



Pride News...

Headteacher's Message...

Date – 01.03.2024

Dear Parents,

I am absolutely thrilled to inform you that our school has received a fantastic Ofsted report. We have been rated as "Good" in all areas, which is a truly outstanding achievement! I wanted to take this opportunity to share the exciting news with you and express my sincere gratitude for your ongoing support. The report highlights several key strengths of our school, which I believe are a direct result of the dedication and hard work shown by our wonderful children, committed staff, and supportive parents. Here are a few notable points that were mentioned:

Ambitious Curriculum

The report acknowledges that even though our published outcomes are low, this is not reflective of the quality of education in place for current pupils. The inspectors were particularly impressed with the focus on reading and it is clear that this is key element of our curriculum and we understand that this is the backbone to all learning. We have an ambitious curriculum.

Leadership of the School

Ofsted praised the strong leadership and management of the school. The inspectors highlighted the collaborative approach taken by the leadership team and the positive impact it has had on staff morale and children's outcomes.

Pupil Attitudes

Additionally, the report commended the positive attitudes and behaviour of our children, noting the respectful and supportive relationships they have with their teachers and peers. This is undoubtedly a reflection of the nurturing and inclusive environment that staff have all worked tirelessly to create.

Support for Pupils with SEND

Finally, the inspectors noted that pupils with SEND, in both Willow and Piper, achieve well. The report noted that teaching is adapted in a way that supports pupils to learn the curriculum successfully. Parents describe the school as 'a beacon of inclusivity and compassion'.

While we are incredibly proud of our achievements, the report also provides some valuable recommendations for further improvement. I would like to assure you that we are fully committed to addressing these areas and making continuous progress as a school community. Some of the recommendations highlighted are:

Improving Writing

We will focus on ensuring children's gaps in their knowledge and skills for writing will continue to improve with a real focus on accuracy and fluency.

Assessment Informing Planning

We need to continue to ensure that assessment is used to inform curriculum planning to support pupils next steps in learning. This happens in most subjects but not all.

Once again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your continuous support, as it has played an instrumental role in our school's success. Together, we have created an environment that allows our students to flourish academically, socially, and emotionally.

I believe this excellent Ofsted report is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our entire school community. Let us take pride in this achievement and continue to strive for excellence. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of the Ofsted report or recommendations in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Thank you for being part of our journey towards educational excellence. Have a great weekend!

Pete Hales



Pride News...

Headteacher's Message...

“The school is at the heart of the community.”



Ofsted
Good
Provider



“As a result of a well-thought-out curriculum and high expectations, children get off to a flying start.”

Ofsted
Good
Provider



“One parent's comment was, 'The school is amazing in every possible way'.”



Pride News...

Really Wild Reading Festival!

We are writing to inform you about an exciting initiative that we are introducing this year in celebration of World Book Day Week. As you may already know, World Book Day is a global event aimed at promoting the joys of reading and instilling a love for books among children. It is an occasion for us to come together as a school community and celebrate the power of literature. This year, we have decided to take our celebrations up a notch by organizing a Reading Festival for the whole week!

The Really Wild Reading Festival will be a series of engaging activities and events designed to ignite the imaginations of our pupils and foster a lifelong passion for reading. Throughout the week, children will have the opportunity to participate in various literacy-focused workshops, author visits, and reading challenges. We believe that these activities will not only celebrate the joy of reading but also enhance literacy skills and improve comprehension.

To make the Really Wild Reading Festival a success, we kindly request your support and encourage you to get involved. Here are a few ways in which you can support your child's participation:

- 1. Share your favourite books:** Take some time to discuss and share your favourite books or stories with your child. This will not only create a bonding opportunity but also promote reading as a family activity.
- 2. Visit the library:** Encourage your child to visit the local library and explore the vast array of books available. You might be surprised at the wealth of resources waiting to be discovered!
- 3. Create a reading routine:** Set aside a specific time each day for your child to read. Whether it's before bedtime or during a quiet afternoon, establishing a reading routine can help develop good reading habits.
- 4. Bring a book to share:** On a designated day during World Book Day Week, we invite your child to bring in a book from home to share with their classmates. This will provide an opportunity for them to discuss their favourite stories and discover new ones.

We believe that by working together, we can create an enjoyable and enriching experience for our children during World Book Day Week. We encourage you to embrace the spirit of the Reading Festival and support your child in their reading journey.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a love for reading among our pupils. We look forward to celebrating World Book Day Week and the Really Wild Reading Festival with you and your children.

THE
REALLY WILD READING
FESTIVAL



Pride News...

Willow's Learning!!!





