Willow Park News 7 11 February 2022





Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

Term 3 has been another good term for teaching and learning as and always we are proud of the children's achievements. With staffing now back to full capacity we can now ensure we continue to drive standards and progress.

There are many trips happening next week for many children.

If your child is on a trip, please ensure that they come to school in appropriate footwear and that they are wearing a coat.

On Tuesday, **Kingfisher** are visiting the New Room in the Centre as part of their learning in RE. **Goldfinch Class** are visiting Bristol Museum as part of their enquiry learning about rocks and **Starling** and **Goldfinch Class** (again) will be visiting Bristol Cathedral on Thursday.

It is so good that we are now able to expand our curriculum once again to give the children valuable experiences to support learning.

Covid-19 update

It wouldn't be a newsletter without a Covid-19 update!! I'm

sure you have all heard in the news that the Prime Minister has announced that Covid restrictions in England will be relaxed imminently.

We will of course be revisiting our risk assessment regularly and will continue to do also after the announcement has been made.

We look forward to getting back to some sort of normality in the very near future - including having whole school assemblies once again in the hall and not via zoom!

Please remind your children about the basic hygiene rules we currently have in place.

Behaviour

Generally, behaviour at Willow Park is good and children are safe However, over the last week, there have been a few incidences where we are having conversations with children about appropriate behaviour in the classroom and outside. Please do speak to your children about what good behaviour looks like in school (and of course at home).

It is great to have your support with this and to work together. We have very high expectations at Willow Park and hope next term is improved.

Friday 18th February 2022

Next Friday is the last day of term, and as a treat to the staff and the children we would like to have a non-school uniform day for all on this day.

Best wishes

Chris Larke-Phillips

Head teacher

Dear Lord, thank You for another safe week. I pray that as we go into the weekend that You will shine Your light upon my family. Lift them up so they will feel Your joy, peace and hope. Protect them and keep them close. Amen

Gods411

I saw this reflection and wanted to share in this newsletter.

I do hope you all have a safe weekend (and half term) and that we have a wonderful last week of term - celebrating even more achievement and success!

Chris Larke-Phillips

Term 4 - After School Clubs

Zumba and Sports Clubs available to book on ParentPay now.

Limited places - don't miss out!

Earrings and necklaces

Please don't allow your children to wear long earrings and necklaces to school. They can lead to accidents in the playground and during PE or could get lost when taken off.

Robin Class (YR)

We have had a very busy few weeks in Robin Class. We have been focusing a lot on storytelling and learning the story of Billy Goats Gruff.

We have been using puppets to act out the story and have innovated the story with our own ideas.

We enjoyed a lovely winter walk to visit our Hazel Tree in the Royal Fort Gardens where we observed changes the tree had gone through since our last visit in Autumn.

In Maths we have been developing our confidence in ordering numbers to 10 and thinking about the composition of number 5, 6 and 7.

In Phonics we have made amazing progress in blending CVC words and writing them independently.

Starling Class (Y1)

These last weeks in Starling Class we have been learning about 'Animals, including humans'. We have explored new states of being that we really enjoy such as being Musicians (very noisy, but very creative).

We have spent most of our afternoons being Scientists, however, we cannot contain our creativity and we always like bringing some of our Artist skills to the scientific learning, as you can tell from these pictures.



This week we have started to understand what being a Geographer is, exploring maps, giving directions and even programming a Bee-bot! So far, this is being a very fun term.

Goldfinch Class (Y2 / Y3)

The children in Goldfinch have shown so much enthusiasm for our enquiry, **'What is underneath our feet.'**

They have loved looking at fossils and learning all about volcanoes. They were so excited that they could locate specific volcanoes on Google Earth. Many of them asked me to let you know the name of Google Earth so that they could use it at home too.

We were impressed with the prints they produced of a fossil impression using foam and printing inks.

Class visits

We are pleased to inform you that Goldfinch class will be visiting Bristol Museum on Wednesday, 16th February during the afternoon to look at the fossils on display. We shall also be visiting Bristol Cathedral on Thursday, 17th February as part of our RE big question, 'Why are some places special?' We shall leave the school at 9.15 and be back in school just before lunchtime.

