

Willow Wonder



The Willow
Primary
School
N17 6HW

Newsletter 4
June 2021

Dear Families,

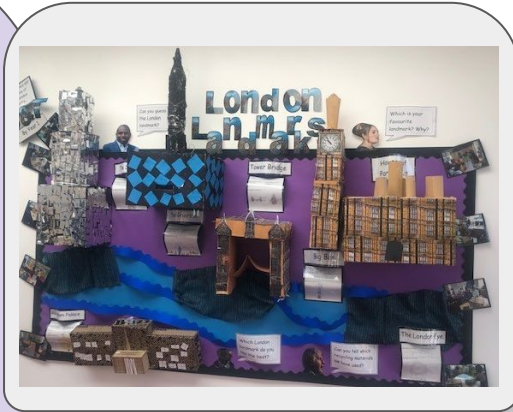
Welcome to the last half term of this school year. What a fantastic sunny start we have had. It is lovely to have such sunny weather, but please remember to put suncream on your child (all children, but especially those with light/pale skin).

This is the last half term for our amazing year 6. Even though last year and this year have been interrupted due to COVID, they have been tremendous, and are a credit to the school community. They were not able to go on the usual residential trip, but the year 6 staff team, along with our learning mentors, have worked out a great programme of events to give them special experiences to end their primary school career: *Go Ape, roller skating, Jump In, Hackney playground, water Fight, Chessington and a sleep over.* They will have the usual end of year leaver assembly and a Prom Party too. Lots of our year 6 children are transferring to Park View Secondary school (nearly a whole class). In collaboration with Park View, we have arranged for these children to spend half day a week at their new school to support transition. This week they started the 'Live Your Dreams' programme with Tracey Campbell. This is a transition programme for year 6 to help them to dispel many of the myths surrounding secondary school. It helps them to examine their feelings about change, and to look at how their behaviour can help them be successful. They also learn the amazing 'Live Your Dreams' song - any of you who have had children go through this programme know that this is the end of year song which has us all in tears!

As well as getting ready to say goodbye, we are also busy preparing to welcome our new reception children. We had a zoom induction meeting, and Umarani (Uma) is really busy showing our new families around. It is a joy and a privilege to watch children start with us at 4 years old, so tiny and unsure, and then leave in year 6 so tall and confident! That's why I have the best job in the world.

Stay safe (hands, face, space)

Dawn Ferdinand, proud headteacher at The Willow



**Design and
Technology
display**

by

**Ms
Djoshkoun**



Year 6 trip
to
Go Ape



**Year 6 Trip
to
Rollernation**



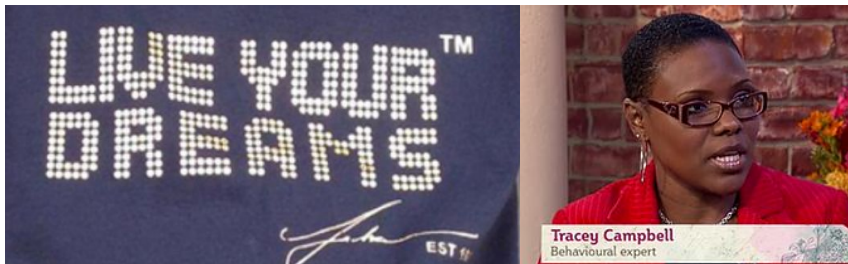


**Year 6
picnic and
fun at
Bruce Castle
Park**

Year 6 started their 'Live Your Dreams' workshops this week.

This programme helps year 6 pupils turn their dreams of secondary school success into reality.

It is designed to help them dispel many of the myths surrounding the transition to secondary school. The workshops help pupils examine their feelings about change and challenges them to identify behaviour patterns that can either help or hinder secondary success.



Feedback from our previous children:

"The sessions told the truth about secondary school and helped me see that it's not that bad."

"It helped me not to feel scared if I get lost."

"My favourite session was 'The Real Deal about Secondary School' because we heard the truth from Year 7s on the video."

Topics covered:

1. **How do I deal with what I feel?** Facing feelings
2. **Is it true that this happens to you?** Dispelling myths
3. **Is there something in your way?** Identifying barriers
4. **Do you know where you're going to?** Chasing dreams
5. **What's the sound when you're around?** Adding value
6. **How far is far enough?** Finishing strong

Spotlight on Year 2!

