

Willow Park News

19 January 2023



Willow Park
C of E Primary School



Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

Welcome back to term 3 where the temperature has dropped somewhat. Although the sun is out most days the temperature through the day is still very cold, so please ensure your children come to school wearing their school jumpers and coats at an absolute minimum. We do make sure that all children have some outside time, so this is really important.

Snacks and lunch boxes

We are still noticing that some children are bringing in snacks that are not appropriate or healthy. Please ensure that your children come to school with a healthy snack - fruit for example. We have seen children bringing in big bags of crisps, chocolate and sweets, which is not part of the school policy. This also applies to snacks being brought in for after school club - this will need to be monitored by staff and we will speak to parents should this continue. Please also remember that we are a NUT FREE school. We have a few allergies this year and we need to minimize these children becoming poorly. Any kind of nut products such as cereal bars and chocolate spread will contain nuts. Please speak to the office or your class teacher if you are unsure about what you can bring to school

Reading

We have relaunched our reading scheme, Read, Write Inc where your children - especially in key stage 1 - will be learning sounds and learning to read. They will be coming home with books that they can read at their own level. It is so important that your children come to school EVERY DAY with their book bags and return their books every day! Please help us to ensure this happens - EVERY CHILD has been issued with a book bag from when they started at Willow Park, along with books and their reading records. Please also listen to your child read at least 3 times a week - this will really help your child and help us in school too.

Many thanks

Strike action

You will have seen on the news that some teacher's unions have decided to take strike action, with the first date being 1st February 2023. It has not been made clear which of my teachers have decided to strike yet. Please bear in mind that it is the staff's right to take industrial action and they should not be questioned about their decision. As the Headteacher, it is my responsibility to ensure classes stay open where it is safe to do so. I am working with my team and the local authority to ensure the right decision is made for all. More details will follow shortly, and I will send a letter as soon as I know more.

I hope you all manage to have a great rest of the week and a peaceful weekend - there may even be snow on the way.....

Take care and stay warm,

Chris Larke-Phillips
Headteacher

Robin Class (YR)

We have had a great first week back at school. The children have been so excited to be back playing with their friends.

This term our enquiry is 'Who do we know?' with a focus on those who help us. The children have led us into the enquiry by sharing how much their friends help them. So we have drawn pictures of different ways friends help us. During the term we will look at ways people help us manage our emotions and the range of different job roles people have and how they help us in their roles. If you would like to come into Robin class to share your work role please email the school office so they can pass on your details to us, thank you.

This week we began PE lessons led by the sports coach. Please bring your child into school wearing a PE kit on Thursdays.



Starling Class (Y1)

It has been one of the most wonderful weeks in Starling class, coming back to school has been a very joyful experience, seen our friends again and sharing what we did during the holidays.

We learnt a new beautiful story and reviewed our Mathematician skills from last term

Last week we went outside to see the change of season and how our surroundings and our clothes are different to keep us warm.



It has been a great start of the term and the year!

Goldfinch Class (Y2)

In Goldfinch we have had an exciting start to the term, our new enquiry is "How can we live a healthy life?" We are learning about artists who use fruit and vegetables in their artwork, such as Giuseppe Arcrimboldo. We have had fun creating portraits out of fruit and vegetables and even tasting some. In maths we have learnt about vertices (ask your child what this is?), edges and names of 3D shapes.



Vertumnus by Giuseppe Arcrimboldo, 1591

Sparrow Class (Y3/Y4)

Sparrow class has made a great start to term three. Everyone has come back to school ready to go and we have had a good week and a bit. In maths we are looking at multiplication so any extra times table practice at home would be amazing. For writing this term we are looking at a text called 'Nail Soup' and we are going to write our own story based on 'Nail Soup'.



Our enquiry topic question this term is 'How can we switch off?' we are looking at gelectricity and using the circuit equipment in school to make light bulbs work.

I will send weekly homework home on a Friday, and this is to be bought back into school on the following Friday. Also, please can you listen to your child read at least three times a week at home. This will have such a positive impact on their learning.

PE days are Wednesday and Friday this term with Friday PE being swimming. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for both PE sessions.



Kingfisher Class (Y5)

Kingfisher students have been learning how to use narrative writing to describe the most important events in their lives from 2022.

They have had fun last week sharing their experiences and it has been a great way to start a fresh new year.



Owl Class (Y6)

It has been a fast-paced week in Year 6, as we have packed in learning across the curriculum; from exploring the music of British composer Benjamin Britten



to learning about ratio and scaling in Maths, and relative clauses in English.

We have discussed the concept of Integrity, and how a good definition is 'how we behave when we believe nobody is watching'. Integrity is a crucial attribute which helps us do the right thing and stand up to injustice. We've all agreed to keep our inner integrity polished and glowing by choosing to do the right thing all the time.

Golden Eagles (Y3 / Y4 / Y5 / Y6)

Golden Eagles' new enquiry topic is Under the Same Sky. We have been thinking about what is in the sky of Kabul and the sky of Bristol.

Here is some of our artwork showing Kites in Kabul and Balloons in Bristol.

Next week we will be visiting the Mshed on Wednesday. Children will need a bag, a warm coat and can bring a snack if they want to.

Please don't forget PE on Thursdays and swimming on Fridays.



What's on

Here are some dates and reminders...

PTA Meeting

TBA

Bristol Grammar School

Local Trip:

Wed, 22 Feb - Y1, Y2, Y6

Forest School

Robin and Golden Eagle

Mon, 20 Feb Mon, 27 Feb

Mon, 6 Mar Mon, 13 Mar

Mon, 20 Mar Mon, 27 Mar

Mon, 17 Apr Mon, 24 Apr

Mon, 8 May Mon, 15 May

Mon, 22 May Mon, 5 Jun

Mon, 12 Jun Mon, 26 Jun

Mon, 3 Jul Mon, 10 Jul

Bank Holidays:

Mon, 1 May - No School

Mon, 8 May - Coronation Day

Term Dates

Term 3:

Tue, 5 Jan – Fri, 10 Feb

Term 4:

Mon, 20 Feb – Fri, 31 Mar

Term 5:

Mon, 17 Apr – Fri, 26 May

Term 6:

Mon, 5 Jun – Fri, 21 Jul

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Thanks to all of you who attended the Christmas Fair or contributed to the Christmas Disco! They were both a great success and everyone had a good time. We are looking forward to the next event.

Katherine Baker



Children should not come to school wearing:

- Long earrings
- Necklaces
- Bracelets



Please label your
child's clothing

Regretfully, a number of children have reported
that some their items have gone missing



Forest School

Robin Class and Golden
Eagle Class will be attending
Forest School on Term 4

Monday 20 Feb

Monday 27 Feb

Monday 6 Mar

Monday 13 Mar

Monday 20 Mar

Monday 27 Mar

