

Willowbank Weekly



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29th November 2017

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:

Joseph T-Starling
Charlotte B-Robin
Matthew B- Siskin
Jayden W- Linnet
Harry F- Dove
Joshua C- Goldfinch
Lavar F-Avocet
Lucia S- Heron
Ella G -Buzzard
Charlie H- Hawk



Christmas service

This year's Whole school Christmas Service will take place at St Andrews Church on Friday 15th December at 9.30am. We need parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles etc., to help walk the children to and from the church-if you are available to help, please let the school office know. All children will return to school after the service.

We look forward to sharing our Christmas Service with you. Thank you

Academy Consultation meeting-Tomorrow

The Governors and a representative from First federation will be in attendance-all interested parties' welcome. Thursday 30th November 2017 at 2.45pm or 6.30pm.



Facebook

Those of you that follow our Facebook page may have noticed that it has been removed. This is only a temporary action as a new one is in the process of being created. We will let you know once it is up and running. We hope to use this form of social media as a more effective way to communicate with you about things such as: events happening in school, changes to planned events and, in rare cases, to notify you of school closures due to adverse weather conditions etc.



Poppy appeal

Thank you very much for helping with the poppy appeal; in total we raised **£56.42**. This will help the Royal British legion in continuing their vital welfare and benevolent work.



Drama club

Owing the trip to @Bristol on 6th December, there will be no drama club on that day. An additional rehearsal will take place during school hours to make up for the lost time.

The performance will take place, as scheduled, on Wednesday 13th December at 6pm. Please bring your child back to school at 5.30pm on that day.



School Residential Trips

Just a quick reminder that Deposits for both the Year 4 and Year 6 residential trips are due by Friday this week.

Christmas lunch Tuesday 12th December 2017

Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper, please see the Christmas lunch menu below.

Christmas Lunch Menu

Roast Turkey and Sausage

Served with Sage and Onion Stuffing

Roast Potatoes or Creamed Potatoes

Carrots and Sweet corn

Gravy and Cranberry sauce



Followed by

Christmas pudding and cream

Or Christmas biscuits and ice-cream



Crackers!



Willowbank Christmas fayre

This year's fayre is on Friday 8th December at 2.30 – 4.30. All parents, carers and families are welcome to join us to start celebrating Christmas. As usual, each class will be running a stall and there will be plenty more on offer!

Santa is going to pay us a visit, but unfortunately there will be no grotto this year.

(Why not join Santa in his workshop and enjoy a wide variety of craft with Santa and

his little helpers!?)

The Fayre is organised by the PTFA who are in need of help. You can help us by:

- Coming along to help set up from 1.15
- Help to run a stall (maybe with a friend so you can take it in turns)
- Help with donations of toys, books, tombola prizes such as cosmetic and smelly sets, bottles of wine etc.
- Help with donations of cakes or mince pies

The donation bin will be in the playground in the mornings and afternoons so please just pop your donations in there or hand them into the office. If you can help on the day, please speak to Miss Mogford or Mrs Ingram, or message us on Facebook.

We look forward to seeing you at the fayre!

How we have helped school

The PTFA raise money to help the school to purchase things that make a difference to the children's time at Willowbank. We are delighted to tell you that we have agreed to help buy a new stage for the hall. Along with the PA equipment already purchased by the PTFA, we are well on our way to having a fantastic system to allow top quality performances. We have also bought storage for year 1 and Year 5/6.

If you would like to know more about the PTFA and how you can get involved please speak to Miss Mogford (Chair). We would love to see more people at our meetings and events.



Foundation

This week we have enjoyed learning the songs for our Christmas play. We were all excited to find out our parts. We have started looking at the 'StickMan' by Julia Donaldson and have loved retelling the story to our friends. We are learning our number bonds. See if your child can recall these.



Years 1 & 2

Year 1 and 2 have been busy putting together the finishing touches of their performance of 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw' ready for next week. The children have been developing their speaking and listening skills during their rehearsals. Year 2, after writing their own version of 'Wanted: The perfect Pet', have been focusing upon the specific aspects of reading with expression and reading for an audience. They have begun focusing upon money and using subtraction to problem solve during Mathematics. Year 1 are continuing to use adjectives to describe nouns and will be using their knowledge of sentences to write their own Mr Benn adventure. They will be exploring problems that use addition and subtraction, including missing number problems, objects and pictures during Mathematics.

We really enjoyed having the opportunity of sharing your child's learning with you during our open afternoon this week.

