

### Date - Issue 21.04.2023

Dear Parents / Carers

### **School Improvement Visit**

On Thursday of this week, we had a school improvement visit and we looked in depth at the History curriculum that is on offer at Willow Primary Academy. This included observing teaching, looking at children's books and talking to some children across school. The main findings were as follows:

- Teachers' subject knowledge is strong, and strengthened by the
  Cornerstones curriculum
- Progression is clear within books, and across the school

This is really pleasing, and I am certainly beginning to see the strengths in the curriculum coming to light and we are really pleased with the progress that we have made.

### Attendance

We are moving into an important time of year and children will be undertaking statutory assessments. It is vital that children are at school. We have assessments for Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 and the better attendance that children have the more likely they are to achieve well. As part of this it is vital that children are punctual to school.

### Home Learning

Following consultation with parents last term we have made some changes to our Home Learning offer. We will be trailing this for the remainder of the term to see if it has greater impact on pupil progress. Any feedback on the new arrangements would be appreciated.

We are looking forward to a very exciting term at Willow Primary Academy and we hope that you can continue this journey with us!

Pete Hales



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 – Cody and Frances Ash – Theo Birch – Sophia and Kye Chestnut – Obidullah, Adi and Cameron Elm - Lily and Emelia Maple – Lola and Willow Oak – Lilly-Belle, Sarah and Cody

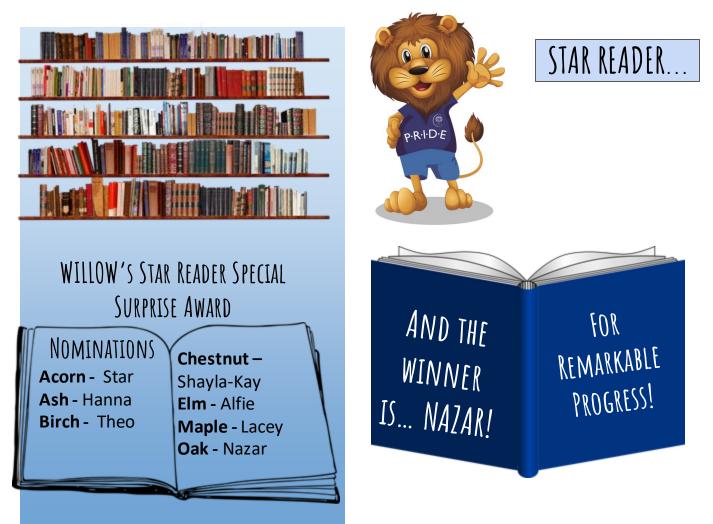
**PRIDE** Champions

Callum - Ash

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P·R·I·D·E





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: 92.4% Our year so far: 93.13%

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ATTENDANCE

Equates to:	100%	PERFECTI
4 SCHOOL DAYS	98%	
7 SCHOOL DAYS states per	96%	>>> GOOD
9 SCHOOL CARS	95%	NEARLY THERE
11 SCHOOL DAYS	94%	NEEDS TO IMPROVE
20 SCHOOL DAYS	90%	CONCERN present is Linear to refere 1 Territori class
30 SCHOOL	85%	

### Reminder

Gates are open by 8.45am and close shortly after. Please ensure your child is on time and ready to learn.

If your child arrives late you need to take them to reception and you as the parent must sign them in on the screen. Thank you for your cooperation

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Class	Attendance
Acorn	90%
Ash	92.6%
Birch	95.7%
Chestnut	92.2%
Elm	89.6%
Maple	96.7%
Oak	95.6%





### Reading at Willow

Well done to the children who completed the Easter reading challenge! These children received a certificate in our assembly today:

Eliora – Acorn Nimah – Ash Zofia - Chestnut Emelia – Elm Efe – Elm Chelsea – Elm Lacey – Maple Vaslat – Maple Isaiah - Maple Cain - Maple Nicholas – Green Kayshon - Green



We also had our first 'Reading Rocks' assembly this week. Our author for the term in Early Years/Key Stage One is Oliver Jeffers and in Key Stage Two, it is Malorie Blackman. Yesterday, we learned some facts about their lives and discovered why they are successful writers. We then we listened to a story, or an extract written by them. Each assembly will focus on a different text written by these authors, and we will then discuss our likes/dislikes, what we learned about the story, along with much more. Hopefully, we will have lots of children who will want to go and read some more texts written by these authors!







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## Pride News

Dear Parent/Guardian,

#### NEW HOME LEARNING INFORMATION

We are excited to let you know that we are now moving to an online home learning platform called **Doodle.** This will replace the use of homework books that we currently have in place. We feel this approach will better engage the pupils in their homework tasks, reduce the number of pupils misplacing their homework and better prepare them for the expectations when moving through Key Stage 2 and onto Secondary school.

All pupils have already logged onto the Doodle apps in school and have completed baseline assessments, so they are already familiar with the format and use of Doodle. They are always very excited to login and complete the activities. We have included their individual log in details along with this letter so that they can now continue to log in and complete tasks at home. Using **Doodle for just 10 minutes per day** is proven to help children make more rapid progress.

As your child completes tasks, they earn stars. These stars will result in prizes back in school, so the more they earn, the more they win!

#### How to get started

1. Download all of the Doodle apps (DoodleMaths, DoodleTables, DoodleEnglish and DoodleSpell) onto an Apple, Android or Amazon device. You can also log in to the Doodle programmes through the website (doodlelearning.com) on laptops and desktops by clicking 'log in' and choosing a programme.

2. Use the username and password provided by your child's teacher to login. You can use the same login details to access all four Doodle programmes.

3. For further support, watch the following video: <a href="https://vimeo.com/506143677">https://vimeo.com/506143677</a>

#### Support for parents and carers

• If you wish to view your child's progress then you will need to link your email address to your child's account by logging in, tapping on the arrowicon in the top left-hand corner and selecting Settings > Parent details. Or, visit parents.doodlelearning.com and head to Manage > Subscriptions.

 You'll then be able to view your child's progress by visiting parents.doodlelearning.com or downloading the free DoodleConnect app on Apple and Android devices.

Every Friday, teachers will provide an additional homework task linking to the broader curriculum on Class Dojo. The expectations and deadlines for these will be set by the teacher, so please keep an eye out for these each week.

If you have any questions about this then please ask your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Willow Team







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





## 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> March 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**

May 2023 - start of Key Stage 1 SAT's

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Bank Holiday, King's Coronation

Tuesday 9th May 2023 – start of Key Stage 2 SAT's week

Monday 22nd May to Wednesday 24th May 2023 – Year 6 Residential

Thursday 25th May 2023 – Year 6 Trip to Skillzone

Friday 26th May 2023 - Year 5 Trip to Skillzone

Monday 5th June 2023 – start of Year 4 multiplication tests

Monday 12th June 2023 – start of phonics screening check

Monday 3rd July 2023 - start of Willow Primary Academy Careers Week

