



Pride News...

Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 26.05.23

Dear Parents / Carers

We come to the end of another half term, and we have had such a great week in school. There has been so much happening and we certainly have been able to enjoy the sunshine!

The Wilderness Centre

Oak Class have been on a three-day residential this week to The Wilderness Centre in the Forest of Dean. The children had such a great time and engaged so well in all the activities on offer. The children demonstrated all the PRIDE values and were a credit to the school.



Key Stage 1 SAT's

Year 2 completed their SATs this week. Well done, to all the children for approaching them with a positive attitude and trying their best. Your teachers were proud of you.

Pied Piper Pyjama Day

It was great to support the Pied Piper Appeal by having a pyjama day at Willow and The Piper Centre today. We are delighted to share that we raised a fantastic £80!

Applications for Free School Meals

If your child is currently in **Year 2** you may need to apply for free school meals now to qualify for September, when your son or daughter will no longer qualify for free infant school meals as they will be in year 3 (KS2). To apply please follow this link:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Should you need any help at all please contact the school office and we can help you with your application.

Have a great half term break and I hope the sunshine continues. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 5th June 2023.

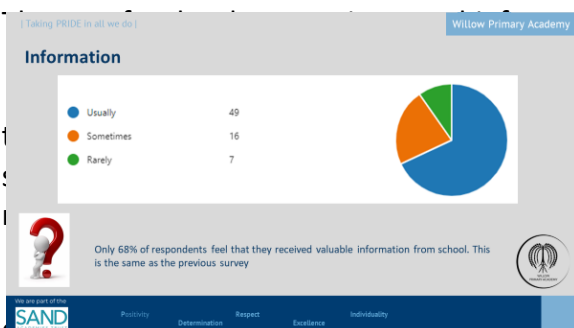
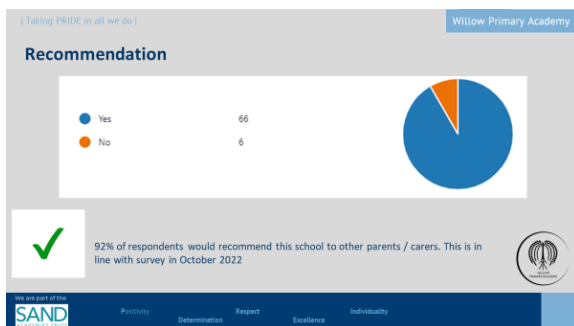
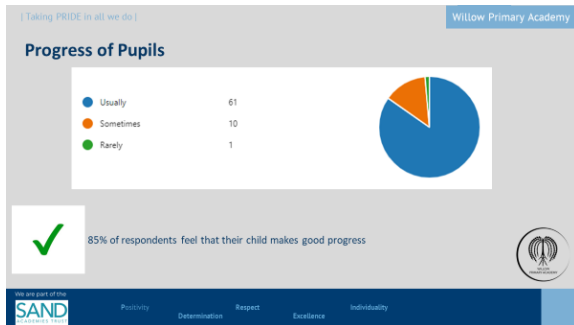
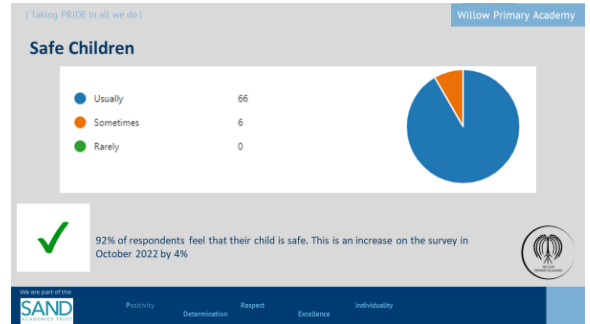
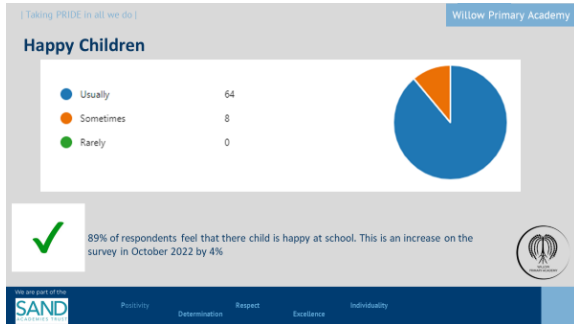
Pete Hales



Pride News...

Parent Survey

We had 72 parents respond to the recent survey. Here are the areas of strength of the school:



tion received from school:

A further survey will be sent out after half term help leaders understand how we can better you with the information that you

Some of the parental comments received are the next page!



Pride News...

Parent Survey

| Taking PRIDE in all we do |

Willow Primary Academy

Comments

Since my daughter left her old school and started 2 months ago at Willow! She's a completely changed child! I am amazed on how good Willow Primary is, the communication is great! They act fast with your concerns, it's just such a lovely welcoming school!