The Year 1 and 2 team often have some spare school clothes that can be lent to children who need a change of clothes during the day but unfortunately our collection has become quite low. We would

really appreciate any donations of old trousers, dresses, tights, socks or skirts that your child may have grown out of to help us rebuild our collection. If you are able to help with this, please speak to your child's teacher.



Years 3 & 4

The open afternoon was a great success. The children were thrilled to show how their writing has improved. If you were unable to attend, please speak to the class teacher to arrange to see your child's writing.

In Maths, the children have been practising answering multiplication with a mental strategy. They can multiply by 2, 10, 0 and 1. Please see if your child can explain this to you as that will help them with their understanding.

Out English work continues to be focussed on Non Chronological reports. The children are practising grouping facts in paragraphs while including conjunctions and fronted adverbials to improve the quality of the writing.

Some children have told us that they are using APPS which are aimed at older children; this includes 'Musically.' Please be aware that they aren't suitable as unknown people can see what they put on.

We look forward to cooking next week, when we are making decorations sell at the Christmas Fayre.



Years 5 & 6

Our Learning

This week Years 5 and 6 have been developing description in English, thinking about how to use adjectives and adverbial phrases to develop detailed description. We have also focused on using ambitious vocabulary - ensuring that we really understand what the words mean!

In Theme, we have begun to create newspaper articles about famous space events. We discovered that over 600 million people watched Neil Armstrong walk on the moon and thought about what the world was like when people didn't know whether the Moon was rocky or gassy.

@Bristol

We are looking forward to our trip to @Bristol on Wednesday 6th December. A letter with final details is coming home on Thursday - please check it as we need to be at school at 8.15am and be collected at approximately 5.30pm.

If you would like to volunteer on the trip, please speak to Mrs Hulbert by Friday.

Heatree Meeting-Tomorrow

There is a meeting about the trips for Year 5 and Year 6 to Heatree in July and September 2018 on Thursday 30th November in Hawk classroom at 3.30pm.

The New Gate

Thank you to everyone for their understanding as we switch collection and drop-off to our new gate. We are hoping that everyone is finding it a much calmer way to come into school. The impact in the classrooms has been really positive - children are now able to come in and get ready for the day in a more staggered way, which is much calmer. It also enables you to speak to the teacher at the classroom door if you need us, rather than having to talk in front of the children on the playground.

We would like to re-confirm that if your child has a younger sibling that they drop off in the morning, they are able to come into school at that point and walk independently to Year 5 / 6. **If your child has a younger sibling, we are happy for them to walk to their classroom and come out together, rather than parents having to be at different collection points.** Please just write us a note to confirm this so that we can add it to our records.

We would also like to remind everyone not to enter the car park until the vehicle gates have been closed by a member of staff - wait by the staffroom door on the pavement so that you are safe.

St Andrews Church Christmas events-for your information

KidZone Christmas: Saturday 16th Dec: 10am-1pm

St Andrew's Church Christmas Services

Contemporary Carols: 10th Dec @6.30pm

Traditional Carols: 17th Dec @ 7pm

Donkey Services: 24th Dec @ 2.30pm & 4pm

Midnight Communion: 24th Dec @ 11.30pm

Christmas Day: 25th Dec @ 10am

Diary Dates

November		
Thursday 30th	2.45pm & 6.30pm	First Federation consultation meeting
Thursday 30th	3.30pm-4.00pm	Parents meeting for Heatree 2018
December		
Tuesday 5 th	2.00pm	KS1 performance ' The Magical Christmas Puzzle'
Tuesday 5 th		Bags to school collection
Wednesday 6 th	2.00pm	KS1 performance ' The Magical Christmas Puzzle'
Thursday 7 th	5.30pm	KS1 performance ' The Magical Christmas Puzzle'
Friday 8 th	2.30pm	Christmas Fayre
Monday 11 th	2.00pm	FS Nativity
Monday 11 th	5.30pm	FS Nativity
Tuesday 12 th		Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13 th	6.00pm	Drama club production for Parents and families
Friday 15th	9.30am	Christmas service St Andrews church
Friday 15 th	ALL DAY	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM
January 2018		
Tuesday 2 nd	ALL DAY	NON PUPIL DAY
Wednesday 3 rd	ALL DAY	NON PUPIL DAY
Thursday 4 th		Start of Spring Term
W/B 22 nd TBC		Parents Evenings
February		
7th		Valentines disco
W/B 12 th		HALF TERM