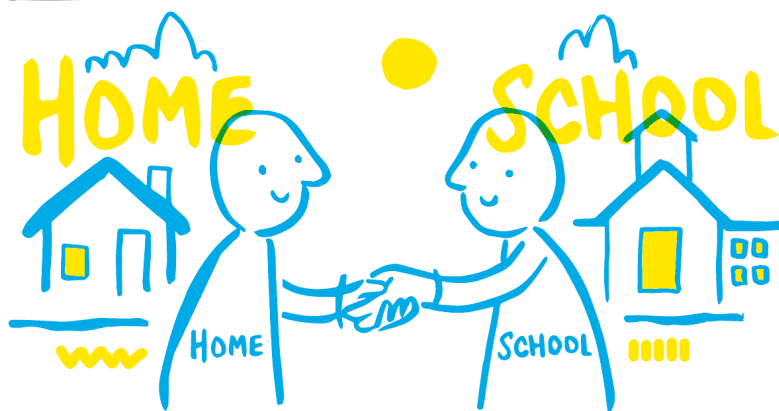
Pride News...

Family Engagement



At Willow it is vital that we are working in partnership with our families. To help Support you and your child or children we have some events coming up!

It would be great if you could join us for these!



Coffee Morning

Come and join our Maths Lead, Carly Tonks for a coffee and a chat.

This is an informal opportunity to find out more about how we can support your child at Willow.

Thursday 29th February 2024 from 9.00 am to 10.00 am





Pride News...

In Other News

Online Safety Tip of the Week



Safeguarding Safety Tip of the Week

Vaping

This week our focus is on vaping. Vaping isn't harmless. Despite fruity flavours and sleek designs, vaping devices deliver addictive nicotine and potentially harmful chemicals. Even "nicotine-free" vapes expose children to other unknown risks. Young brains are vulnerable and nicotine can harm brain development, impact memory and learning, and affect attention span. Evidence shows that children who vape are more likely to try cigarettes later. Talk to your child openly about vaping. Explain the risks and address any misconceptions spread by their peers or marketing. For more information visit the NHS website. <https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking/vaping-to-quit-smoking/young-people-and-vaping/>



Payments Reminder

To pay for school trips etc on ParentPay, we are a cashless school. If you need a ParentPay log in please speak to the school office.

School uniform

Uniform



Willow Primary Academy sweatshirts and cardigans can be purchased at The School Shop.

The expectation is that children will come to school in the following:

- Plain white polo shirt.
- Plain black joggers, leggings, skirt (with cycling shorts) or shorts.
- School jumper or cardigan with logo on (or a plain navy jumper or cardigan).
- Plain black trainers.



Pride News...

Shine!

Shine PND Support Gloucester

Do you know of a new mum who could do with some mental health support? Or are you a mum in need of a little extra help?

SHINE DROP-INS

These are informal, welcoming and supportive group sessions for mums wanting to reach out and find support from others going through similar feelings of isolation, anxiety, uncertainty or sadness.



TIME & VENUE

Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.30am
Gloucester Deaf Association

Colin Road
Barnwood
Gloucester
GL4 3JL

£2.50 recommended
voluntary contribution



FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.facebook.com/gloucestershinepnd

<https://www.shine-support.org/>

Or send us an e-mail at

gloucestershinepnd@gmail.com



"Amazing things happen when women help other women."

— Kasia Gospo

Shine!

Family engagement

9TH MARCH 24 MOTHER'S CRAFT & PAMPER FAIR

1PM TO 4PM

CRAFT-PAMPER-REFRESHMENTS-RAFFLE

FREE
ENTRY

Shine!

RAISING
FUNDS FOR
GLOUCESTER
SHINE PND

GLOUCESTER DEAF
ASSOCIATION

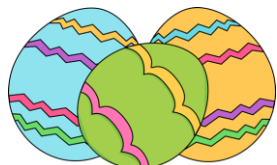
COLIN ROAD
BARNWOOD
GLOUCESTER
GL4 3JL

Registered charity
Number: 1185585

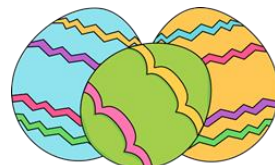


Pride News...

Friends of Willow!



Upcoming dates!



- **Friday 8th March- Second hand book sale. All books 20p!**
- **11th March- Bring in some coins for a coin trail here at school.**
- **15th March- Easter egg hunt! Maps of the easter egg hunt trail at £1. You can pay on ParentPay or come and buy a map from the school office.**
- **22nd March- Easter celebration! Don't forget to bring in some money to get some easter sweets!**
- **11th April- Student art exhibition. Come and buy your child's art work!**



Pride News...

Photography Competition!!!