School is not just about reading, maths and English. Year 2 have been enjoying other subjects, like science and history, so we thought we would celebrate these subjects, and showcase the wonderful work our children have done!

SCIENCE

Our science topic for this term has been 'Animals Including Humans'. Year 2 have been learning about how important it is to exercise, have a balanced diet and maintain good hygiene to stay healthy.



Live Chicks

Earlier in the term, we researched the life cycle of chickens using Chromebooks. Now, we have live eggs in the classroom which will be **hatching this week!**

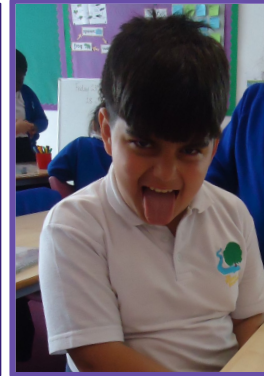


Heart rate

In another lesson, we measured our heart rate before and after exercise to see if it increased or decreased. **Parents:** please ask your child what we found out!

Growing Bacteria

In one lesson, we conducted an experiment to find out which surface had the most bacteria (thankfully it wasn't Ms Mason's coffee cup or Ms Wright's keyboard!). We used petri dishes with agar in; this helps the bacteria grow because the bacteria feed on it. The end result was fascinating - who knew bacteria could grow to be so colourful (and smell so unpleasant!)?



Did you know?

If left to grow, bacteria can double in number every 20 minutes. That's a lot of bacteria!



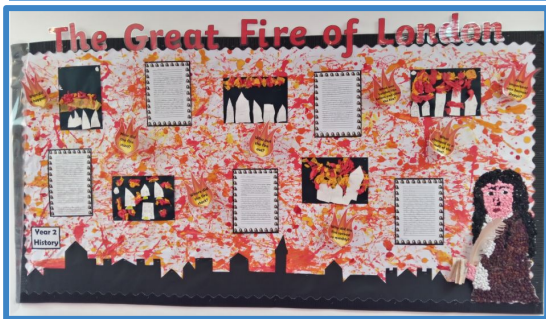
Spotlight on Year 2!

HISTORY

In history our topic this term is the Great Fire of London. Year 2 have been learning about the causes of the fire and investigating why the fire spread so quickly. We have also been learning about how life was different in the Stuart Period.

Samuel Pepys Diary Entries

We wrote diary entries in the style of Samuel Pepys. Some are on display in the school corridor!



Did you know?

The famous diarist, Samuel Pepys saved a giant cheese from The Great Fire of London in 1666. We know this because he wrote about it in his diary.

Drama

We imagined what the fire might have been like by acting as news reporters interviewing eyewitnesses at the scene.

