

Willowbank Weekly



www.willowbank.devon.sch.uk

17th January 2018

Don't forget to order school dinners by tomorrow!

Learner of the week

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

Esme H-Starling
Monty C-Robin
Molly S– Siskin
William N – Linnet
Ellie G– Dove
Lewis W– Goldfinch
Isabelle K-Avocet
Brendan D- Heron
Freddie J-Kingfisher
Kane B-H-Buzzard
Layla E– Hawk

Whole School open afternoon- come and see how well we are learning and celebrate with us.

We would like to invite parents, family members and siblings to our Whole School Open Afternoon on Monday 5th February. Please see the below excerpt, taken from our school handbook for further details.

Open Afternoons

The school will, at least termly, open its doors for parents, carers and families to share the learning of their children. The following timetable will be in place:

14:30 (or later) Parents will enter the school via reception and sign in

15:10 The class teacher will request that all visitors vacate the classroom and leave the school via reception in order to collect their children from the playground or outside Y1 as usual. *Only in exceptional circumstances and by prior arrangement will children be permitted to leave the school at this time.*

Parents will be expected to know in which class their child is and who the teacher is in that class in order that directions can be given, if required. Teaching staff will be present in their classrooms to explain children's learning. Occasionally, a display of the children's work will be set up in the school hall or other communal area. If a parent or teacher has any individual queries or concerns about a child, these should be discussed privately away from other parents and children. It would be appropriate to ask the teacher for a meeting at some point rather than discuss these in the classroom when the teacher needs to be available to care for the children.

If parents have more than one child to visit, siblings may accompany them to other areas of the school but all children must be returned to their own classroom prior to 15:10.

The Senior Leadership Team will be in attendance around the school and prefects will be stationed at various locations within the school to assist if required

Help wanted!

Are there any dads, grandads, or other family members willing to give up some of their free time (preferably during school hours) to put up a shed for us? If so, please let Mrs Ingram in the school office know. Thank you

Lost property

Danny in Year 4 has lost 3 sweatshirts; they are all named along the waistband. Please check at home to see if you have them.

Wildside Residential Parent information session

A message was sent home via e-schools earlier this week inviting Parents of children in Year 4 to a short parent and child information session in the Year 3-4 hub, on Thursday 25th January at 3.30pm. This will be a good opportunity to ask questions and to get a better idea of what you can expect from the Wildside experience.

Text messages

Our text messaging service is effective but slightly restrictive as we only have a maximum of 160 characters per text, which means that text messages will be of necessity and to the point, unfortunately we may have to miss off pleasantries, such as hello or thank you!

CASUAL SUPPORT STAFF TO COVER MATERNITY LEAVE

Catering Assistant to cover maternity leave

Willowbank School is a school with 314 children and a high uptake of school dinners. Our dinners are freshly prepared on site to a high standard. We are looking for someone to work alongside our existing team in the kitchen, starting 1st February until end of the Summer term.

Duties will include: Assisting the Catering Manager in the preparation of food, cleaning of the kitchen and service of food and to be involved in the promotion of the service to attract the maximum number of customers.

Basic food hygiene and experience of catering is desirable but not essential as full training will be given to the right candidate. 4 hours per week across 5 days. Some heavy lifting may be required.

If you are interested in applying for this position, the application form is on the link on our school website. Please apply by noon on the closing date of Tuesday 23rd January 2018.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS disclosure is required for this post. Previous applicants need not apply again.

Cleaner to cover maternity leave

Willowbank School is a popular, expanding school, with 314 pupils and 11 classes. We are looking for a cleaner to join our friendly team.

We are looking for a well organised, enthusiastic and reliable individual with a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene. The hours are Monday to Friday, 3.30 – 6pm (12.5 hours per week) starting 1st February until end of the Summer term.

An application form is available on the link on our school website. Please apply by noon on the closing date of Tuesday 23rd January 2018.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS disclosure is required for this post. Previous applicants need not apply again.

Valentine Disco



This will be on Wednesday 7th February; the disco will cost £1.50 per child.

Foundation, Years 1 & 2 is 6.00pm-7.00pm

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 is 7.15pm -8.15pm.

