

Willow Park News 9

25 March 2022



Willow Park
C of E Primary School



Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

It has been wonderful to see the return of the beautiful weather this week and really do hope that it is here to stay. At the time of writing this it is a glorious 18 degrees with the sunshine blazing through my office window.

The good weather seems to have had an impact on children and staff as everyone has been in high spirits this week. It has been good to spend more time in classes - children really are showing how much progress they are making now!



Last Tuesday I showed around some visitors from the Local Authority, and they were greatly impressed with our children's behaviour and positive attitudes to learning. The even mentioned that our school had a unique feeling about it that they haven't seen before - a very special comment indeed!

Covid-19

We have had several cases of Covid-19 in school this week and this hasn't been a surprise with all restrictions being lifted. Please rest assured that we still have preventative measures in place to reduce the spread. Please encourage your children to wash hands as much as possible and if they are showing symptoms, please ensure they get a PCR test. For advice on when children can return to school when positive please contact the school office.

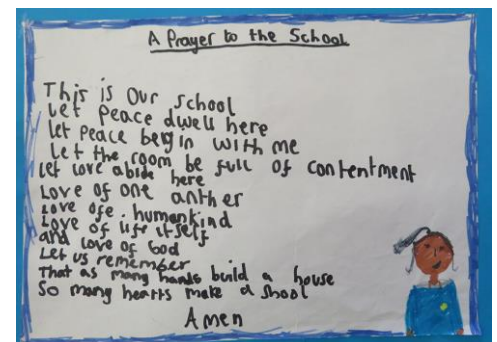
New children

Next week we have two new children starting with us who are having treatment at the Children's Hospital. As always, I am sure that our children will make them feel welcome, but could I ask you to remind them about playing kindly

and ensuring we continue to follow good hygiene measures to keep our new arrivals fit and well (well, everyone for that matter)!

I am sending you a separate letter with more information today.

And a prayer.....



.....to remind us that our school is a place of sanctuary and safety. This prayer really does epitomise Willow Park.

Best wishes

Chris Larke-Phillips

Mental Health Support

We are pleased to announce that we now have the support of a Mental Health Specialist who will be supporting pupils and classes and the whole school community in a variety of initiatives in the coming months.

Amanda Impey, ELSA

Meet Your Educational Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP)...

Olivia

Hi I'm Olivia from the Mental Health Support Team. I'll be working at your school each week, say hello next time you see me!

What is MHST?

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) is here to help your school to develop ways to look after the mental health of its students, staff, parents and carers.

Our EMHPs do this by supporting your school to understand what you need, providing staff training and offering lessons on well-being. Our EMHPs are also trained to give 1-1 support to students on anxiety, low mood and other struggles with wellbeing.

Our logo is an otter because, like otters, we work as part of a team and we use tools! Some of our favourite tools are self-care, challenging negative thoughts, problem-solving and managing worries. We want to share these tools with you so that you can look after your own wellbeing and build your resilience.

If you would like to know more then chat to me or ...

MHST Tools to Thrive

Community Children's Health Partnership | oTr | CSCI

Hope for Ukraine

Willow Park mum Mariya Bykova is collecting donations for Ukraine.

If you want to make a donation please drop it off in the school office.

Please have a look at the list of items needed at the end of this newsletter.

Hope for Ukraine charity:
info@hopeforukraine.org.uk

Facebook:
Hope for Ukraine, Bristol

Robin Class (YR)

We've been busy little birds in Robin class these past few weeks. Going each week to forest school has provided the perfect opportunity to explore in depth this terms enquiry 'What is spring?'

We have been building nests and bird feeders and using wild garlic and charcoal to create Spring pictures.

We have also welcomed some new arrivals to our class... tadpoles! We will be observing them over the next few weeks and watching them develop into froglets.

We have also been making links to springtime and the Easter story in preparation to next week's visit to St Stephens church.

Starling Class (Y1)

Starling Class this week have been very busy being Authors, creating our own characters and our own story around them.

Probably you have seen on Twitter when we were Scientists last week, but as not everyone has access to social media, I thought it was worth to share some pictures of our Scientists, mixing different chemicals and making them react to make their own sticky slime.



Such a fun experience!

Goldfinch Class (Y2 / Y3)

Last week in Goldfinch class we thought about what makes a balanced meal and which foods are particularly healthy. No doubt you will have had some of your children pointing out healthy and unhealthy foods at home!

This week we have looked at some of the artwork created by Andy Warhol and the messages behind each piece. We shall be creating our own masterpieces over the next couple of weeks!