Great Fire of London Art

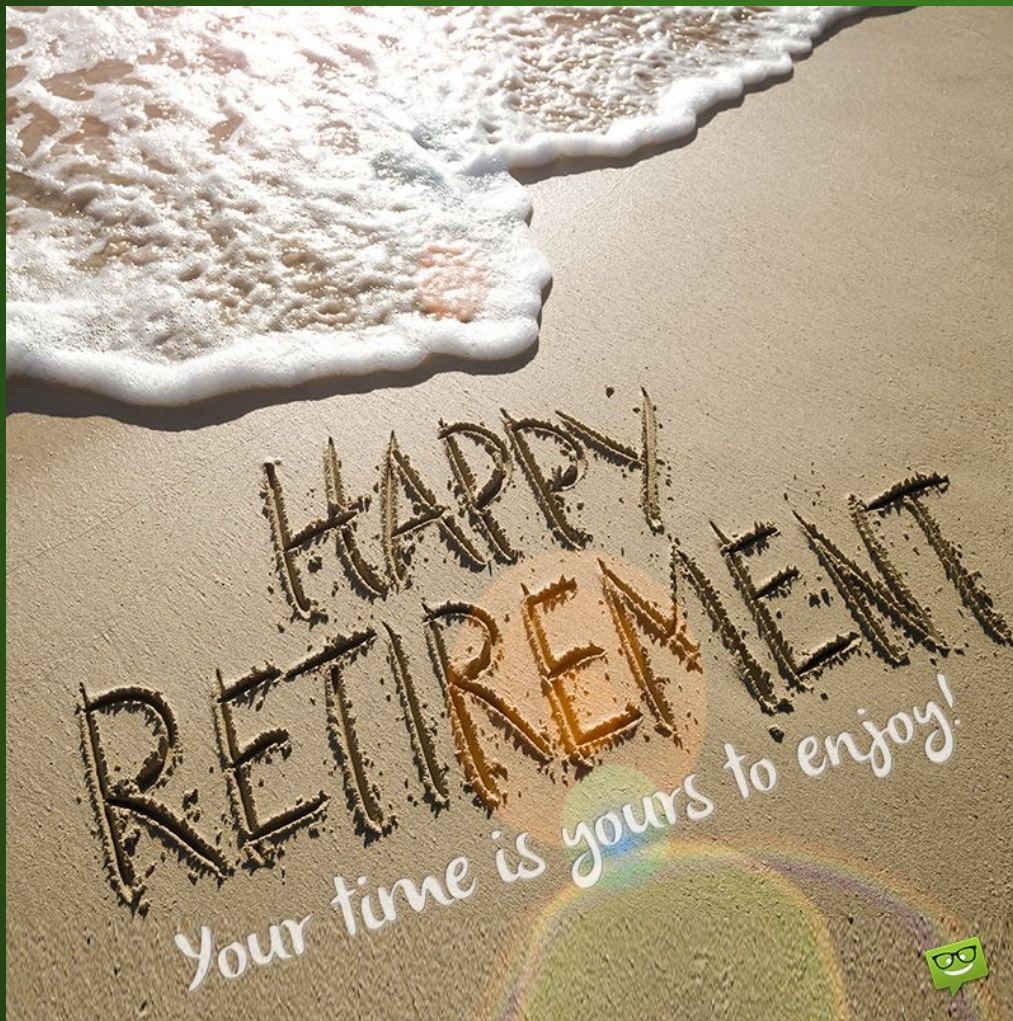
We used oil pastels and black paint to create these beautiful pieces of artwork to represent the fire.



Triangle of Trade

We learnt about trade between Africa, Europe and America in the 1600s. We found out that sugar comes from sugar cane in the Caribbean and tasted some ourselves.

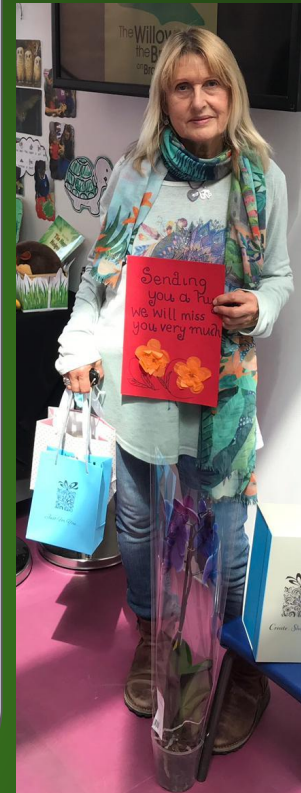




We said a sad goodbye to our in-school counsellor - **Belinda Sutherland.**

Belinda has been working with us for over 10 years doing 1-1 counselling sessions with children from a range of classes. She made a massive impact on the lives of many of our children, by **giving them a safe space to talk and play** whilst they worked through issues they had.

We wish her the very best in her retirement.



We welcome Jo Raingold as our new in- school counsellor.

Interview
with our
headteacher
Miss Ferdinand
By Harisa
in Year 5



Interview with Miss Ferdinand

Do you have a sweet tooth?

I certainly do! I enjoy eating cakes and biscuits, and in particular, salt and sweet popcorn. Maureen at The Brook makes the best Victoria sandwich cake.

HF: Where do you see yourself in five years time?

DF: **Ha ha!** Somewhere in the hot sun and the sand, sitting on the beach, reading my favourite book!

If you retired, who would be able to keep the school on track?

I've an amazing deputy head and assistant head, so my INCREDIBLE SLT will make sure the school stays Outstanding. Ms Harris and Ms Ballantyne already know how to run the school without me – in fact, they *do* run the school!

How long have you been teaching?

(Ggs, whispers) People are going to know how old I am...!

You look like you're, like, late 20s.

Oh, I *love* you!! I have been teaching 30 years this year, and I've been a headteacher for 20 years. So I have *a lot* of experience. And I love my job as much as I loved it the first week. It's amazing. **Teaching is the best career in the world!**

Back to a deep question. How important is it to keep your students safe?

