

Willowbank Weekly



www.willowbank.devon.sch.uk

26th April 2017

Don't forget to order school dinners by tomorrow!

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break. The children have come back with energy and settled into their learning. Thank you to those who came to the open afternoon. There will be a new date in next week's newsletter.

Learner of the week

Well done to the following children for being presented with a Learner of the Week certificate.

Oscar P-Robin
Daniel L-Starling
Sienna D-Linnet
Taylor-Ryan W-Siskin
James W-Goldfinch
Oscar C-Heron
Sasha W-Avocet
Jonah P-Kingfisher
Ben B-Buzzard
Nina C-Kestrel
Olivia W-Hawk



Foundation

Since returning to school, Foundation has been very patriotic, by celebrating St George's Day! We have been learning the legend of St George, writing the start, middle and end of the legend, and have even turned our pirate ship into an amazing fire-breathing dragon. We have followed instructions to make scones, enjoyed taste testing different toppings, and recorded our favourites on a tally chart. We have also started our swimming lessons and have all made a splashing start!



Years 1&2

Welcome back to the Summer Term. The year 1 and 2 children have had a fantastic start to the term. We have started looking at our new Text 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We have been using a range of adjectives and expanded noun phrases to create character descriptions. Our new theme is all about the Wool trade. If anyone has any Yarn (any colour, any size) they can donate to Year 1/2 we would really appreciate it, as we hope to create something for the school to display.

The children have taken home their home learning books and these are expected back in every Tuesday and will be returned on Thursdays. Please continue to encourage your child to complete the learning tasks as these will support their learning at school.

Year 2 SATS will be on the Week beginning 15th May, 2017. - Any questions please ask your class teacher. There will also be another Phonics workshop on Wednesday 10th May, 2017 straight after school, for those who couldn't make the first one. Thank you for your continued support.

Years 3&4

Welcome to the Caribbean

This week, the children enjoyed learning about Caribbean food and sharing it with you at open afternoon. Yum yum!

We have been looking at the world map to locate Tobago – a Caribbean Island that is the setting of our English text, 'Gregory Cool', in which a little boy goes to visit



his grandparents in their tropical home.

P.E. on the Field – we need you!

The Year 3/4 team would like to be able to take the children in our classes up to the school field every Wednesday afternoon this summer term for P.E. For this to be possible, we need at least 8 voluntary helpers (due to health and safety reasons), each Wednesday or spread over the term. If you would be able to help make this possible for the children, please contact the school office or your child's class teacher. Many thanks.



Years 5& 6

We have had a great start to the new term. Thank you to everyone who came to open afternoon - it's always good to be able to share our work with parents and carers.

The past week has seen the start of our new theme 'How does it get here?' investigating our key question about how chocolate reaches Cullompton. We have also held auditions for our Year 5/6 production: Pirates of the Curry Bean.

On Thursday, we had a visit from the Police Community Support Officer who taught us lots of information about how to safe online. There will be a parental session soon - on Thursday 4th May - if you would like to come and find out more about e-safety.

Year 5 children have begun their week of bikeability sessions and they will also be celebrating their musical work on the One World project on Wednesday evening.



Reading Evening

It was lovely to see so many people at the reading evening last week, hunting authors and books to find a reading phrase, listening to secret readers and having the opportunity to talk about book recommendations. Thanks to Elisie, Jack H, Sofia, Emily R, Amelie M, Henry and Daniel L, Anya and Lyra L, Joe B, Emilia and Anastasia, Mia, Daisy and Molly, Lois and Alex for their participation in the hunt – you all successfully found the phrase! Thank you to everyone else who came along and took part. Keep your eyes peeled for the next reading evening towards the end of the year.



Online Safety-Parent training Thursday 4th May

This week, Years 5 and 6 had an online safety session. There were several key messages to this session.

Staying in Control

When you are chatting online, only chat to people you know and don't give out personal information. When you are gaming, take care online and it is advised to game only with people you know. Block people that you don't know on instant messenger. Ensure that privacy settings are set on high/friends only. If you are using a webcam for Skype be aware that the image can be recorded. Think carefully about the images you post/send/attach.

Whom Should I tell?