20th GLOUCESTERSHIRE YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER of the Year 2024

We invite all Gloucestershire pupils to
enter **ONE** Image - **any subject**

PRIMARY & SECONDARY AWARDS

FIRST PRIZE £70

& RUNNER UP CASH PRIZES

BEST SECONDARY & PRIMARY ENTRY

GYP TROPHY

For further information ask your teacher or visit:
www.cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk

email: GYP@cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk



Please submit your entry to your school
representative before the closing date

All **SELECTED IMAGES** will be cinema projected at the **AWARDS** evening

CHELTENHAM PLAYHOUSE GL53 7HG

Thursday April 25th

*Organised by Cheltenham Camera Club
Supported by Cheltenham Arts Council
& University of Gloucestershire*



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 – Molly and Tyler

Ash – Eliora

Birch – John-Boy and Charles

Chestnut – Mason

Elm - Skyla and Jacob

Maple – Ayaan and Denlie-James

Oak – Archie

PRIDE Champions

Ash - Charlie (Ash)

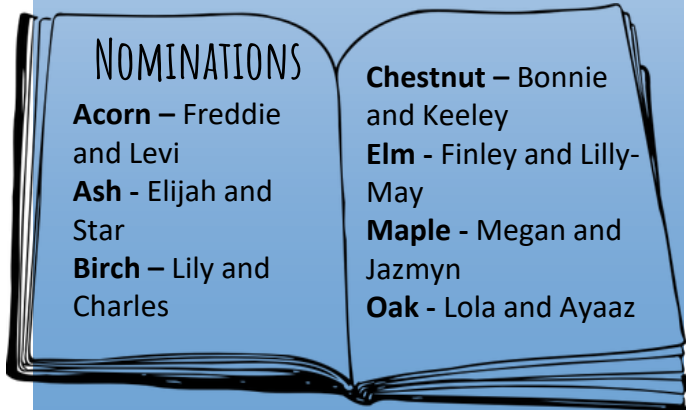
Chestnut - Kalel

Oak - Logan





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 – CASEY-JOE, SANAIYAH AND ELIORA

BIRCH – LILY, JOHN-BOY AND DEMITRI

CHESTNUT – KHADIJAH, DANEEN AND ALARRAH

ELM – ADI, ELIANA AND ELIZA

MAPLE – JAZMYN, SHAYLA-RAI AND MEGAN

OAK – LOGAN, VASLAT AND LACEY



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: 90.51%

Our year so far: 91.90%

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



gg98860872 www.gograph.com

Class	Attendance
Acorn	92.66%
Ash	91.62%
Birch	95.56%
Chestnut	91.27%
Elm	91.97%
Maple	79.36%
Oak	95.26%



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...

Dates for Your Diary

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

Term 5 from Tuesday 9th April 2024 to Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6 from Monday 3rd June 2024 to Friday 19th July 2024

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 th December 2023
	26 th December 2023
New Year Bank Holiday	1 st January 2024
Good Friday	29 th March 2024
Easter Monday	1 st April 2024
Early May Bank Holiday	6 th May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday	27 th May 2024
Summer Bank Holiday	26 th August 2024

All term dates can be found on our website [here](#)





Pride News...

Dates for Your Diary

School Events

- Thursday 22nd February 2024 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Maths Leads
- Monday 26th February 2024 – Chestnut class Assembly
- Thursday 29th February 2024 – Coffee Morning with Maths Lead
- Thursday 7th March 2024 – Ash class trip to Gloucester City Centre.
- Friday 8th March 2024 – Oak Class trip to Pitt River Museum
- Monday 11th March 2024 – Birch class Assembly
- Monday 11th March 2024 - Coin trail.
- Friday 15th March 2024 – Red Nose Day
- Friday 15th March 2024 – Friday 22nd March 2024 – Easter egg hunt trail
- Thursday 21st March 2024 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Writing Leads
- Friday 22nd March 2024 (1.15 pm to 1.45 pm) – Easter Celebration
- Monday 25th March 2024 – Friday 5th April 2024 – Easter Holidays
- Monday 8th April 2024 – INSET DAY
- Thursday 11th April 2024 – Birch class trip to W-S-M.
- Thursday 11th April 2024 - Art Exhibition Sale
- Thursday 25th April 2024 – Coffee Morning with Headteacher and Head of Piper Centre 9:00am – 10:00am
- Monday 6th May 2024- May Bank Holiday
- W/C Monday 13th May – KS2 SAT's Week
- Monday 13th May 2024 - Ash class Assembly
- Thursday 23rd May – Whole Trust Trip to Cattle Country
- Friday 24th May – Pied Piper pyjama day
- Monday 27th May 2024- Friday 31st May 2024 – May HALF TERM
- Monday 3RD June 2024 – Year 4 Multiplication check
- Monday 10th June 2024 – Phonics Screening Check
- Tuesday 11th June 2024 – Willow Sports Day
- Wednesday 12th June 2024 – Piper Centre Sports Day
- Monday 24th June 2024 – Acorn class Assembly
- Friday 5th July 2024 - Summer Games Afternoon
- Monday 8th July 2024 – Wednesday 10th July 2024 – Oak Class Residential