That's the most important part of the job - that children are safe, whether here or at home. My job is 365 days of the year, 24 hours a day. You will always be my students and I will always be worried about you, and think about you. Keeping children safe is number one – even more important than teaching them to read or write.

Would you rather have a lion or a tiger as a pet?

Well, panthers are my favourite! But I think a tiger. I have a tabby cat at home who is quite tiger-like. Lions have great manes, but tigers are absolutely gorgeous.

Interview with Miss Ferdinand

After all that's happens with COVID, what do you wish for us to have?

I'm hoping we can get through this lockdown period soon, and come back together as we used to, when children could be anywhere in the school or playground. What I've missed the most is all my hugs from children and staff; and I think some children have really missed that as well. I think that will support children and how they're feeling – and some of the adults too. I want to get back to that connectedness where we all can be together, like in assemblies, and feel that big sense of community.

What do you really want to do to our school, but for some reason you can't?

One of the big things is to improve the environment, and I'd like to get some artists in. Some of the walls, especially on the stairwells, are still plain and blank, and I'd like to fill them with beautiful photography, paintings, drawings – and make it stunning as you walk up or down the stairs. I haven't managed to achieve that yet, but it's something I really want. It's more about being able to afford it, because it is quite expensive.

What inspired you to become a headteacher?

At my first school, unfortunately, the headteacher wasn't very good, and I thought, 'I could do the job better than him!' I wanted to be a headteacher to influence the lives of lots more children.

What was your funniest experience at work?

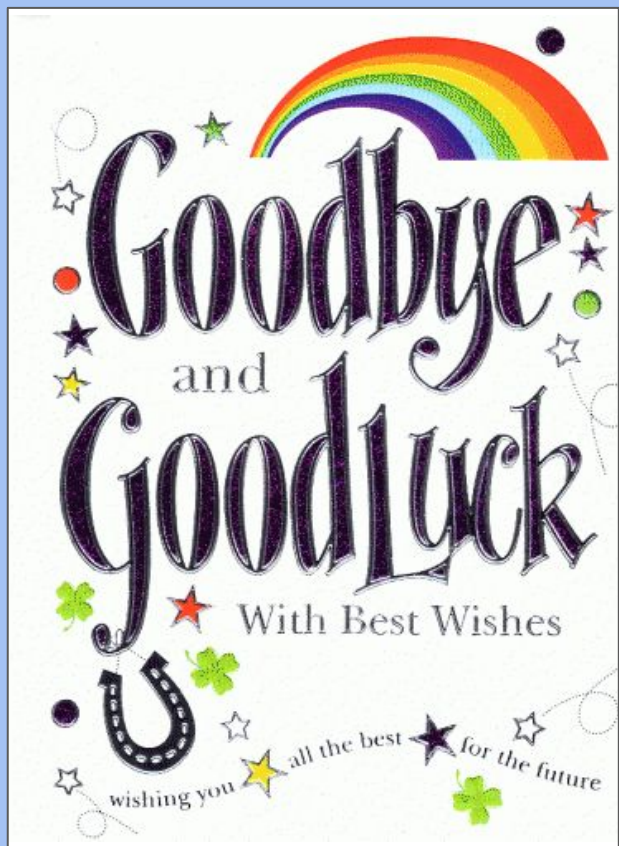
What I have love is ***I'm a teacher, get me out of here!*** Children get to throw pies in staff's faces. That's really awesome.

What do you think about a sensible student teaching one of the lessons?

Yes, totally! And it has happened – Niah [Year 5 Cuckoo] did a lesson on a PowerPoint at home, and then came and taught it to the class! We really want to inspire people to be teachers.

How important to you is your heritage? I can see amazing art and sculpture in your office.

Yes, it definitely is. I believe you should bring your whole self to work and to school. I am of African descent, through the Caribbean, so I have my St. Kitts and Nevis flag here – the island I'm from. But you'll see things from Africa as well.



We are saying a really sad goodbye and goodluck to **Mr Gottlieb** who has been working in year 5 as an **academic mentor**. He has been helping our children to improve their reading and writing. Mr Gottlieb is going to train with the *TeachFirst* charity to be a secondary music teacher.

