



# Pride News...

## Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 14.10.2022

Dear Parents / Carers

I have had such a great term at Willow and it really has been an amazing journey so far. The staff are working incredibly hard to continue to improve Willow Primary Academy and here are some of the things we have done so far:

- Improved communication with parents through Newsletters, Facebook and Class Dojo
- Developed an active home learning policy
- Enhanced the Positive Behaviour Policy
- Enhanced the curriculum through the implementation of a new curriculum
- Developed subject leaders and their understanding of their subjects
- Assessed the Quality of Education across the school

This is a vast amount of work that has been done in a short space of time and I am so pleased with the dedication of the staff to continue the improvement journey. It is not an easy task but something that the staff are committed to achieving. The children at Willow are also stepping up to the challenge of increased expectation both in terms of their learning and behaviour. It has seen a massive change within the school and the Quality of Education and Behaviour and Attitudes have improved.

### Parent Survey

I am interested in gathering the views of parents in an anonymous format. Here is the [link](#). Please, can you add your views by Wednesday 19th October? The results will then be shared in due course

### Wrap Around Care

Willow Primary Academy will be providing 'wrap-around' care for children at the Willow and the Piper Centre. As part of our feasibility process, we would like to survey families at the school to identify what need there is for childcare after school and during school holidays. The feasibility process will inform where the club starts up as if we don't have enough children then this will take place at Harewood Infant School. We are going to be working in partnership with VIPs Children's Club and their website can be found [here](#). To complete the survey, please click this [link](#).

### Reminder Year 6 pupils secondary school places

The closing date for secondary school applications is approaching - 31 October 2022. Please ensure who haven't yet submitted an application please do so by 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Have a great half term holiday when it arrives!

Pete Hales



# Pride News...

## Acorn

We have just started our final project for this term; Exploring Autumn. We enjoyed an Autumnal walk around the school site, collecting little treasure such as acorns, leaves and chestnuts for our Autumn tuff tray. The children have then enjoyed exploring these with magnifying glasses and have sorted the leaves, according to their shape, to the correct type of tree.

In Maths, we have been using positional language to describe the location of 'Leaf Man', which has been our focus text.

We have nearly learned all of our single letter sounds and are becoming more confident with reading short words, which contain the sounds we know.

## Birch

Wow! What a busy term we have been having! We have been thoroughly enjoying our history project this year. We have been learning about historically significant individuals. We have enjoyed learning about Christopher Columbus and cannot wait to learn more about Neil Armstrong. In art, we have been learning all about primary and secondary colours and how to paint correctly. We have been learning new skills in geography, like how to use a compass and how to use a key on a map. We have been impressing our adults with our phonics and are becoming much more fluent readers.

## Ash

This week in Ash Class, we have started thinking about writing letters. We are using our new class book "The Secret Sky Garden" to help us come up with ideas to include in our letters. We have learnt what a question mark is and have added that to what we think makes a super star sentence.

We have continued with our rainbow challenges, but the children have been challenging themselves further to go above and beyond. For example, some children have been writing sentences about our learning and others have been creating a home for Willow the Lion, using skills we have learnt when learning about shelters in DT. We have been very impressed with Ash Class's determination this week.

## Chestnut

Chestnut class have been exploring free verse poetry in English including looking at 'if cats had flavoured fur by Matt Goodfellow. In maths, we have been continue to learn about the properties of shape with a particular focus on 2D shapes. In our Gods and mortal topics, we have been learning about the daily life of an Ancient Greek, creating wings for Icuras and Daedalus and creating a top trump card for a famous Greek such as Alexander the Great or Hippocrates.



# Pride News...

## Elm

The pupils have worked very hard to complete their baseline assessments in maths, reading, spelling and English.

In addition to this, the children have been exploring healthy snacks as part of their DT lessons. They made some Fruit Kebabs which they really enjoyed eating! They are in the process of designing some packaging for their own branded snacks. In History, they have been continuing to learn about Motte and Bailey Castles from Norman Britain in preparation for our class trip on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October to Warwick Castle.

## Maple

Maple Class have been very busy this week. We have been writing our own poems based on Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen and we really enjoyed performing them. We are starting a new unit this week based on non-chronological reports and we will be writing our own on the Shang Dynasty. In French, we have been learning about school subjects and saying what we like or dislike about them. We have also learnt about time zones in Geography and have worked out the time in different countries.

## Oak

In English we have been researching 'The Amistad Mutiny' in preparation for writing newspaper articles about the event. We enjoyed using drama to remember the key parts. In Maths, we have been describing and plotting coordinates and we are now moving on to translating and reflecting shapes. We have shown positivity and excellence during this topic - Miss Flynn has been very impressed!

In Science, we created separated to blood to understand all the components of blood and we learned about the different type of blood vessels and their functions. In Art we finished painting our favourite famous landscapes. They look beautiful! We can't wait to show you our art and our performance poetry that we have been practicing for our class assembly on Monday - we hope to see you there.



