



# Pride News...

## Headteacher's Message...

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 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** – 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

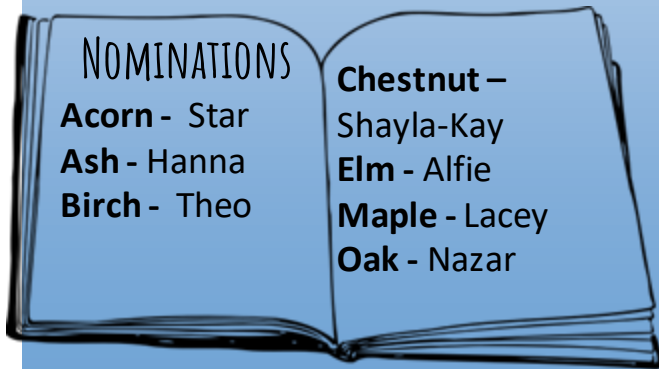
### PRIDE Champions

Callum - Ash





## 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: **92.4%**  
Our year so far: **93.13%**

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



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



## 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





# Pride News...

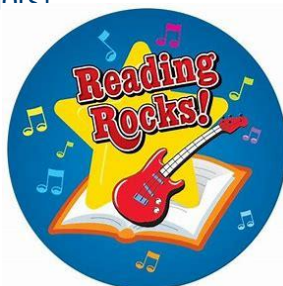
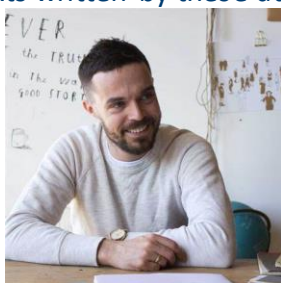
## Reading at Willow

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!







# Pride News...

| Taking PRIDE in all we do |

Willow Primary Academy



Is your snack healthy?

It could be:

- Fresh fruit
- Dried fruit
- Vegetables
- Crackers
- Bread sticks
- Low fat cereal bars



We are part of the  
**SAND**  
community



| Taking PRIDE in all we do |

Willow Primary Academy



Is your lunch box healthy?

It should contain:

- One portion of fruit or vegetables
- A source of protein (e.g., meat, fish, lentils, beans)
- Some starchy food (e.g., bread, pasta, crackers)
- Dairy food (e.g., cheese or yoghurt)
- A drink (e.g., water, sugar free squash or fruit juice)



We are part of the  
**SAND**  
community



| Positivity Respect | Individuality | Determination | Excellence |

[willow.sandmat.uk](http://willow.sandmat.uk)





# 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







# 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> 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 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023** – start of Key Stage 2 SAT's week

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023** – Year 6 Residential

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023** – Year 6 Trip to Skillzone

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023** – Year 5 Trip to Skillzone

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023** – start of Year 4 multiplication tests

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023** – start of phonics screening check

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023** – start of Willow Primary Academy Careers Week