It was so lovely to see so many of you at our parent/teacher meetings and celebrate your child's learning. If you did not manage to make an appointment, please come and speak to us so we can arrange another time.

Church visit

We are looking forward to all going to St Stephen's church in the centre next Tuesday for our Easter celebration. We shall be aiming to leave school at approx.. 9:15.

If you would like to join us, you are very welcome to meet us there or walk down with us from school.

Golden Eagle Class (Y4 / Y5 / Y6)

Golden Eagles class had our first parents' evenings this week and it was a pleasure to see how happy our parents are with their children's learning.

We have been learning about time in maths. Not only telling the time on digital and analogue clocks, but also learning the days of the week and months of the year.



We are still enjoying Forest School every Monday and have been learning many new skills.



Finally, we have enjoyed reading poems about daffodils and writing our own as well as trying still life paintings.



Easter Holiday Club...

... offered by our Forest School provider

Come to the woods to play, create and eat tasty snacks around the campfire!

Easter Holiday Forest Club

For primary school age children, near Wraxhall on the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd of April, 10am to 3pm. For further information and booking spaces email veronika.simon42@gmail.com

Forest School

Starling class and **Goldfinch class** will go to Forest School on three Mondays each in Term 5.

Please keep an eye out for a letter next week!

Covid safety

This is what we continue to do to keep everyone at our school safe:

1. Regular hand washing
2. Additional lunch time cleaning
3. Ventilation of our buildings
4. Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19

Kingfisher Class (Y4 / Y5)

In the last couple of weeks Kingfisher class have enjoyed being scientists and learning all about materials and their properties. We have conducted experiments around dissolving, filtering, evaporating, and testing the thermal qualities of various materials.



All the time we are seeking to apply our learning to our enquiry question this term: 'How can science help the homeless?' There are still some more exciting experiments to carry out in the next couple of weeks and we will complete our investigations by designing a care pack for a homeless person.

In our English lessons we have been using the book *The Soup Movement* as our stimulus for writing some creative narratives, writing from the point of view of different characters. This is a great book with some challenging themes, which tie in well with our enquiry. One of the themes of the book involves the main character, Jordan, carrying out Mitzvahs - random acts of kindness to help others. This is something Kingfisher class have been thinking about in our collective worship - I hope some of you have been experiencing some Mitzvahs at home!

Owl Class (Y6)

This week, we have continued learning about area and volume: we have wrestled with formulae for calculating the area of triangles and parallelograms and the volume of cuboids. We have really enjoyed working with Sally and her team, who brought us

'Easter in a Box' and who has continued to support us with our Easter Service contribution. We are loving our Music unit, in which we are learning an accompaniment for *The Prince of Bel Air*, on glockenspiel and recorders.

Year 6 Trip to Culmington Manor

1 ½ weeks to go! Fingers crossed that the lovely spring weather will continue.

Thank you for completing your permissions and medical forms



What's on

Here are some dates and reminders...

Term 4

Parents Evening

Tue, 29 Mar: Kingfisher Class
3:30pm-6pm

Wed, 30 Mar: Robin Class
3:30pm-6pm

Year 6 Residential Trip

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

Year 6 Easter SATS Club

Wed, 13 and Thu, 14 Apr

Term 5

Clubs

Sports Clubs and Zumba Club will continue. Watch out for our letters as places fill up quickly!

Forest School

Starling Class and Goldfinch Class will go to Forest School on three Mondays each.

Swimming

Yr 3 will join Yr 6 for swimming.

SATS Week (Year 6)

Mon, 9 May – Thu, 12 May

Term Dates and INSET Days

Term 4:

Mon 28 Feb – Fri 8 Apr

Term 5:

Mon 25 Apr – Fri 27 May

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

Hope for Ukraine

Items needed

Women:

- Sanitary items
- Bodywash
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Flannel

Babies:

- Nappies
- Wet Wipes
- Barrier Cream (eg Sudocrem)
- Food Pouches
- Formula Milk
- Bottles and brushes
- Dummies
- Soft hairbrush
- Sponge
- Wash cloth

General:

- Towels
- Blankets
- Sleeping Mats
- Toddler pillows
- Toddler Duvets

Medical/Cleaning:

- Ibuprofen/Paracetamol plus liquid for children
- 1st Aid Kit (as New or short dated acceptable)
- Detergent
- Antibacterial Spray
- Non Prescription Medicine
- Clothing ****WARM****
Must be NEW/ AS NEW

Babies and Young Children

- Toddler shoes
- ANY Underwear but must be NEW