



# Pride News...

## Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 12.05.23

Dear Parents and Carers

We have crammed so much into a shortened week following the additional Bank Holiday on Monday.

### **Coronation Celebration**

Thank you to all of the parents that supported our Coronation Celebration. It was great to welcome so many people to Willow!

### **Year 6 SAT's**

A huge congratulations to Year 6 for their efforts in their SAT's tests this week. They have tried so hard to do their absolute best. The SAT's do not assess all of what makes each of them special and unique. The people who create these tests and score them do not know each of them the way that we do and certainly not in the way your families do. The levels you will get from this test will tell you something, but they will not tell you everything.

### **Football Tournament**

The boys played really well and kept going in the Tournament. They were the youngest team. We lost the first four games but then put on a great performance to win 4-0. We had a strong final game drawing 0-0. There were some amazing individual performances. Well done Team Willow!!



### **Attendance**

I have included an table later in the newsletter comparing attendance to other national data. It is really pleasing to see positive attendance is having at Willow. Please keep it up for the rest of the academic year!

### **Parking**

Just a polite reminder that parents need to be careful where they park around school. Please be mindful of others and access to their properties so that our neighbours continue to be happy.

### **Upcoming Events**

There are lots of events upcoming. These are on the newsletter and on Class Dojo. It would be great to have parents involved.

Have a great weekend, Pete



# Pride News...

## Acorn

In Acorn class this week, we have been looking at the story 'Clean up' by Nathan Bryon, which takes place in Jamaica. It tells the story of how plastic is destroying our beautiful oceans and how animals such as the humpback whale, turtles, sharks and tropical fish are all being put in danger. We

learned about why it is important to recycle and we also looked at the globe to locate Jamaica. We learned that it is an island and it is near the equator, so it is very hot there!

In Maths last week, we learned about doubling and this week we are learning about sharing quantities fairly into groups.

We are enjoying writing in our books!

## Birch

In Birch class, we have been learning about animal survival and their habitats. This week, we learnt about microhabitats. Then we went outside to the pond to observe a microhabitat. We looked at the different animals that live there and what the pond provides for them.

We have been impressing our adults with our writing recently. We have written some great letters of advice to our book character Tad. This week we have written our own narratives! They are amazing!

This week we started our KS1 SATs papers. Our adults were very impressed with our determination!

## Ash

In Ash class, we have been learning about plants. We have learnt to label the key parts and been discussing whether their plant grows from a seed or a bulb and how they might identify this. We have been enjoying getting outside and doing lots of hands-on learning.

Our adults have been very impressed with our independence this week. In maths, we have been adding and subtracting bridging 10. A lot of us have been doing this mentally without any adult support and even completing extra challenges when we are finished.

## Chestnut

In Chestnut class, we have been learning about the daily lives of Ancient Romans. The children worked in groups to create a poster about two areas of roman life such as homes, school, army, jobs and slaves.

In English we have been preparing to write our own narrative based on the story 'Jim and the beanstalk' by Raymond Briggs. The adults have been very impressed with our creativity.

In maths we have started our unit on time, we have learnt about roman numerals and how many days in each month.



# Pride News...

## Elm

Since coming back after the Easter holidays we have been continuing to prepare for our times tables check at the beginning of June. The children are really enjoying playing quiz, quiz, share with the tables facts and this is helping them to remember more. Please continue to support your children with learning their times tables at home as the national check is now less than a month away!!

In English, we have been reading A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare in order to write the story from one of the character's viewpoints. We have been really impressed by how well they have understood the confusing love story and how well they can empathise with the characters.

## Maple

Maple Class have been writing diiamente and free verse poems based on the Tin Forest this week. We have been trying to include lots of figurative language including personification, hyperboles, similes and metaphors.

We have been continuing our work on architecture in DT. We looked specifically at Greek architecture this week and the different features temples and building have.

## Oak

This week in Oak Class, we have completed our SATS tests. We were determined, positive and focused during every single test. Lots of the teachers at Willow said how fantastic their attitude towards SATS was – well done Oak Class.

We also celebrated the king's coronation; we performed a coronation dance at a care home and invited parents in for a coronation picnic – thank you to everybody who came along. We have also been practicing more abstract art (this week we focused on shape).



