



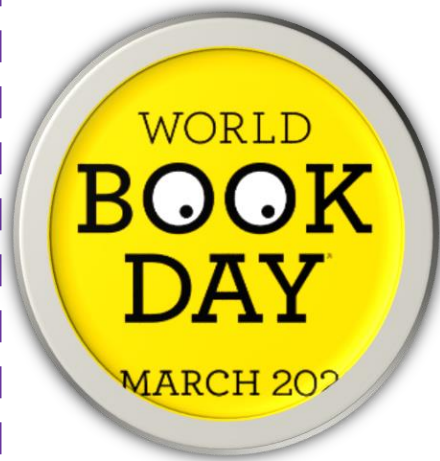
# Pride News...

## Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 03.03.23

### Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to school everyone. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back into school this week, ready to start a new term with bright eyes and bushy tails!



Reading is such an important skill as it unlocks the rest of the curriculum! Barack Obama said, '*Reading is the gateway skill that makes all other learning possible.*' At Willow Primary, we believe that reading is the gateway to all learning and are passionate about ensuring all children become confident and enthusiastic readers. We value reading as a key life skill, one that lays the foundations for lifelong learning.

### Events

Over the last week for World Book Day, we have been developing our passion for reading by taking part in several events. These have included a visit to the library, story time with families and working with Matt Abbott, a visiting author.

We can't wait to hear the final outcome of the work with Matt, and we will be looking at a way of presenting this back to the whole school community

### Football Club

Due to the school team having a football match on Monday next week, football club will run from 3.00pm to 3.30pm for anyone that is not playing in the match. Please be on time to pick up your child.

Have a great weekend!

Pete Hales



# Pride News...

## Acorn

Acorn have had a wonderful first week back and have come back to school eager to please! We have absolutely LOVED playing in our new sand pit! We have also enjoyed playing football in the our larger outdoor area, where we also made up other ball games with our friends.

In Maths, we have been recognising, ordering and writing numbers to 10.

On Thursday, we enjoyed our first school trip out on a coach. We visited Tuffley library for World Book Day, dressed in our pyjamas! We enjoyed looking at books and took part in a treasure hunt! We listened beautifully to some storytelling and then enjoyed some more stories with our grown ups, back at school.

## Ash

Ash class have had a great week. We loved being able to come into school in our pyjamas for World Book Day! The children enjoyed their trip to Tuffley Library with Acorn class. We listened to some stories and got to choose a book to bring back to school.

We welcomed our parents into our class for a 'Bed Time Stories' session to show our love of reading. The children enjoyed sharing stories with their adults and had a chocolatey treat!

We have been learning about directional language. The children directed their friends through London instructing them on where to go and how to get there. They used great vocabulary!

## Birch

We have had a great first week of term! We started our week with Ash class watching an online reading event with Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. He spoke to us about how he creates his illustrations and we listened to Julia

Donaldson read one of her stories. On Thursday we went for our trip to Tuffley Library. Our adults were very impressed with our listening and behaviour whilst we were there. We loved choosing a book each to bring back to school. In the afternoon, some of our parents joined us for 'bedtime stories'. We drank hot chocolate and ate biscuits whilst we listened to different stories. As a class, we loved playing with some of the new playground games!

## Chestnut

Chestnut class have been very excitable for their first week back at school. We have been learning about the north and south poles on a magnet in science. The children were fascinated to discover how they repel and attract against each other. In maths we have started our multiplication and division unit and in English we are writing shapes poems based on nature. In outdoor learning this week, the children went on a scavenger hunt and dissected owl pallets; to their amazement they found lots of tiny vole and mice bones. For world book day the children thoroughly enjoyed going to the library, choosing a book to loan and spending time reading with their parents.



# Pride News...

## Elm

Elm class have started their exciting Egyptian topic. We had a wonderful launch day on Tuesday where we wrote in hieroglyphics, we played 2 different board games that the Egyptians played and we tried to create an Egyptian city. The class continued their swimming lessons this week. The class have made so much progress over the past few weeks and we are very proud.