If you have any questions about these trips please talk to Mrs Jones or Mrs van der Laan at the end of the school day.

Golden Eagle Class (Y4 / Y5 / Y6)

Golden Eagles Class have been comparing the history and

Trips

Wed, 16 Feb – Golden Eagle, Clifton Observatory

Wed, 16 Feb - Goldfinch, Bristol Museum

Thu, 17 Feb – Goldfinch – Bristol Cathedral people of Bristol and Kabul in Afghanistan.

Under The Same Sky

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We learned about ancient settlers in the area of Afghanistan now known as Kabul.



We found out that people have been migrating to Bristol since the year 60AD starting with the Romans. The most recent group to arrive is us in 2020.

Can you guess where these faces are from?



Next week we will be visiting the Clifton Observatory and the Suspension Bridge and finding out about the Avon Gorge and the Legend of the Bristol Giants.

On Mondays after half-term, we will be starting Forest School in Leigh Woods.

Forest School

Every Monday in Term 4

Robin class and Golden Eagle Class.

Please read the letter from your child's class teacher!

Kingfisher Class (Y4 / Y5)

Having completed our enquiry all about forces, Kingfisher class began a new topic last week about twin cities - did you know Bristol has seven?

We have been working as geographers, learning about climate, biomes and physical and human features of each of the twin cities. We will also be employing some sewing skills in the next week or two.

We have been learning to write persuasive letters in our English lessons and will put our skills to the test by writing to Mr Larke -

Trips

Tue, 15 Feb – Kingfisher, John Wesley's New Room

If your child is **not** entitled to Free School Meals, please make sure they bring a **packed lunch**. Phillips, asking him to arrange a school trip to one of our twin cities! I wonder if we can be persuasive enough?

Talking of school trips...in the last week of term we are arranging for the class to go on another outing. This time we will be visiting John Wesley's New Room (Tuesday 15th February) This will be as part of our RE topic this term about 'how we should live and who can inspire us?'

Owl Class (Y6)

This has been a busy week in Y6. We are stretching our understanding of measures and how units of measurements can be converted to suit different purposes.

In English, we are undergoing Writing assessments and are showing our writing-mettle creating both fiction and nonfiction pieces of writing on familiar topics. We have enjoyed the first of a series of additional Maths booster sessions with Mrs Leaker, learning more about angles and how to use protractors.

Year 6 SATS Club

Tuesdays and Thursdays after school in Term 4 & 5 (last session on Thursday, 5 May).

Two additional sessions available during the Easter break on Wednesday, 13 April and Thursday, 14 April.

Please read the letter from Miss Strandh and sign up via ParentPay.

What's on

Here are some dates and reminders...

Term 3

Trips

Tue, 15 Feb: Kingfisher Class (Year 4/5) visiting the New Room

Wed, 16 Feb: Goldfinch Class (Year 2/3) visiting Bristol Museum

Wed, 16 Feb: Golden Eagles Class visiting Clifton Observatory

Thu, 17 Feb: Goldfinch Class (Year 2/3) visiting Bristol Cathedral

<u>Term 4</u>

Clubs in Term 4

SATS (Y6): Tuesdays and Thursdays - free

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

Sport (all years): Wednesday and Thursday

£2 per week

Forest School

Robin Class and Golden Eagle Class will go to Forest School each Monday.

Swimming

Yr 4, Yr 6 and Golden Eagle Class will continue to swim.

Year 6 Residential Trip

Mon, 4 Apr – Fri, 8 Apr 2022 Culmington Manor

Term Dates and INSET Days

<u>Term 3:</u>

Tue 4 Jan – Fri 18 Feb <u>Term 4:</u>

Mon 28 Feb – Fri 8 Apr

<u> Term 5:</u>

Mon 25 Apr – Fri 27 May INSET Day: Fri 27 May The last day of term for the children will be Thu, 26 May.

<u>Term 6:</u>

Mon 6 Jun – Thu 21 Jul