

Willow Park News

10 February 2023



Willow Park
C of E Primary School



Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

As we approach another term, we have seen many positive changes at Willow Park. Most noticeably we have many new families that have joined us, but we also have families that have left. This is always difficult, but the children and staff manage the mobility so well - classes change so much but the love and care from children and staff remain the same - always showing that they are being the light!

Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

You will have heard or seen on the news about the disaster that occurred in Turkey and Syria this week. Many people have been affected and we send out our thoughts and prayers to those that need it at this time. Hopefully the prayer that I have attached will help those in need.

A prayer for the earthquake in Turkey and Syria

We pray for the people of Central Turkey and North West Syria, whose lives have been devastated by the earthquake. Be present, O Lord, our Good Shepherd, to bring comfort, relief, shelter and human kindness. Shield the people who suffer, console those who are bereaved, prosper the provision of relief, strengthen the work of emergency teams, and shine your light and hope in the midst of despair.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Attendance

This has been greatly improved this week so well done to everyone! Our whole school weekly target is 96% and this week we were nearly at 95% this week! It's good to see so many children back at school after illness.

However, there is persistent absence that we need to tackle, and we now may be at the point where we are fining families if we have exhausted all other options. Please believe that we are here to support you as a family, and we want to work with you and fining is a last resort. Please speak to us if you have any worries.

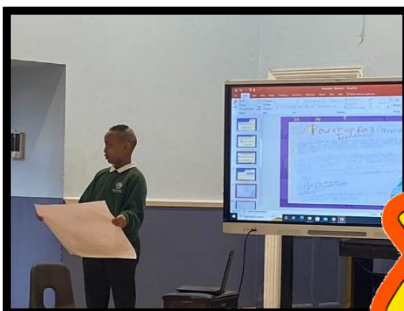
I hope you all manage to have wonderful weeks break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 20th February at 8:45am

Best wishes,

Chris Larke-Phillips
Head Teacher

Well done to Year 5!

Kingfisher class presented a wonderful assembly this week based on their learning in enquiry - How can we switch off? Beautifully presented with such clear and confident voices! Thank you to those parents that attended and thank you to year 5 for all your hard work!



Robin Class (YR)

Robin class have had a brilliant term learning about people who help us within the community.



We have learnt about the Police, doctors and nurses as well as firemen and dentists. In number time we have been leaning about making pairs, counting securely to 10 and simple measurement. We are looking forward to more exciting learning next term including Forest School sessions on Monday mornings.

Starling Class (Y1)



These last weeks, in Starling class we have been geographers, learning where our school is, how to find it in a map and even following pirate maps thanks to our own handmade compasses ...we are very close to the treasure!!



Using Google Earth, we became astronauts to look from space at the different countries where each of us come from. It has been a beautiful enquiry to learn about the world that we live in!



Finally, I would like to share that we met a Year 4 class in Spain by videocall, it was very exciting, and we had the chance to show off our greetings in Spanish!

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

Goldfinch Class (Y2)

Hopefully you got to taste a little of the healthy wraps the children came home with last week. The children thoroughly enjoyed fruit tasting and then making wraps by choosing and cutting their own vegetables to go inside. They were very adept at cutting with the knives!!



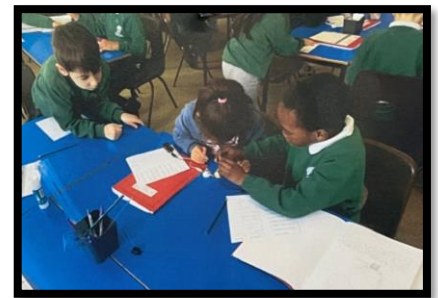
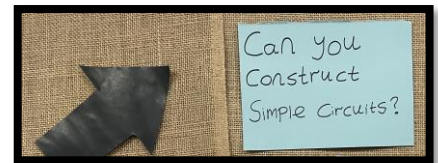
They also had an opportunity to be artists by using pastels to sketch the insides of a range of citrus fruits. This week we have moved on to a new enquiry called, 'How are schools the same?'

The children had a zoom call with another school in Spain to

look at some of the similarities in our schools. If you have any links we could make with schools in other countries, or you have any photos of classrooms please let us know.

Sparrow Class (Y3/Y4)

This term Sparrow class have been looking at 'How to switch off?' this has been our enquiry question. We have been scientist and geographers looking at ways that we can save or reduce energy.



