

Willow Park News

6 March 2023



Willow Park
C of E Primary School



Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

Last week was very busy culminating with our annual World Book Day on Friday. It was wonderful to see so many children dressed up as their favourite book character, dressed in blue or in pyjamas! All children studied the same book and hopefully their learning will be shared on twitter this week. We even had a special assembly from Rob Starling - a real life author and an ex-teacher of St Michaels on the Mount! A very inspirational assembly where the children listened and asked some excellent questions!

Cake sale

Also, last week we had a cake sale to raise funds for the Turkey / Syria Earthquake disaster. Between us we raised over £132! Thank you to all staff that made this happen and to the PTA for their ongoing support. Willow Park really showing how we can 'be the light' to our communities near and far.

Weather

With the weather expected to take a cold turn this week please ensure your children are wrapped up. Please ensure they come to school with a coat and hat, especially if your child is taking part in forest school activities.

Attendance

Sadly, attendance is continuing to fall. Please remember all holidays will be unauthorised. After discussions with Bristol City council and the Governors, we have decided that the final option of fining families may now happen. Please understand that this is something we do not want to do. Please use this guide to understand how important it is for your children to be in school:

I hope you all manage to have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all again next week

Best wishes,

Chris Larke-Phillips
Head Teacher

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Robin Class (YR)

This term has gone off to a great start. The children have started learning about spring in their enquiry lessons and this has been supported by them starting Forest School lessons on Monday Mornings (which they love!)

We kindly request that all children come in with their book bags as this makes it easier for staff to read with the children and change their books.

Starling Class (Y1)

Starling Class and Goldfinch Class were invited to Forest school by the BGS, we had the pleasure of enjoying their lovely facilities and it was so much fun! That afternoon, we learnt so much about the forest and I need to say that the behaviour was absolutely perfect. It was such an enriching experience and we were lucky that it didn't rain.



We looked for mini beast, played in the mud kitchen, climbed many trees and even we cooked s'mores (so tasty!) What a wonderful day!

Goldfinch Class (Y2)

Goldfinch had a wonderful time participating in forest school activities at Bristol Grammar school. They loved building dens, hunting for bugs, playing in the mud kitchen and toasting marshmallows and eating s'mores.



We have enjoyed looking at classrooms in India and Nepal as part of our new enquiry, 'How are schools the same?' In RE the children loved making their own Mezuzahs with their own designs and own rules for living a good life. In PE they responded really well to a lesson on circuit training.

Sparrow Class (Y3/Y4)

Recently Sparrow class went to Bristol Grammar School. Year 4 took part in a drama workshop and Year 3 took part in a music workshop. Both classes had a great time and really enjoyed the workshops.



Last week our class did some cooking! We made vegetable samosas as part of our Enquiry topic. The children had a great time cooking; being able to cut, mix, fry and fold the ingredients to make the vegetable samosas.

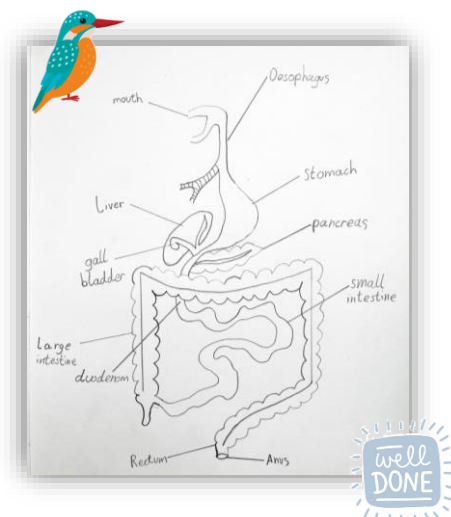


Kingfisher Class (Y5)

Kingfisher Class recently was taken to a sports day at Bristol Grammar School Failand. They had a blast! The children represented Willow Park incredibly well by displaying exemplary behaviour.



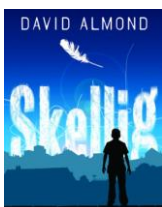
This past week the class learnt about the digestive system and showed their artistic talent by drawing sketches of the human torso.



This week our enquiry will lead to learning how to cook a savoury dish.

Owl Class (Y6)

We have had an eventful fortnight in Owl Class since returning from our break. We have started a new class novel, Skellig by David Almond,



and are enjoying being 'theme detectives' as we pick our way through this mysterious tale. Learning to spot and link recurring themes in the works of authors, poets, musicians and artists is giving us lots to think about.



So many things seem to be connected when we give ourselves time to look! In PE, we have been learning to use some of our larger equipment in preparation for this term's unit of work on gymnastics. We enjoyed an amazing trip to Bristol Grammar School where we used their impressive sports facilities to do indoor athletics - such a lot of fun!

Many of us have joined SATs Revision Club on Tuesday and Thursday after school where we get into some intense revision for May's exams. We're able to look in depth at tricky questions and explore misconceptions and fine-tune our exam strategies. Everyone is welcome and there are still places; just enquire in the office!



Tuesdays	Thursdays
3:20 – 4:30	3:20 – 4:30

Golden Eagles (Y3 / Y4 / Y5 / Y6)

Golden Eagles have been making model kites using a marbling technique. It was messy but we love the results!



We had an All -Sorts sale to raise money for Turkey and Syria. We raised over £35 and had lots of fun.



We also visited Bristol Grammar School where we had a dance workshop about different festivals around the world.



To properly welcome and celebrate all our families from Afghanistan and other countries that celebrate Nowruz, we will be having a special celebrations day on March 21st.

Please look out for your invitation and if you can help with cooking or music, please see Mrs Welsh, Mrs van der Laan or Ms Parker.

What's on

Here are some dates and reminders...

PTA Meeting

TBA

Forest School

Robin and Golden Eagle

Mon, 6 Mar

Mon, 13 Mar Mon, 20 Mar

Mon, 27 Mar Mon, 17 Apr

Mon, 24 Apr Mon, 15 May

Mon, 22 May Mon, 5 Jun

Mon, 12 Jun Mon, 26 Jun

Mon, 3 Jul Mon, 10 Jul

Nowruz نوروز

Tue, 21 Mar

BGS Financial First Aid

Workshop:

Tue, 28 June - Y6

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

Святыліцце	پټنځای	الملاذ الآمن
Noddfa		
جاىگاه مقدس	避難所	
Fristad	अभ्यारण्य	Santuاريو

Forest School

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

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