He has done a tremendous job over the last 6 months (including working with Harisa in year 5 to do the interview of Miss Ferdinand featured above)





We talked with Adyssa and she recommended a very energetic show called the next step, all about dance and performance. So if you are a dancer you will surely like this one.

THE
NEXT
STEP



Lisa recommended Go! A series all about a girl who is passionate about music.

Year 5 Feature



Mariam suggested a brand new show that has just been released on Netflix called Wishdragon. A boy tries to find his childhood friend and on the way he finds a new friend.



Who said wet
play was
boring?

Certainly not
these children
in **Year 5**
enjoying
'Just Dance'

We will be offering a Summer holiday camp again this year. This will take place from Monday, 26th July to Thursday, 19th August 2021. ***The camp will run Monday to Thursday from 10.30 am to 2pm.***

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Look out for the booking form

Specialist days:
*fun fair day,
farm animal day*

The Willow Summer Holiday Camp 2021



Children will be able to choose which activities they would like to do each day:

- Bouncy castle
- Arts and crafts
- Paddling pool
- Dance lessons
- Circus skills
- Bikes
- Sports (football, basketball, cricket)
- Archery
- Free play in the playground
- Forest School experience
- And lots, lots more

From Ms Harris, the Deputy Headteacher...



On Friday 18th June we launched our newly updated Friday afternoon home learning activities! It's all on Google Classroom.

Every Friday afternoon children will always do:

- Reading
- Spelling
- Mathletics

Don't forget to watch Friday assembly too - posted in the stream each week!

Dojo points awarded for work



Aspiring actor? Try the drama course.

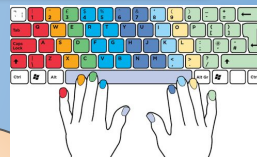


Habla Espanol?

Your child could learn Spanish as their Friday afternoon activity



Children also choose a learning course from our exciting activity menus.



And lots more - go to the next page to see an example

Slow to type?
Improve speed & skill with touch typing games

EXAMPLE - Y5 & 6 Friday Home Learning

Children choose the course they are interested in and do one lesson each week.

	TOUCH TYPING Improve your typing skills and speed	ART Draw everyday series with author and illustrator JJK COMICS	DRAMA Oak Academy Exploring myths and legends through drama	SPANISH Duolingo	COMPUTING Oak Academy Learn how to create your own web page	DANCE Lessons from the national dance institute Aretha Franklin
Week 1	You can do this every Friday!	Body Language https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1ZwXSLaMCU&list=PLg9pgeNtuVmh4uPMsFTJUMTYOE8-o7AI	Beowulf - part 1 https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/beowulf-part-1-cmu3gr	You can do this every Friday!	What makes a good website https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/what-makes-a-good-website-c9gkcc	Lesson 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXLMGrygFM&list=PLXtvGvmJq6YnFjBnmC7QflaVLXH009sHQ&index=37
Week 2	BBC Dance mat 4 different levels of play https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr	Word Balloons https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF-eMBJwvE&list=PLg9pgeNtuVmh4uPMsFTJUMTYOE8-o7AI&index=2	Beowulf - part 2 https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/beowulf-part-2-60b3c	Choose your starting level and the time of the lesson - we recommend choosing AT LEAST 15 mins	Web page layout https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/how-would-you-lay-out-your-web-page-6djo2t	Lesson 2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_YQMnK9eSs&list=PLXtvGvmJq6YnFjBnmC7QflaVLXH009sHQ&index=34
Week 3	OR Typing Club https://www.typingclub.com/	Friends https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8tgDuWkH&list=PLg9pgeNtuVmh4uPMsFTJUMTYOE8-o7AI&index=3	Theseus and the Minotaur - part 1 https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/theseus-and-the-minotaur-part-1-60y30e	https://www.duolingo.com/course/es/en/Learn-Spanish	Copyright or CopyWRONG? https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/copyright-or-copywrong-60tkgc	Lesson 3 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Za5j269uCc&list=PLXtvGvmJq6YnFjBnmC7QflaVLXH009sHQ&index=31
Week 4		Panels https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjWk-tkb8I&list=PLg9pgeNtuVmh4uPMsFTJUMTYOE8-o7AI&index=4	Theseus and the Minotaur - part 2 https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/theseus-and-the-minotaur-part-2-6xh3jd		How does it look? https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/how-does-it-look-cmt66d	Lesson 4 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8XQGlelmdI&list=PLXtvGvmJq6YnFjBnmC7QflaVLXH009sHQ&index=28
Week 5		Brainstorming https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yprQYunPOzI&list=PLg9pgeNtuVmh4uPMsFTJUMTYOE8-o7AI&index=5			Follow the breadcrumbs https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/follow-the-breadcrumbs-c4u36c EXTRA LESSON Think before you link https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/think-before-you-link-c9j5at	