We did an audit around the school to see how money could be saved and how the school uses electricity. We have been very practical getting to use the circuit equipment to make light bulbs, light and buzzers to buzz. Here are a couple of pictures from our enquiry topic this term.

Kingfisher Class (Y5)

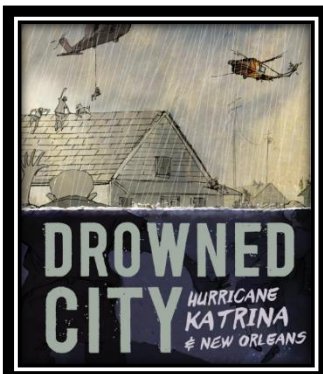
No updates from Kingfisher Class

Owl Class (Y6)

We have had a busy fortnight in Owl Class, completing our termly assessment cycle and working on identifying which next steps we need to focus our attention on.

We are welcoming additional adults who will be supporting the children in a number of ways; Mr Matthews, who will be offering weekly tutoring to close attainment gaps, several reading buddies from the BBC, mathematician Mr Bloomer who thrills us with his passion for numbers twice a week, and Miss Hayes who has joined us as an additional adult in class.

In English, we have worked on analysing and writing poetry, and are now focussing on recipes and instructional writing. In PE, we are coming to the end of what has been an incredible unit of work on interpretive dance, based on our work in English. The children have created stunning dances, focussing on sequences of repetitive movements and rhythm. The final pieces have been touching, beautiful and clearly indicative of how moving we have found this term's class novel *Drowned City* by Don Brown.



Golden Eagles (Y3 / Y4 / Y5 / Y6)

Golden Eagles went to the Mshed. We saw lots of interesting things from Bristol in the past, like this old bus.



We also saw a big map where we could find our school and hotels.

We have been making models of hot air balloons. It took a lot of patience!



What's on

Here are some dates and reminders...

PTA Meeting

TBA

Forest School

Robin and Golden Eagle

~~Mon, 20 Feb~~ (Cancelled)

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

Bristol Grammar School

Local Trip:

Wed, 22 Feb - Y3/Y4, Y6

Coach Trip:

Failand Outdoor Sports Day

Wed, 22 Feb - Y5

Coach Trip:

Failand Forest School

Wed, 22 Feb - Y1, Y2

Nowruz نوروز

Tue, 21 Mar

Bank Holidays:

Mon, 1 May - No School

Mon, 8 May - Coronation Day

Term Dates

Term 4:

Mon, 20 Feb – Fri, 31 Mar

Term 5:

Mon, 17 Apr – Fri, 26 May

Term 6:

Mon, 5 Jun – Fri, 21 Jul



Nowruz

نوروز

**On March 21st 2023, we will be celebrating the Afghan New Year festival of Nowruz in school.
If any Afghan parents would like to help us with this, you would be extremely welcome.**

Pashto

د 2023 کال د مارچ په 21 مه به مور په
ښوونځي کې د نوروز د افغان نوي کال جشن
ولمانځو.
که کوم افغان مور او پلار غواړي چې په
دې برخه کې له مور سره مرسته وکړي،
تاسو ته به ښه راغلاست وایو.

Farsi

در 21 مارس 2023، جشن سال نو افغانی
نوروز را در مدارس جشن خواهیم گرفت.
اگر یکی از والدین افغان مایل است در
این زمینه به ما کمک کند، بسیار خوش
آمدید.



Our school is working towards the School of Sanctuary Award. Last week, we had an assembly all about the word *sanctuary*. We looked at some pictures to help us think about what *sanctuary* means.



We want our school to be a safe place for everyone and a place of sanctuary for all newly arrived children to flourish.

I am leading on this work in school and would welcome support from any parents, especially those who know what it's like to come to the UK seeking sanctuary. If you are interested in helping please come and say hello. I am on the playground most afternoons, or you could leave a message with the office.



This is Dr. Waheed Arian who came to UK as a child refugee from Afghanistan. His story is inspirational. Do you have an interesting story about your journey from another country?

We would love to hear it.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Welsh
Golden Eagles Class Teacher

Sanctuary

Святилище پٽتځای الملاذ الآمن

Noddfa

جاىگاه مقدس 避难所

Fristad अभ्यारण्य Santuario

Forest School

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

Monday 20 Feb (Cancelled)

Monday 27 Feb

Monday 6 Mar

Monday 13 Mar

Monday 20 Mar

Monday 27 Mar



Is your child ready for Forest School?
Children should dress in layers



When the weather changes, your child should be able to change clothes

