

Deputy Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 10.02.2023

Dear Parents / Carers

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

This week has been Mental Health Week and children across the school have been having class assemblies on this topic. This year's theme was Let's Connect. The children have completed creative activities to help them think and talk about who they feel most connected to in their lives. We have been encouraging pupils to keep talking about their feelings and to continue to check in on each other. We have highlighted the importance of making meaningful connections with others to support our mental wellbeing. We are encouraging everyone to connect with others in healthy, rewarding, and meaningful ways.

### **Safer Internet Day**

Safer Internet Day took place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. The celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

At Willow, we are celebrated by putting the children's voices at the heart of the day and encouraged them to shape the online safety support that they receive. All the pupils completed an online safety questionnaire which will be helping us inform activities and lessons we offer in school in the future. We would like to take this opportunity to ask you to take time to listen to your children about the things they do online and make positive change together.

### **Dress to Express Day**

Today we asked the staff and pupils to show their support for Children's Mental Health Week by coming to school in non-uniform. Everyone was encouraged to 'Dress to Express' themselves by wearing something colourful and bright. We raised £140 for the Place2Be charity, who provide mental health services for children and young people.









Thank you for your ongoing support with all we do,
Team Willow



### Acorn

This week, we have started out new project, 'Safari Animals'. We have started to group animals into mammals, birds and reptiles. We have learned that reptiles have dry, scaly skin and they lay eggs. Birds have feathers, a beak and lay eggs. Mammals do not lay eggs. In Maths, we have been learning about the numbers 9 and 10 and have been representing them in lots of different ways.

In phonics, we have all started reading sentences using our Fred Talk! Miss Simmonds has been amazed by how focused we have been!

We have also been enjoying daily outdoor sessions and have started riding bikes!

Well done Acorn!

### Ash

In Maths we have been learning about measure. The children have learnt strategies to measure items with our finger tips and blocks. We have learnt the new vocabulary including compare, tall, long and short. We use our suffixes –er and –est to add to our explanations.

We have also been learning about famous London landmarks. The children have been able to identify different places through aerial photographs and google earth. and discuss what is important about London. We are looking forwards to progressing our learning in this topic and finding out more about our capital.

### Birch

In Birch class, we have been completing lots of art activities. We have been learning all about flowers this term. This week we have been focusing on shape, form and texture. We loved using the clay and being creative.

As it is Mental Health week, we have been thinking about how our actions can affect other people. We have set up a kindness jar to share all the kind things that we notice in our classroom. At the end of each day, we share the kindness vouchers and put them on our new kindness wall.

In English, we have been writing persuasive letters to Mr Hales to persuade him to make changes to help the environment.

### Chestnut

This week in Chestnut class we have been working really hard to understand how to subtract using column subtraction.. The adults are so proud of our determination. We have also been learning about setting descriptions based on the story 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. In our lessons we have been exploring the features as well as mind-mapping powerful adjectives we could use in our writing.



### Elm

It has been lovely to see the children in Elm Class making so much progress with their swimming over the last few weeks. The initial nerves seem to have passed and they are always keen to get in and learn new skills. All children are now swimming unassisted.

In Maths, we have now begun multiplying 2-digit numbers by a 1-digit number using a formal written method and the children seem to be picking it up quickly.

The children have been publishing their newspaper articles in English. These were based around the book, The Barnabus Project, and spread the news about the escaped animals running free around the local community.

In Science, the pupils are researching renewable energy, such as solar and wind power and will be writing information texts about these next week.

### Maple

This week in Maple Class we have been learning about congruent shapes and translating shapes. We have also looked at some discussion texts and identified the features of them. In Science, we have been carrying out some observations and learning more the juvenile stage. We are also really look forward to going on our trip to the Knife Angel this week!

### Oak

This week in Oak class we have been learning how to multiply simple fractions and divide proper fractions by whole numbers. We have showed excellence in these areas extremely quickly. We have also been writing about setting descriptions based on the short film, Francis. Miss Flynn is so impressed with the progress in our writing this week!



# PRIDE AWARDS!

These children have shown what it means to be:

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



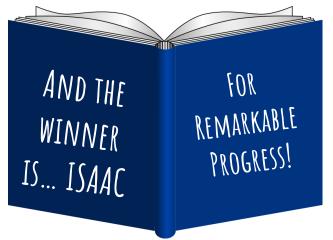








STAR READER...



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!



Attendance Superstars

This week: 92.11%

Our year so far: 93.00%

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Class	Attendance
Acorn`	94.32%
Ash	92.45%
Birch	94.12%
Chestnut	91.91%
Elm	89.44%
Maple	84.49%
Oak	97.33%









# 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**

Friday 10th February – Year 5 and Year 6 Class Trip

**Monday 13th February 2023** – Parents Evening - please book appointments with class teacher

\*There will be no after school clubs on Monday due to Parents evening, please collect at 3:00pm

Tuesday 14th February 2023 – Parents Evening - please book appointments with class teacher

\*There will be no after school clubs on Tuesday due to Parents evening, please collect at 3:00pm Friday 17th February 2023 – INSET Day

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

Monday 17th April - INSET Day

May 2023 - start of Key Stage 1 SAT's

Tuesday 9th May – start of Key Stage 2 SAT's week

Monday 22nd May to Wednesday 24th May - Year 6 Residential

Thursday 25th May – Year 6 Trip to Skillzone

Friday 26th May – Year 5 Trip to Skillzone

Monday 5th June – start of Year 4 multiplication tests

**Monday 12th June** – start of phonics screening check

Monday 3rd July – start of Willow Primary Academy Careers Week







Willow Primary Academy are looking to hold an inspiring and exciting careers week from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023. They will be taking part in workshops, activities and talks around their future throughout the week.

We are looking for a variety of people interested in talking to our pupils about their career. We want to expand children's horizons, and this is a fantastic way to provide them with first-hand knowledge of potential career opportunities.

Working with you, we would determine which year groups would be best for you to work with and whether you could offer a talk or a workshop.

We would anticipate that talks would last for approximately 30 minutes and would involve a short presentation. Workshops would be more practical hands-on demonstration for pupils and would last around about an hour. We could also bring pupils to a place of work to further enhance their experience.

If this is of interest to you, please don't hesitate to contact me. Alternatively, if you know of anybody who may be interested, then please pass on the information







## PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2023



COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL

#### ASDA CAFE

Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend until the end of March 2023

#### HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays. Then Tuesday to Friday between 3 – 5pm selected Kids' meals are £1.8 larger meals are £1.50.

### PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

### WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

### ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

One free children's meal per paid adult meal 12-5pm daily throughout the holidays

### TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### THE REAL GREEK

Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

### SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

### BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

#### MORRISONS

Spend £4.99 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.

#### PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto during Half Terms

### BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

### YO! SUSHI

From February half term, kids eat free all day at YO! Sushi with any adult £10 spend

### SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

### FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

#### IKEA

Kids get a meal for 95p or £1.50 from 11am - All day, every day.

### FARMHOUSE INNS

Kids eat for £1 is currently on until Jan 31st but expected to be extended

### TESCO CAFES

Likely but not yet announced

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