Refugee Week Focus

Children learnt about what it means to be a refugee with the help of our [VotesforSchools](#) programme. This year, the theme is 'We Cannot Walk Alone'. Children heard about inspirational stories from people who have come to the UK to seek refuge, and have really made big contributions. Here are a couple of examples;



This is **Imad**. He **arrived in the UK in 2015** after spending **three months** travelling from **Syria**. When he was in Syria, he owned several **restaurants, coffee shops, and juice bars**.



When he got to the UK, he **only had £12 in his pocket**. He used this **money** get the bus to **Doncaster, Yorkshire**, where his **sister lived**. For a while he worked as a **car washer** and **car salesman**.

Since then, he has **crowdfunded enough money to set up a restaurant** in the centre of **London**, which opened in May. He has promised that **£1 from every food bill** will be donated to **Choose Love**, an organisation that **supports refugees** across Europe.



This is **Rosanna**. She left her home country of **Chile** in **1976** because of the **political situation** there. She **travelled via Argentina** to a small community in **Scotland**!



A **few years ago**, Rosanna was all ready to **retire** – she had moved from **London** to a town called **Hastings**, which is **near the sea**. However, during this time there were many **refugees arriving in Europe**.

This **reminded Rosanna of her experience** of having to leave her home country all those years ago. So, she set up a **Buddy Project** in Hastings in 2017, which **introduced refugees arriving** in the UK with **local people** – now, she has over **100 "Buddies"** involved! All this, she said, was **inspired** by the **warm welcome she received** as a child.

Did you know? About refugees...

1. There are 79.5 million people around the world who have been forcibly displaced—the highest figure ever recorded.
2. About 1% of the world's population is displaced.
3. 50% of the world's refugees are children.
4. Developing countries host more than 85% of the world's refugees.
5. Around 80% of Syrian refugee families live below the poverty line.
6. An estimated 25% of internally displaced peoples are young women, with pregnant women making up another 4%.
7. One person is forcibly displaced approximately every two seconds.
8. As of May 2020, there were 2.2 million asylum seekers from South Sudan alone.
9. For £8, a Syrian refugee girl can have a kit with basic menstrual hygiene supplies.
10. With £27, you can provide two weeks worth of food for a Rohingya refugee family in Bangladesh

<https://www.globalgiving.org/learn/world-refugee-day-facts/>



Photo: Heal Syrian Refugee Children Through Photography by Emfasis Foundation



Photo: Washable Feminine Hygiene for Syrian Refugees by Days for Girls International

Attendance



Winners with over
98% attendance...

Squirrel
Fox
Primrose

Class with no child late for
the full week:

Rabbit

It is really important that we teach children to be punctual. Too many children are coming to school after registration. If your child is not at the gate when the rest of their class is let in, they are probably late. Your child needs to be at the gate, five minutes before their start time, so they have time to get to their classroom to start their school learning day on time.

Class	Weekending 11 th June 2021
Butterfly	96.1
Frog	93.1
Rabbit	97.7
Squirrel	98.0
Fox	98.7
Hedgehog	96.4
Buttercup	94.4
Primrose	98.0
Bluebell	95.5
Lily	96.7
Cuckoo	95.8
Owl	96.7
Hawk	96.4
Woodpecker	95.8



Important reminders



Holidays and ***time out of school for any reason other than sickness, must ONLY be taken during school holiday time***, which is approximately 3 months of the calendar year. ***You may be fined by Haringey Authority*** if you take time out of the school term.

If you change your mobile details or move house let us know **ASAP**. In emergencies, we can only contact you via the numbers you have given us! We also send you **good news via the text service** and updates on your child.

One adult to attend pickup/dropoff of children please and ***wear a mask - thank you.***

Dentist/Eye appointments need to be made out of school hours or as close to the end of the day as possible to minimise disruption. You must send in proof to the attendance officer, Zerin via the admin email.

