, collage).

We have used the information book 'The Big Book of the Blue' to help us learn facts about the animals that live under the sea. We then wrote our own factual sentences about under the sea creatures.

In Maths, we have been looking at odd and even numbers and have been sharing into groups. We have learned that halving is when you are fair and share into 2 groups. During busy time, we have chosen to create our own treasure chests and telescopes. We have continued to enjoy our time in the Wild World. We have been collecting minibeads, building dens and playing in the mud kitchen. This week, we also enjoyed our first Sports Day and had an afternoon of activities in our new Year 1 classroom.

Ash

In Ash class, we have listening to the story 'The Secret Sky Garden'. We have been writing descriptive sentences about the main character. This week we have created our own main character, ready to write our own story. In Maths, we have been working hard to recognise money. We have learnt all about the coins and the notes and have been showing determination when counting amounts of money. Our adults have been impressed with our money skills! In Geography we have been learning about Gloucester and London. We have shown great teamwork to create posters about both cities. We enjoyed our author visit from Andy Seed and asked lots of great questions.

Birch

Birch Class have been very busy! Last week, we had Willow for part of the week. In English, he helped us to write letters to our new teachers. He also helped us test which magnets were the strongest in Science. In Computing, we learnt more about simulations and we explored what would happen when we clicked on different solutions. We also finished our unit on fractions and are going to recap time this week. We are also writing instructions on how to make a healthy sandwich and we will be learning how to sew in Art.

Chestnut

Today it was sports day! Chestnut have been practicing a lot and are raring to go 😊 There will also be a surprise this Friday as we have had a lot of birthdays this month and a few during the summer holidays....



Pride News...

ELM

In Elm class, we have started writing instruction texts based on, 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear'. The children are using their maps to write instructions on how Podkin can escape the Gorm and find safety. They have some very exciting ideas! In Maths, we have been converting between units of measurements. For example, what is 34.8m in centimetres? Elm class loved spending time with Andy Seed on Friday. Some of the children were able to go up and read to the audience with Andy Seed. Andy Seed taught the children a fun alphabet game which we played in class. Elm class wore clothes to swimming this week to learn how to swim in an emergency. They were very sensible and were still able to swim very well! We love watching the children's skills progress. The children have also started decorating their cushions inspired by Robert and Sonia Delaunay. We can't wait to show you the finished products next week!

OAK

This week has been very busy in Oak class. We have been writing newspaper reports, learning about algebra in Maths and practicing for the leavers assembly. We all enjoyed our last sports day on Wednesday, we took part with enthusiasm. On Wednesday we also held our mini markets. We really hope you had fun and thank you all for your support. The children worked so hard and all had something exciting to sell. We are yet to count up the total amount of money raised but we think we did make some profit!





Pride News...

Dates for Your Diary

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

We are looking forward to welcoming parents of children of Year 6 to their Leavers Assembly on Tuesday 19th July at 1.30 pm. There will be an Open Afternoon following this with a chance for parents and carers to speak to their child's class teacher. Also, at the end of day will be some stalls organised by our Friends of Willow Team! Selling raffle tickets/ tombola/ sweets/ice lollies.

Open Afternoon

For children in Acron, Ash, Birch, Chestnut and Elm there will be an open afternoon on Wednesday 20th July at 1.30 pm. This is a chance for parents and carers to speak to their child's class teacher. It would be great to meet as many of you as possible during this time.

Last Day of Term

The last day of term is Thursday 21st July 2022

Term Dates for 2022 – 2023

Term 1 from Wednesday 7th September 2022 to Thursday 20th October 2022

Term 2 from Monday 31st October 2022 to Friday 16th December 2022

Term 3 from Wednesday 4th January 2023 to Thursday 16th January 2023

Term 4 from Monday 27th February 2023 to Friday 31st April 2023

Term 5 from Tuesday 18th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023

Term 6 from Monday 5th June 2023 to Tuesday 25th July 2023



Pride News...

PRIDE AWARDS!

These children have shown what it means to be:



- ★ Be Positive
- ★ Be Respectful
- ★ Be Individual
- ★ Be Determined
- ★ Be Excellent



PRIDE Award WINNERS...

Acorn – Callum, Christopher & Toby
Ash – Remy & Kalel, Andrew & Lillie-Rose
Birch – Jazmyn, Shayla-Kay & Marianne
Chestnut – Lily, Skyla & Logan
Elm – Lilly, Olivia
Oak – Billy & Harmony

