

Willowbank Weekly



www.willowbank.devon.sch.uk

8th March 2017

Don't forget to order school dinners by tomorrow!

Academy Update

Our application to convert to an Academy and join First Federation Trust is underway and the regional schools commissioner office is pulling together the information for the application to be finalised. We will update you once we have any further news.



Foundation

We have had a WOW week! Exeter Exotics visited us with an array of fascinating exotic animals to further our learning about pets. We were brave enough to handle some of the reptiles and practised our questioning skills. In class we have been writing our own non-fiction book, creating some repeating patterns to match animal skins/ furs and then experimenting with musical instruments to replicate animal sounds.



Years 1 & 2

We have had a really exciting week in Year 1/2. On Monday we had a visit from two firefighters. They came and talked to us about their job role and what it is like to be a firefighter. We learnt lots about keeping ourselves safe and what we can do in case of a fire. We were introduced to 'Test it Tuesday' - this is where you test your smoke alarms weekly. They also taught us what to do if our clothes should catch on fire, whilst we are wearing them. This is called, Stop, Drop and Roll. I am sure your children can show you this at home. We are now looking forward to our next visitors, from Time Travellers, in a few weeks.



Years 3 & 4

The children in Years 3 and 4 had a very enlightening day run by Steamhorse Interactive, examining what life was like in the Stone and Iron Ages. The children tried to start fires using wood; took part in hunting a Woolly Mammoth, found out about the origins of farming in Egypt, and looked at real life exhibits from millions of years ago. Children then made Stone Age houses and tried to create cave paintings.

Many thanks to all those parents who have made appointments to see us this week. A constructive home/school partnership is incredibly important for the children, so if you have not managed to see us this week, please contact the office.



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The address is: <http://willowbank201756.edublogs.org/>

We have begun new English topics this week. Year 5 has begun an in-depth fiction topic, looking at 'There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom' and Year 6 has started a focus on writing short stories creating atmosphere. We are all thinking about how authors use language, and how we can develop our sentence structure.

In DT, we have been investigating shelters and thinking about how to strengthen and reinforce our structures. We have tested different materials to decide about how best to cover them. This week we are planning our final designs and beginning to create our own shelters.



After School Club Notices

Drama club will be holding dress rehearsals on Wednesday 8th March and 15th March. Children will be asked to stay until 5pm please, on both dates. There will be **NO** drama club on Wednesday 22nd, due to the performance taking place; children will need collecting at the end of the school day as usual, and return at 5.30pm ready for the performance. There will be **NO** Taiko drumming club this week due to Parents evenings taking place and also on 16th March due to Miss Grose being out of school. It will be back on 23rd March.



Red Noses for Comic Relief

The school council are currently planning red nose day for Friday 24th March. There will be a 'red nose' themed cake sale at the end of the day and the children will be able to wear red noses and accessories.

We have 250 red noses ready to sell. They will be available to buy for £1 before and after school on Monday 13th and from the office. Look out for posters around school for more details.



Blingo!

Get your glad rags on, adorn yourself with Bling, and help support our PTFA at Blingo on Friday 24th March. Tickets cost £5, which includes entry, 5 strips and a glass of Fizz, and are on sale in the school office. Doors open 7.30pm, eyes down 8.00pm. Look out for posters around school for more information. (Please note that this is for over 18's only.)



Absence Requests

Please ensure you give the school plenty of notice if you are planning on taking your child/children out of school. Holiday request forms can be obtained from the school office. Please note that absences will be only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Diary Dates

March		
Thursday 9th	1.30-3.00pm	Year 6 PHSE talk with School Nurse
Thursday 9th	3.30pm-6.30pm	Parents Evening
Friday 10th	3.30pm	Year 6 SATS meeting
Friday 10th		Mothers Day Gift Stall
Friday 17th		Mothers Day Gift Stall
Monday 20th	All day	Time Travellers visit to Years 1 & 2
Tuesday 21st	All day	Time Travellers visit to Years 1 & 2
Wednesday 22nd	6.00pm	Drama Club Performance
Friday 24th	All day	Red Nose Day
Friday 24th	Doors open 7.30pm-Eyes down 8.00pm	Blingo!

Wednesday 28th	All Day	Foundation stage trip to Pennywell Farm
Friday 31 st		Last day of Term
April		
Tuesday 18 th		Non Pupil day
Wednesday 19 th		Start of Summer Term
May		
Monday 1 st		
w/b Monday 8 th		Year 6 SAT's week
Monday 29 th – Friday 2 nd		Half Term
June		
Saturday 10th		Summer Fayre
July		
Friday 21 st		Last day of Term