If your child is ill with Covid 19 symptoms, siblings must not come to school and the whole household needs a PCR covid19 test (not a lateral flow test).

Emails - how to contact the school explained

We currently have three email addresses for you to contact us - each one is different.

admin@thewillow.haringey.sch.uk

This is the **MAIN email** to use for all things related to school life. Requests to contact teachers' about your child, absence updates, appointments proof and general enquiries.

This is checked hourly each day.

bess@thewillow.haringey.sch.uk

This is the email for all things related to **BREAKFAST childcare or AFTER SCHOOL childcare**, ie payments, how to book, confirmation you want a space etc.

This is checked twice a day.

parents@thewillow.haringey.sch.uk

This email address is confidential managed by Umarani Nathan (PA to Headteacher) or Dawn Ferdinand (Headteacher) only. All feedback, strategic enquiries, or **new admission** queries should come to this email.

This is checked daily.

Help understand children's eating habits and get a £30 shopping/food voucher FREE!

NatCen Social Research is inviting you to express an interest in taking part in the Family Food Experience study being conducted on behalf of City, University of London. NatCen is Britain's largest independent social research agency.

What are NatCen looking for? We are looking for **families with primary school aged children (aged 4–11 years old)** to take part in this study to help us understand family food environments and children's eating habits. We would like **one adult in your household to complete an interview** and we will also take the *height and weight measurements of one primary school aged child in your household*.

What happens if I am selected to take part? If you register your interest and are selected to take part, **you will receive a letter in the post in the next few months**. An interviewer from NatCen Social Research will then contact you to arrange a convenient time for you to complete the interview. You can choose whether they visit you at home or call you to complete the interview over the phone. This visit or call will last approximately 60–80 minutes during which the interviewer will ask you some questions about your family environment, your child's eating habits and their preferred foods. The interviewer will also measure, or ask you to measure, the height and weight of your primary school aged child. We are working in line with the Government guidance to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission and ensure that we keep you and our interviewers safe.

Who is carrying out the survey? City, University of London has asked NatCen Social Research to carry out the survey, with funding from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). **To find out more you can visit natcen.ac.uk.**

As a thank you for taking part, when you complete the interview (including your child's measurements being taken) you will receive a £30 shopping voucher that can be used in a wide range of high-street and online shops.

How can I register? To register your interest in this study please visit survey.natcen.ac.uk/FFE21 If you prefer, you can also call on Freephone 0800 652 4568. When you register, we ask that you please provide: • the name of the school your child(ren) attends • your name • your address, telephone number, email address • the sex, age and ethnicity of the primary school aged children in your household. For more information please visit www.natcen.ac.uk/familyfood. We hope you are willing to take part in this vital research and thank you for your time.



I am writing to say that today my children will be absent for the Eid celebration.

Thanks to the school for giving a chance to everyone to celebrate!!!

I know the last year or so must have been a real nightmare for you guys and for all of the staff at the school, I just want to take this opportunity to say thank you, and well done.

Overheard....

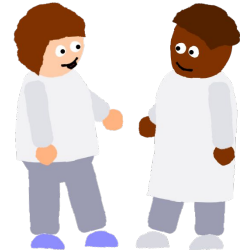
Yr 1 child "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Reception child "I want to be a queen as I am a princess"

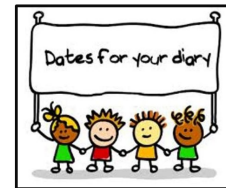
Yr 1 child "You can't be a princess as your mum has to be a queen!"

Reception child " Ok I will just be a princess. What do you want to do?"

Yr 1 child "I want to be an Olympic swimmer"



Useful Dates and Information for Parents/Carers



Term Dates:

**Summer
term ENDS
at 1pm
(approx) on
Thursday 22
July 2021**

**Return to school
8.45am Yrs 1-6
Monday 6
September 2021**



Just for parents/carers:

BPAC are hosting a
tea/coffee/chat event on
**Friday 9 July 2021 from
9-10am.**

The last one was a huge
success. Same rules apply,
tables of up to 6, and outside
school again on the meadow.
Contact
broadwaterspac@gmail.com
for more information.

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/thewillowN17>



TeachFirst



Promoting the importance of children's speech, language and communication with The Communication Trust.