I've seen massive changes with the school, the children are a lot calmer and seem more focused.

School is thriving and make you feel included. Like an extended family. Couldn't ask for better. We have been very impressed and happy with absolutely everything this school offers our child. Thankyou

Really seen some wonderful improvements in school children seem a lot engaged and calmer, keep doing what your doing

Since my son started at Willow, I have seen such a positive change in him. The relationships he quickly developed with adults and other pupils has enabled him to rebuild his confidence and he is now thriving. He absolutely loves coming to school and this is down to the nurturing, inclusive nature of Willow.

My child loves the school his class and the teachers are good

Amazing school my girls have become amazing young independent children. Thank you

Fantastic school and lovely staff. My child has really excelled since attending. Keep up the good work!

Brilliant school piper centre have helped Kayshon loads.



We are part of the



Positivity

Determination

Respect

Excellence

Individuality

Thank you for your
continued support in
making Willow and The
Piper Centre a great place
to be!





Pride News...

Acorn

We have enjoyed continuing with our story 'The Gingerbread Man' in Acorn class. We have role played the story using puppets on our new stage and have remembered the story sequence well. We have made our own ginger playdough and have LOVED playing with it! It smells delicious! We have also done a little experiment to see why the Gingerbread Man couldn't swim across the river and have made yummy gingerbread to eat!

In Maths, we have been recapping our learning on number pairs to 10 and doubles.

We have some new toys in our outdoor area, which we are enjoying during Busy Time and we had great fun on our trip to Cattle Country, which we have been eager to write about!

Ash

Our English has been centred around the short film 'Caterpillar Shoes'. The children have been collecting facts to write a fact file all about Caterpillars and really blew the adults away with their writing.

As we are nearing our phonics screening check, the children have been doing extra phonics practice in the afternoons. They have been very engaged, and all children join in to see who will win our final challenge and spot our focus sound the quickest!

We have begun our learning about the Victorians and could even explain why life was different and how it has changed.

Birch

In Birch, we have had a very busy week! In art we have been learning about portraits. We have looked at different portraits of monarchs and had a go at sketching some. Then last week we used our own portrait to create a regal portrait. It was quite tricky, but we persevered and created some great portraits of ourselves as Kings and Queens!

This week, we performed our class assembly.

We were a little bit nervous but we all did a great job! Our adults were very proud of us! Year 2 have worked very hard this term with their Key Stage One SATs! Miss Aston and our adults have been very proud of our determination and hard work! Well done Birch class!

Chestnut

We have thoroughly enjoyed our current English unit in Chestnut watching the clip 'dram giver'. The children have been working hard to write both character and setting descriptions as well as writing a fantasy narrative and predicting what will happen next. We cannot wait to see how the clip ends.

In art we are preparing our final art pieces based on sketching our favourite fruit making sure we take our time to add lots of detail.



Pride News...

Elm

This week Elm Class have really enjoyed performing poems in English. They have been practising changing their pace and volume, as well as experimenting with sound effects and actions. In Maths, they have been finding the perimeter and area of different 2D shapes. There were some excellent pieces of work in their sketch books based on the work of designer, William Morris. The children were copying the features they liked from his designs and are already thinking about how they would design their own fabric styles. Elm Class also had their second session of Commando Joe's where they had to design and build an Egyptian monument that was worthy of the Gods. All the designs were completely different and children thought hard about their reasons behind them.

Maple

This week Maple Class have really enjoyed watching our new film clip 'Road's End' in English. We have written some great character descriptions, as well as making inferences about how the characters feel and using emotive language. In Maths, we have been converting units of time – days to weeks, seconds to minutes and minutes to hours. Maple Class have also enjoyed learning about Tudor punishments in History and reading new texts in our Reading Rocks lessons. We especially liked the Percy Jackson extracts and can't wait to get them for our new book corner.

Oak

This week most of Oak Class have been away on residential. We all had fun, faced fears and bonded as a class. We participated in many activities: woodland walk, tasting wild food/flowers, making fire, egg drop, low ropes, air rifles, tunnels, team building, meadow sweep, toasting marshmallows on a camp fire, tree climb and crate stack.

We enjoyed a trip to SkillZONE; we learned how to act safely in situations such as getting a train and swimming in open water.

We also went to our local library to exchange our books again. We were challenged by the librarian to choose a book we want to read and then close our eyes to choose a second book which we wouldn't normally pick. She also read a range of poems to us.