# 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** – Shaylan and Star

**Ash** – Demitri and TJ

**Birch** – Bonnie and Amy-Rose

**Chestnut** – Eliza and Finley

**Elm** – Violet and Winter

**Maple** – Leah and Suzzie

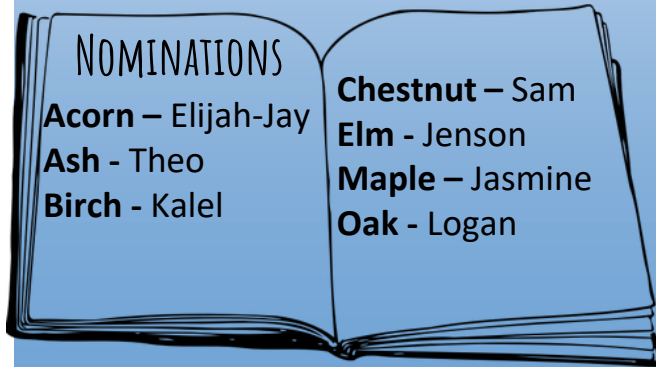
**Oak** – Olivia and Leah

### PRIDE Champions





## 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!



## THIS WEEK'S CLASS TOP DOODLERS ARE:

ASH – LILY, HANNA AND CALLUM  
BIRCH – HALEEMA, THEODORE, JOSHUA  
CHESTNUT – LACEY-MAI, ADI AND  
ELIANA  
ELM – EFE, DELROY, SUMMER  
MAPLE – LYRA, VASLAT AND WILLOW  
OAK – LILLIE-MAI, HOLLY, KAYDI



Each week teachers will monitor the activity on Doodle of the children in their class. They will look at the combined number of stars children have earned for all four of the Doodle apps.

Each week the top 3 Doodlers from each class will receive 10 extra PRIDE points to spend in the PRIDE shop.

Keep up the effort with the home learning.

**HAPPY DOODLING!!!**





# Pride News...

## Attendance Superstars

**This week: 95.41%**

**Our year so far: 93.85%**

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Class	Attendance
Acorn`	93.92%
Ash	97.94%
Birch	93.90%
Chestnut	96.10%
Elm	95.28%
Maple	93.41%
Oak	97.80%



## REMINDER

**Gates are open by 8.45am  
gates are closed shortly after.**  
Please make sure your children are in school for 8.45am if the gates are closed and you have to access school at Reception please sign in on the sign in pad this will then be classed as late.





# Pride News...

DfE		Willow Primary Academy	
Pupil Attendance in Schools			
Overall absence rate	7.6%	Overall absence rate	7.4%
Authorised absence rate	5.3%	Authorised absence rate	4.7%
Unauthorised absence rate	2.4%	Unauthorised absence rate	2.0%
Persistent absence rate	22.5%	Persistent absence rate	19.0%







# Pride News...

[ Taking PRIDE in all we do ]



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)



Willow Primary Academy

We are part of the  
**SAND**  
SCHOOL MAT



[ Taking PRIDE in all we do ]



Is your snack healthy?

It could be:

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



Willow Primary Academy

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**SAND**  
SCHOOL MAT





# 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...



## Wheels for All

### Cycling for everyone in the heart of Gloucestershire

Gloucester Athletics Club, End of Poplar close (off Podmead road), Gloucester, GL1 5TX



£5 per participant  
Carers ride free  
Helmets provided

Every  
Tuesday and  
Thursday  
10am-2pm



SCAN ME

Wheels for All is bringing cycling for all ages and abilities to the Gloucestershire. Come down and ride our range of adapted cycles in a fun, safe environment with trained staff and volunteers to support you. Find us at Gloucester Athletics Track.

For more information, get in touch:  
E: [paul.shaftoe@wheelsforall.org.uk](mailto:paul.shaftoe@wheelsforall.org.uk)  
f @Wheelsforallcharity  
@WfACharity  
M: 07825 639054

Interested in volunteering with  
Wheels for All? Scan here for  
more information!

Wheels for All is the operating name of Cycling Projects, a registered Charity  
No.1003309 | Company limited by guarantee Reg. No. 2618968 | VAT No. 673 668294







# Pride News...

## Dates for Your Diary

### Term Dates for 2022 – 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

### Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

Term 1 from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Term 2 from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Term 3 from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Term 4 from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

### School Events

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

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023** – Birch Class Assembly

**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 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023** – Ash Class Assembly

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023** – Acorn Class Assembly

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

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (afternoon)** – Willow Primary Academy Sports Day

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (afternoon)** – Year 6 Leavers Play

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 (morning)** – Year 6 Leavers Play

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023** – Willow Primary Academy Open Afternoon

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023** – Friends of Willow Fun Day

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (afternoon)** – Year 6 Leavers Assembly

