

# Willow Park News 6

14 January 2022



**Willow Park**  
C of E Primary School



## Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

Welcome back to a very cold start to term 3. Although it is frosty and cold, it is great that the sunshine is out so that the children can be outside as much as possible.

On that note please, please ensure that the children are wrapped up warm - coats are a must!

It has been a pleasure to go and visit classrooms this week and for the children to share their learning experiences with me. Willow Park children are always keen to share!

I had a lovely conversation with a year 2 child about fossils... it's clear that learning in Goldfinch is engaging and exciting!

It's been lovely seeing the writing progression in Robin class too - it never fails to astound me how quickly these young people pick up new learning!

### **Covid update**

Please be assured that we are constantly updating and reviewing our risk assessment to keep your children safe.

There has been a sharp increase in cases, and we are aware of this.

Please continue to send your children to school unless they have Covid symptoms. Any questions or advice please contact the office.

### **Attendance**

I know I mention this every week, but it is so important that your children are in school.

We currently have far too many children whose attendance is below 90%. This classifies you as a persistent absentee and could result in further action from school.

Please note that NO holidays will be authorised and leave of absence requests are reviewed on an individual basis. It will only be authorised in very exceptional circumstances.

### **Swimming**

Year 4 and 6 are swimming this term - please understand that swimming falls under the PE curriculum and is important that your children attend lessons every Friday. This is not an opt out.

Please speak to a member of the leadership team or your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

I hope you all manage to have a wonderful weekend - fingers crossed it stays dry! I will be celebrating my son's 14th birthday so I know my weekend will be busy!

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday morning !

Best wishes

Chris Larke-Phillips

Head teacher

## **Reception places for September 2022 – apply by 15 January (tomorrow!)**

If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 you need to apply for a Reception place by 15 January 2022. Please apply online via the following link:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/primary-apply>

We would love to welcome you and your child at Willow Park!

## **Collective Worship**

This term we shall be looking at the theme of '**Justice**'.

We shall be exploring different examples of injustice and thinking about how we can 'Be the Light' by standing up for any acts on injustice that we see.

### Robin Class (YR)

Please look out for a detailed update letter and curriculum map from your child's class teachers on Monday!

### Starling Class (Y1)

Please look out for a detailed update letter and curriculum map from your child's class teachers on Monday!

### Goldfinch Class (Y2 / Y3)

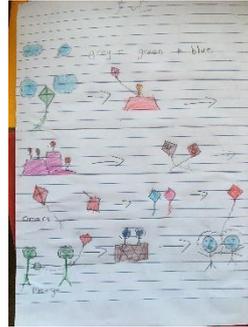
Goldfinch have been shining stars this week. They have loved starting to look at our new enquiry question, 'What is underneath our feet.'

They have observed rocks, pretended to be a pebble on its journey to the sea in both dance and as an author and created a mini fossil book.

They have been superb geologists and geographers and are excited to see what is next in our enquiry learning journey.

### Golden Eagle Class (Y4 / Y5 / Y6)

We watched a video clip of children flying kites and we made a story map.



We looked closely at a still from the video clip and drew what we could see.



We practised the language for flying kites and words for buildings such as bricks, roof, tiles, window, wall. Then we looked at the film poster and tried to re-create it.



We looked carefully at the colours the artist used.



On Wednesday we went to the MShed. We looked at information about all the different groups of people that live in Bristol.

We saw lots of artefacts from Bristol's history.

## What's on

Here are some dates and reminders...

### Term 3

#### Swimming

**Year 4** and **Year 6** and Golden Eagle class are swimming in Terms 3 and 4.

#### Clubs in Term 3

**Zumba (Y1-Y6):** Continuing. £20 per term from next term

Some final places available.

#### **Sport (all years):**

Wednesday and Thursday fully booked

### Term 4

#### Year 6 Residential Trip

Mon, 4 Apr – Fri, 8 Apr 2022

Culmington Manor

### Term Dates and INSET Days

#### Term 3:

Tue 4 Jan – Fri 18 Feb 2022

#### Term 4:

Mon 28 Feb – Fri 8 Apr 2022

#### Term 5:

Mon 25 Apr – Fri 27 May 2022

INSET Day: Fri 27 May

*The last day of term for the children will be Thu, 26 May.*

#### Term 6:

Mon 6 Jun – Thu 21 Jul 2022

### Kingfisher Class (Y4 / Y5)

Kingfisher class have hit the ground running this term.

In our English lessons we have been reminding ourselves how to write instructions - using our learning to write our own instructions for building a snowman.

We have also begun our new enquiry learning all about forces, and this week we have been working as scientists, conducting experiments to find out more about gravity and air resistance.

Over the next couple of weeks we will be learning about simple machines and applying this knowledge to designs for our own Rube Goldberg inspired inventions!

We have also started our RE topic about influential leaders -

as part of this we are planning to visit John Wesley's New Room to learn more about him and his inspiring work. We will of course let you know details in due course!

### Owl Class (Y6)

Owl Class has started the year as we mean to go on; full steam ahead!

We have started a new Maths unit learning about decimals, which is fun as we are noticing how decimals relate to fractions, which we studied before Christmas.

In English, we have started a new class novel; Skellig by David Almond, to complement this term's Enquiry, which is called "Darwin and Linnaeus - How are they connected?" This is an opportunity to learn about classification, evolution and inheritance.

Following Tuesday's class assembly on this term's theme of Justice, we were lucky enough to enjoy a visit from local Cllr Christine Townsend, who spent a morning talking to us about how the justice system works, with special reference to the recent acquittal of the Colston 4, which pupils in Owl Class had expressed an interest in finding out more about.

We are really grateful to Christine for accepting our invitation to come and speak with us; we learned so much, and not least that our interests and questions matter, and that we can help shape our own learning opportunities.