If there is anyone who can DJ for us we would be very grateful-please let Miss Mogford or the office know if you can help.



Foundation

This week in Foundation Stage we have continued to look at ways to keep healthy.

We have finished our sessions of bike ability balance which links really well to our theme this week. During each session the children grew in confidence and were able to develop their skills both on and off the bike. We are also going to be considering what exercise does to our bodies and why it is important to eat healthy foods. We will also be learning about 3D shapes and what their properties are. We will be looking

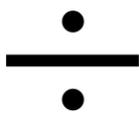
for these in the classroom as we do our learning. In phonics we are learning some new special friends this week. Look out for these sounds on Tapestry so you can help your child become familiar.



Years 1 and 2.

The children have continued their theme of 'walking in the footsteps of giants' by looking at when castles were built and learning about chronology. They made connections between their knowledge of hundreds, tens and ones to sequence the castles from the oldest to the most recently built. Year 2 children are really enjoying their book 'The Right Path' during English sessions. They

have been using it to explore different sentence starters, and it has given them a fantastic opportunity to apply the skills related to reading and writing that they have learnt so far. Year 1 children are continuing to explore the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. They have been using the suffixes '-er' and '-est' to compare the characters in the story, and their understanding of what a sentence is, is being consolidated. During Maths Year 2 children have been focussing on addition and subtraction. They have been encouraged to draw upon the facts that they already know to help them. Year 1 children have been looking at 2 digit numbers and describing the value of each digit. They have been comparing numbers and beginning to draw their own number lines.



Years 3&4

During Maths, the children are now progressing to using a written method to answer division questions. Following this, the children will need to identify whether they can answer a question mentally or whether they need to use a written method.

Within English, the children are extending their vocabulary by writing setting descriptions based on our story, 'A Winter's Child.' They are learning how writers can create images in the minds of the readers by the choice of words they use.

The children have been able to sequence events from Chinese history. They will now focus on looking at Chinese art, discussing the style and then replicating this within their own art work.

We are also looking forward to meeting the author tomorrow, who will be helping us learn about characterisation.



Year 5 / 6

Years 5 and 6 are really grateful to everyone who made and bought cakes. We raised a grand total of £66.80. This will contribute towards the funding for the trip to @Bristol that we went on in December. There is a great display of our learning in the Year 5 / 6 hub - please come and have a look at all the fun we had.

In English this week, we are developing our grammatical understanding using the story of Icarus. We have thought about how to edit and improve our use of tenses and ambitious punctuation. We have also developed our use of ambitious vocabulary.

Our Ancient Greek focus this week asks 'How was society organised?' We have learnt all about democracy - did you know that only Athenian men were allowed to vote?

On Thursday, we look forward to the visit of Billy Bob Buttons - an author – who is coming to work with us. If you would like to buy a book, please place the order and money in an envelope with your name and the title of the book on it and send to the office. Parents can come and meet Billy Bob Buttons after school in the dining hall, if they would like to. We hope that this is an inspirational afternoon that stimulates writing and creativity!

Diary Dates

January 2018		
Thursday 18th		Welcome back lunch-School Census
Thursday 18th	1.15-3.25pm	Author visit to KS2
Tuesday 22nd	7.30pm	PTFA meeting
February		
Monday 5th		Whole school Open Afternoon
Wednesday 7th		Valentines disco
W/B 12th		HALF TERM
Wednesday 21st		Parents evening
Thursday 22nd		Parents evening
March		
Thursday 29th		Last day of term
April		
Monday 16th	ALL DAY	NON PUPIL DAY
Tuesday 17th		First day of Summer term
Monday 23rd-Wednesday 25th		Year 4 residential to Wildside
May		

W/B 7th		KS1 SATs
W/B 14th		KS2 SATs
W/B 28th		HALF TERM
June		
W/B 11th		Year 1 Phonics screening
July		
Monday 2nd (Friday 6th reserve day)	All day	Sports day
Monday 9th-Wednesday 11th		Year 6 residential to Heatree
Wednesday 25th		LAST DAY OF TERM