PRIDE Champions

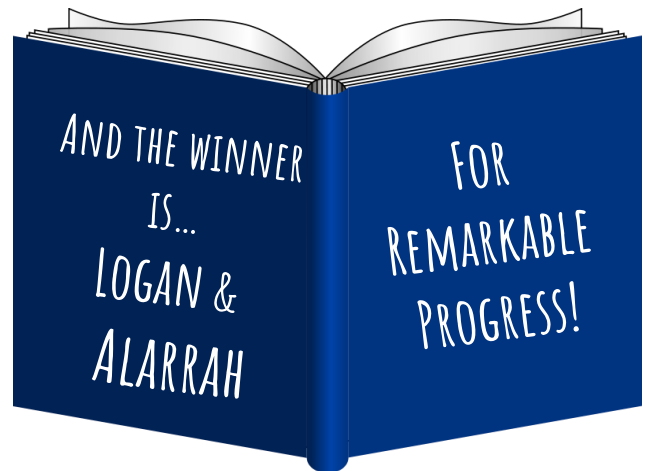
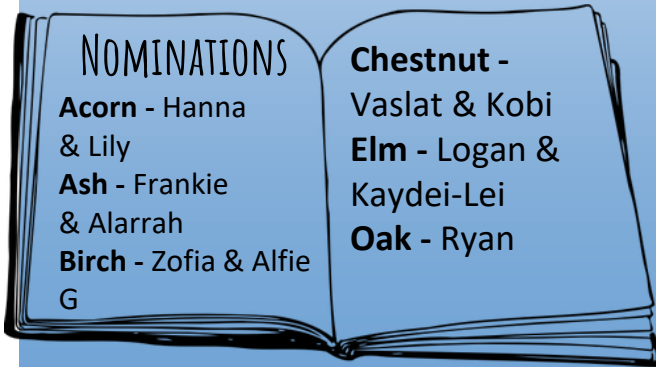
Acorn – Hanna
Birch – Anayah





STAR READER...

WILLOW'S STAR READER SPECIAL SURPRISE AWARD



Each week teachers will nominate a star reader from their class. A star reader is someone who has shown progress in reading, shown enjoyment of reading someone who has overcome difficulties in reading or shares their love of reading with the class or a friend. At Willow Primary Academy, we know the key to knowledge is reading and we want to inspire a lifelong love of reading! Willow has a special surprise book for the Super Star Reader to take home, keep, read and enjoy!



Pride News...

Attendance Superstars

This week: **89.94%**

Our year so far: **91.70%**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Class	Attendance
Acorn	90%
Ash	86.80%
Birch	91.43%
Chestnut	80.08%
Elm	99.1%
Oak	94.23%



Piper Centre

Class	Attendance
Rainbow	79.31%
Blue	100%
Green	87.50%





Pride News...

Summer Reading Challenge 2022



Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

The Summer Reading Challenge is the UK's biggest **free** reading for pleasure programme for children.

The Challenge encourages children aged 4 to 11 to **keep reading during the summer holidays.**

At the heart of the Summer Reading Challenge is a child's ability to shape their reading journey. Help us to spread the word that reading for pleasure is free and fun!

The Summer Reading Challenge combines **FREE** access to books with fun, creative activities during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading.

How the Challenge works

- The Reading Challenge starts Saturday 9th July and runs till 12th September
- Children sign up through their local library and receive a Gadgeteers collector poster.
 - If your child isn't a library member it is free and easy to join.
- Children need to visit the library 3 times and borrow at least 2 books each visit these can be fiction, non-fiction or audio and e books.
- On each visit there are a series of stickers to collect with a certificate and medal on the 3rd visit.
- The challenge is open to school age children and children starting school in September.
- The official Challenge website hosts digital rewards, author videos, games and more for children to enjoy all summer. : www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

You can find additional information and free resources to support childrens' reading for pleasure in the Summer Reading Challenge School Zone: www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/school-zone-src

By championing the Summer Reading Challenge, you will be continuing to support your child's learning during the holidays, ensuring they return ready for a great start to the new academic year.

It's FUN! It's FREE! It's LOCAL!



Pride News...

HAF and HAP are back for the summer holidays! Between the 1st and 26th August, activities will be taking place for all of those eligible for the Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF). Part of the offer has also been extended to all families through the Holiday Activities Programme (HAP).

Make sure your Children's Activity Booking System (CABS) account is ready for when bookings go live on the 11th July.

<https://bit.ly/3nd3fVN>

You may also want to follow <https://www.facebook.com/gloscityhaf/>.

Or <https://gloucestercityhaf.co.uk/>.

Phonics Class
for ages 1 - 5

Classes in Stroud and Cirencester

High energy
fun
Educational

Opening children and their parents to a world of Literacy

Phonics with **Robot Reg**

Find us:
f t i
Tel: 07712406142
aneesa@robotreg.co.uk
www.robotreg.co.uk

Monday
Randwick Village Hall, Randwick, Stroud. GL6 6HS
9.30 - 10.15am Minis Class 1-2.5 Years
10.45 - 11.30am Pre-school Class 2.5-5 Years

Tuesday
Bethel Church, Stonehouse. GL10 2JA
9.30 - 10.15am Minis Class 1-2.5 Years
10.45 - 11.30am Pre-school Class 2.5-5 Years

Wednesday
Kingsway Community Centre, Gloucester. GL2 2GT
9.30am - 10.15am Minis Class 1-2.5 Years
King's Stanley Village Hall, Stonehouse. GL10 3PN
1.30pm - 2.15pm Pre-school Class 2.5-5 Years

Thursday
Nailsworth Christ Church, New Market Road. GL6 0DQ
9.45 - 10.30am Minis Class 1-2.5 Years
10.45 - 11.30am Pre-school Class 2.5-5 Years

Friday
Slimbridge Village Hall, St Johns Road. GL2 7DF
9.30am - 10.15am Minis Class 1-2.5 Years

Phonics with **Robot Reg**