In English, we have started a new text, Castles. We are using our knowledge and experience at Warwick Castle from last term to help us with the book.

## Maple

Maple Class have been doing lots of activities linked to reading this week. At the start of the week, we visited the library and had great fun choosing our own library book. On World Book Day, we heard for an author, Helen Rutter. She told us about her new book 'The Funniest Boy in the World'. Some of our parents also visited us in the afternoon and shared some stories with us. In English, we have started reading our new story - 'Leon and the Place Between'.

We are looking forward to writing our own stories about a place between soon. In Maths, we have been learning how to compare and order fractions. This has been tricky, but we have stayed positive and determined!

## Oak

Oak class have had a wonderful first week back at school. We started the week off with a trip to the library; the children were able to choose their own books to take back to school. We attended a 'writing comedy' workshop with Helen Rutter which we really enjoyed – we can't wait to read her new book, 'the funniest boy in the world'.

We enjoyed our 'bedtime' stories session on world book day which some of our parents were able to join us for. We ended the week by writing a poem with poet, Matt Abbott.



# 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** – Casey-Joe and Kyrell

**Ash** – Tj and Logan

**Birch** – Elijah

**Chestnut** – Eliana and Cameron

**Elm** – Megan and Alfie

**Maple** – Ethan and Leah

**Oak** – Sam and Nicola

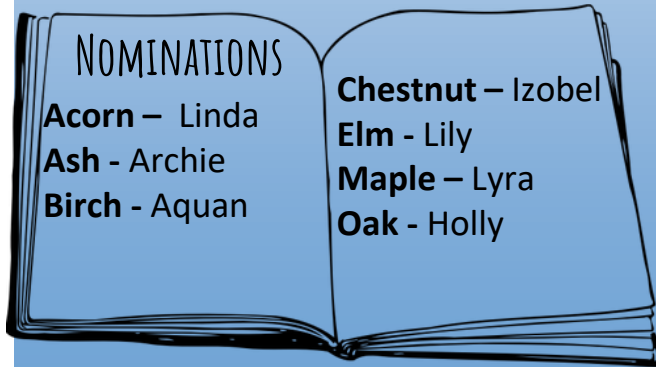
### PRIDE Champions

Lavinia





## WILLOW'S STAR READER SPECIAL SURPRISE AWARD



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!





# Pride News...

## Attendance Superstars

This week: **93.67%**

Our year so far: **93.83%**

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



gg98860872 www.gograph.com

Class	Attendance
Acorn`	94.89%
Ash	95.24%
Birch	95.02%
Chestnut	95.79%
Elm	80.12%
Maple	93.78%
Oak	98.26%





# Pride News...

## Dates for Your Diary

### Term Dates for 2022 – 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

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

**Monday 6th March** – football match v Norton (home)

**Thursday 9th March** – football match v Harewood (away)

**Friday 10th March 2023** – Heart Heroes (wear red day)

**Friday 17th March 2023** – Comic Relief

**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

### Friends of Willow

**Tuesday 7th March 2023** – Friends of Willow Meeting





# Pride News...



A couple of weeks ago, our pupils took part in National Storytelling Week, where each class learned a story off by heart using story maps and actions. At the end of the week, each year group retold them to their peers in other classes. To celebrate this event further, we ran a sponsored read event, where we challenged pupils to read more than usual during the week and to get sponsored for doing so. I am thrilled to tell you that our children have raised a fantastic **£501!** Our sponsored read partners, Usborne books have agreed to give us an additional 30% of book for free, which means we now have **£651.30 to spend on new books for our library!**

In today's assembly the following pupils received a golden coin for either reading the most during the week or for raising the most money in their class. The winners who choose a book from the vending machine are:

Acorn class – Frances  
Ash class – Logan  
Birch class – Andrew  
Chestnut class – Zofia  
Elm class – Summer  
Maple class – Davian  
Oak class - Reuben

Well done and thank  
you to everyone who  
took part!







# Pride News...



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