# 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 – Alfie & Elijah-Jay

Ash – TJ & Ethan

Birch – Ethan & Oakley

Chestnut – Deacon, Teya, Alfie & Jacob

Elm – Summer, Alfie, Lily and Emelia

Maple – Daniel & Leah H

Oak – Kaydi-Lei & Joshua

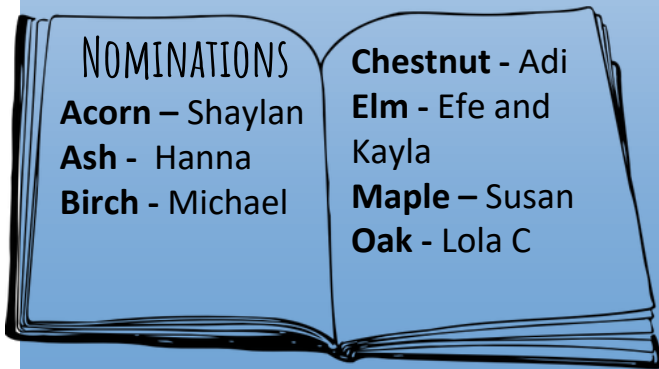
### *PRIDE Champions*





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: **93.50%**

Our year so far: **93.84%**

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



gg98860872 www.gograph.com

Class	Attendance
Acorn	96.18%
Ash	89.58%
Birch	94.44%
Chestnut	98.62%
Elm	86.59%
Maple	92.27%
Oak	96.00%



### 18 OR MORE DAYS

Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.  
 • Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



### 10 TO 17 DAYS

• Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.  
 • When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



### 9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

• Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.  
 • Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.





# Pride News...

## Dates for Your Diary

### Term Dates for 2022 – 2023

Term 1 from Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Term 2 from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Term 3 from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Term 4 from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> April 2023

Term 5 from Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Term 6 from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 to Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

### School Events

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Elm Class Trip to Warwick Castle

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Oak Class Assembly (parents of Oak Class are invited)

W/C 17<sup>th</sup> October – Year 6 bike ability training week.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Acorn Class Stay and Play Session

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Dogs Trust Day

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 – Halloween Menu

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – Bonfire Night menu

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – School photos.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Really Wild Reading Festival (more information to follow)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Maple Class Assembly (parents of Maple Class are invited)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS / KS1 Nativity (more information to follow)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Christmas Performance (more information to follow)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Christmas lunch.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Young Voices (more information to follow)

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 - Elm Class Assembly (parents of Elm Class are invited)

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 – Screening vision and Measuring height and weight of children in Reception and Year 6.

### Friends of Willow up coming events:

Film night – 20<sup>th</sup> October. KS1 3:15pm KS2 4:30pm

Christmas Fair – 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Christmas Pantomime performance – 8<sup>th</sup> December.

More information to follow.



# Pride News...

## COVID vaccines: how to access first or second doses for children aged 5-17

It isn't too late for children to access a COVID vaccination if they haven't already completed their course.

Children are eligible for:

- § First or second dose – Children aged 5 to 11 (paediatric dose Pfizer)
- § First or second doses – Children aged 12-17 (Pfizer)
- § Third primary dose – Children aged 5-11 who are severely immunocompromised (paediatric dose Pfizer – 8 weeks after second dose), anyone aged 12+ who is severely immunocompromised (Pfizer – 8 weeks after second dose)
- § Autumn booster - Children aged 5-11 who are severely immunocompromised or household contact of someone immunocompromised (paediatric dose Pfizer – at least 3 months after previous dose), anyone aged 12-17 who is severely immunocompromised or household contact of someone immunocompromised (Pfizer – at least 3 months after previous dose)

\*children aged 5-15 inclusive must wait 12 weeks after a COVID-19 infection to get a vaccination

\*\*people aged 16 or over must wait four weeks after a COVID-19 infection to get a vaccination

To access a vaccination, contact your GP Practice for advice on how to book an appointment at a local vaccination centre, use the national booking system to get an appointment at a community pharmacy or the JabVan at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital

([www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination) or call 119), or look out for drop-in clinics on the [local COVID information portal](#).

Please make sure to carefully check eligibility before taking your child to a drop-in clinic; depending on their age they may only have specific vaccines which will not always be available at every clinic.

More information about the COVID vaccines for children and young people is available [here](#).





# Pride News...

## WHERE KIDS EAT FOR LESS IN OCTOBER HALF TERM 2022

### ASDA

KIDS EAT FOR £1 EVERY DAY WITH NO ADULT SPEND NEEDED.

### MORRISONS

SPEND £4.99 AND GET ONE FREE KIDS MEAL



### BELLA ITALIA

KIDS EAT FOR £1 WITH ANY ADULT MAIN 4-6PM MON TO THURS

### HUNGRY HORSE

FREE KIDS BREAKFAST WITH ANY PAYING ADULT, 9AM TO 12PM

### TESCO CAFE

KIDS EAT FREE WITH ANY FRESH FRUIT PURCHASE BY ADULTS

### BEEFEATER

WITH EVERY ADULT BREAKFAST GET TWO KIDS BREAKFAST FREE

### TOBY CARVERY

KIDS EAT FOR £1 VIA APP FROM OCT 24-28TH

### YO! SUSHI

KID'S EAT FREE ALL DAY MON TO THURS UNTIL 29TH OCT