If you have any concerns, tell a responsible or trusted adult. It's really dangerous to talk to people online.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> Use this website to report abuse or use Google – click CEOP for reporting it to the police.

Cyber-Bullying

Don't send any nasty messages or say hurtful things. Don't respond to it. Report it or tell an adult. Don't give out your mobile phone number or arrange to meet someone.

Money

You need an adult's permission before you buy things online. Be careful about things with extra costs – games, texts, shopping.

Age Limits

13+ twitter, Facebook, snapchat, Tumblr
16+ WhatsApp
18+ YouTube, flickr – but 13+ with parental permission.



Uniform.

Can we please remind you that: Nail varnish is not permitted, hair should be tied back; elaborate bows are not suitable for school uniform; socks should be ankle socks, not trainer socks; skirts should be just above the knee. A full list of our schools uniform can be found on the schools website

Chewing gum.

We have noticed that there is chewing gum on the floor of the playground because it is not being discarded appropriately. Please remind children that gum is not permitted in school



British summer!

As summer approaches and the weather improves please ensure children have a sun hat, water bottle and sun cream on them before they come to school. Also please ensure they have coats for colder days!

Beginning and end of day

We have noticed that some parents are gathering on the pavement outside of the black gates near the railings at the end of the school day. This makes access for parents with pushchairs and children with scooters difficult and unsafe. We ask that you avoid blocking the pavements at busy times.



Disco

The PTFA are holding a spring disco Tomorrow, Thursday 27th April. The same times as the last disco apply.

Foundation, Years 1, 2 and 3(optional) - 5:45pm- 6:45pm

Years 3 (optional),4,5,6 – 7.00pm-8.00pm

Both discos cost £1.50 and the usual sweets, drinks and pocket toys will be on sale. For children who have allergies, please pick up an allergy band in the office. Please can we ask that any money sent in is in a named purse or wallet. This then allows us to return them to the right children at the end of the disco.

The PTFA put safeguarding as a high priority so please do not be offended if you are asked to leave. Parents who wish to, may wait in the foyer.

If any parents are able to help on the night, please speak to a member of the PTFA team, contact us via facebook or leave a message for Miss Mogford (PTFA Chair) in the office before the night.

The date for our annual Summer fayre is Saturday 10th June, so look out for details coming soon!
Willowbank PTFA



After School clubs

All afterschool club lists are now available to view in the main reception area. Please remember that it is important to inform the class teacher or the office if your child will not be attending a club on a certain day or if your child has decided they no longer wish to attend a club that they have signed up for.

Home learning club-Wednesdays

Home Learning Club is a place where children and parents can work together to develop the child's learning. Teachers and TAs will be available to help support parents when needed. Tea and coffee will be provided – please only drink this in the dining hall and be careful with hot liquids near

children. Squash and biscuits will be available for children – please supervise your child with any drinks and ensure that they are drunk in the dining hall.
 Speak to school staff if you or your child need some help.
 Children may use the laptops to research learning or to practise their core skills. Please ensure that laptops are used appropriately and plugged back in after use.

Diary Dates

April		
Thursday 27th	(see above for times)	Spring Disco
May		
Thursday 4th	2.30pm	Online safety talk for Parents with PCSO Jonathan Sims
w/b Monday 8 th		Year 6 SATs week
Wednesday 10 th	3.30pm	Years 1 Parents Phonics screening workshop
w/b Monday 15 th		Year 2 SATs
Monday 29 th – Friday 2 nd		Half Term
Tuesday 2 nd -Friday 5 th		Years 4&5 Grenville
Monday 22 nd -Friday 26 th		Year 6 Heatree
June		
Saturday 10 th		Summer Fayre
July		
Thursday 6 th		Sports Day
Friday 21 st		Last day of Term

Term dates

The term dates for 2017/2018 are now available to view in the school reception and on the school website, please follow this link http://www.willowbank.devon.sch.uk/website/term_dates/150577



Online Safety Information Session
for Parents and Carers

Thursday 4th May
2.30pm

Come and find out up to date information about online safety and how to help keep your children safe. Hear about new apps and games that your children maybe using

Run by Police Community Support Officer Jonathon Sims