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 – Lacie-Mae and Eliora

Ash – Lily and Callum

Birch – Aquan and Mason

Chestnut – Dylan and Athena

Elm – Kacper and Brian

Maple – Archie and Shia-Rae

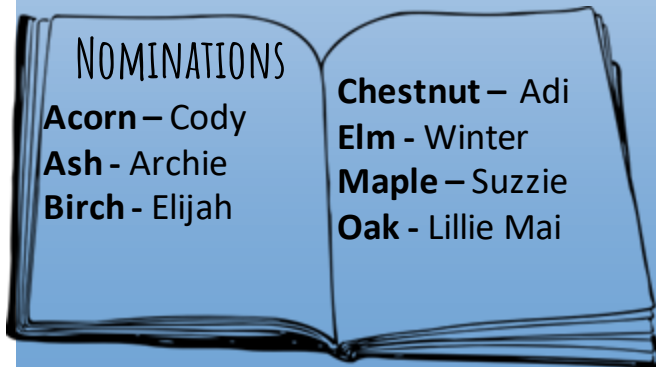
Oak – Logan and Sam

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 – CHRystal, NIMAH AND CHELSEA
BIRCH – AQUAN, BONNIE AND OAKLEY
CHESTNUT – LACEY, ZOFIA AND ALISHA
ELM – DELROY, EFE, SUMMER
MAPLE – LOLA, EVAN AND WILLOW
OAK – NAZAR, CODY AND SARAH-J



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: 93.17%

Our year so far: 93.96%

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Class	Attendance
Acorn	95.1%
Ash	92.2%
Birch	93.1%
Chestnut	94.9%
Elm	87.2%
Maple	93.7%
Oak	96%



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...

| 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
SCHOOL MAT



| 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
SCHOOL MAT



| Positivity Respect | Individuality | Determination | Excellence |

willow.sandmat.uk



Pride News...



Willow Primary Academy are looking to hold an inspiring and exciting careers week from Monday 3rd 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
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...

GLOUCESTER
CATHEDRAL

The not so secret book club

by Read
with me



Thursday 1 June, 12noon-3pm
Chapter House of Gloucester Cathedral

Come along to take part in Cathedral inspired crafts, that are suitable for all ages with materials provided. There will be free books available for everyone, as well as story-time and other fun activities.

A great way to entertain all the family, from tinies to teens,
during the Half Term holidays.

This is a FREE event with no booking required – just turn up!



| Positivity | Respect | Individuality | Determination | Excellence |

willow.sandmat.uk



Pride News...

Cheltenham Animal Shelter's May Animal Days



Our Animal Experience sessions are a unique opportunity for young people aged 5-15 years old to attend the shelter during the school holidays to meet our animals and learn about responsible pet ownership in a fun, relaxed environment.

Sessions are available on Tuesday May 30th, Wednesday May 31st and Thursday 01st June and cost £20

To sign up please go to:

[Cheltenham Animal Shelter's May Animal Days | Eventbrite](#)





Pride News...

The not so secret book club
by Read with me

Word and PAINT

Explore a world of word and paint with story telling, a range of crafts and **FREE books to take home!**

PODSMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

1ST JUNE

62 MILTON AVENUE, GL2 5AS

FREE EVENT! 11AM - 2PM

www.readwithme.org.uk [f](#) Readwithme2020 [@](#) Readwithmeorg



The not so secret book club
by Read with me

STONE AGE EDITION

Join us for a stone age treasure trail, storytime, cave painting and **FREE books to take home!**

LOCATION: ROBINSWOOD HILL

30TH MAY

RESERVOIR RD, GLOUCESTER GL4 6SX

FREE event! 11am - 2pm

www.readwithme.org.uk [f](#) Readwithme2020 [@](#) Readwithmeorg





Pride News...

Dates for Your Diary

Term Dates for 2022 – 2023

Term 5 from Tuesday 18th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023

Term 6 from Monday 5th June 2023 to Tuesday 25th July 2023

Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

Term 1 from Wednesday 6th September 2023 to Friday 27th October 2023

Term 2 from Tuesday 7th November 2023 to Friday 22nd December 2023

Term 3 from Monday 8th January 2024 to Thursday 8th February 2024

Term 4 from Monday 19th February 2024 to Friday 22nd March 2024

School Events

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

Monday 12th June 2023 – start of phonics screening check

Monday 19th June 2023 – Ash Class Assembly

Monday 26th June 2023 (morning) – Class Photographs

Monday 26th June 2023 (afternoon) – Acorn Class Assembly

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

Wednesday 5th July 2023 – Trip to Kidzania and Dinky Street

Wednesday 12th July 2023 (afternoon) – Willow Primary Academy Sports Day

Thursday 20th July 2023 (afternoon) – Year 6 Leavers Play

Friday 21st July 2023 (morning) – Year 6 Leavers Play

Friday 21st July 2023 – Willow Primary Academy Open Afternoon

Friday 21st July 2023 – Friends of Willow Fun Day

Monday 24th July 2023 (afternoon) – Year 6 Leavers Assembly

