

Willow Green Academy

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we near the end of term, the children and staff have already begun thinking about the festive period and how we will celebrate it in school. The classrooms are now decorated, the tree is up in the Main Hall and there are already some Christmas preparations taking place. Having said that, we are not quite at Christmas yet and there has been a lot of hard work taking place this week. Across school, the children have been completing some end-of-term assessments and we are so proud of how well they have applied themselves at the end of a very busy term. They have shown tenacity and dedication and I'm sure this will result in some excellent outcomes. Well done to everyone!

EYFS

Next week we welcome back our EYFS children. Reception will be back in school on Monday and Nursery will return on Tuesday and we are all looking forward to having them back - it surely has been a little bit quieter at this end of school without them here!

I know that, over the past two weeks, many of the children in EYFS have accessed our remote learning sessions and I would like to say thank you to all of the parents and carers who have engaged so well with our remote provision. I would also like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Frost, Mrs Carpenter, Mrs Shreeves and the Early Years team who have worked so hard to ensure that this all took place.

Y4 update

I can confirm that Mrs Moreton will continue to teach the Y4 class until the end of term.

Gifts for Staff

We have had some enquiries from parents as to whether we can accept Christmas 'Thank you' gifts for staff this year. Although all of the staff truly deserve and really appreciate the sentiment, we would prefer that you show your gratitude by supporting our chosen charity, The Children's Air ambulance @ChildrensAirAmb with a small donation. If you have already organised or bought a gift, then we do ask that these arrive in school no later than next Friday, 11th December.

I hope you all have safe and restful weekend. Thank you for your continued support. Mr Parkinson

Golden Awards	
Year 1	Ollie
Year 2	Logan
Year 3	Mia
Year 4	Riley M
Year 5	Joe
Year 6	Miley

Dates for your diary:
Thursday 10th December Flu vaccination mop up.
Friday 11th December Christmas Jumper Day. Carols in school. Last day to bring Christmas cards to school.
Friday 18th December End of half term.
Monday 4th January INSET Day. School closed to pupils.

Attendance and Lates – Our Attendance Target for the year is 97%						
This week: 97.1% and 9 late.			Year to date: 96.9%.			
Reception Isolating	Year 1 98.2%, 2 late	Year 2 95.0%, 1 late	Year 3 96.4%, 1 late	Year 4 97.1%, 3 late	Year 5 98.3%, 2 late	Year 6 97.7%, 0 late

This week's Dojo points

Reception
179

Year 1
188

Year 2
201

Year 3
118

Year 4
394

Year 5
302

Year 6
165

EYFS

After the Gruffalo last week, this week we were introduced to his child who's brave and goes in search of the Big Bad Mouse! We've just discovered a mouse but he doesn't look terribly big or terribly scary. More to come next week. After reading Kippers Monster we've been having a great time exploring shadows with our 🔦 torches. In maths we've been sizzling sausages which went pop and bang, along with a highly successful fishing trip. The boys and girls were amazing on Zoom and we look forward to seeing all their smiling faces on Monday!

Year 1

This week in Year 1 the festivities have begun. We have been busy decorating our classroom and having lots of fun creating Christmas baubles, designing and writing Christmas cards for the people in the local community and having a little boogie to some of our favourite songs. We have been working really hard in all of our subjects this week, particularly maths as we consolidate our learning on place value to 20.



Year 2

This week, we have begun our new writing unit based on a story called Elf Road. A boy finds a mysterious door and through it Billy finds a magnificent feast! Unfortunately, it all goes wrong when the dragon made of ice comes to life! Will Billy survive? The children have worked hard this week to be able to re-tell the story using expression to make it even more exciting! Why not ask them to tell you the story over the weekend? Leading on from this, we have been thinking about our own feast! We have been using adjective to make the food sound mouth-watering. We have had golden, crunch chips and think, juicy burgers hidden in a golden bun! Yum!

Year 3

This week we have been working hard on our art skills. Our focus in art this half term has been printing. We have been taking inspiration from Roman mosaics and have worked hard to create our own. We started making mosaics using squared paper and then moved on to creating a photo frame and Christmas cards. We've had lots of fun although it has been very messy. In writing we have started a new unit – 'to defeat a monster' and we have been reading 'The cobbler of Wawel and Smok the dragon'. At the beginning of the week we found a huge golden egg in our classroom and had been wondering where it might have come from....

Year 4

Year 4 have started their new story Elf Road, this week. It is about a little girl who travels through a portal to another land. But she didn't take any notice of a warning she was given and now there is a consequence! In Maths we have been multiplying and dividing by 1 and 0, using maths language like 'factor and product'. In Topic we designed and made our own Roman brooches. We have also managed to make a Christmas card to give out to local residents. P.E. was, as always, fast-paced and energetic with the Elite coaches. Another busy but enjoyable week.



Year 5

This week we have completed Christmas themed activities. We have made Christmas cards and calendars for our families and the local community. In the mornings, we have been reading Kensuke's Kingdom. The children are enjoying learning about Michael on the island and how he is trying to survive.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a challenging week this week with their mock sats but they all have been absolutely amazing in their attitude and effort. It really is incredible to see how dedicated and determined they all are, to improve. I have been blown away! We have also been busy creating our Christmas cards, Christmas calendars and also warming our vocal chords for our Christmas carol concert. We can't wait to share them with you!

Safeguarding

Willow Green Academy considers the welfare of all our pupils to be of great importance and we hope that parents are confident about their children's health and safety whilst in our academy. We will always try to share any concerns we have with parents. However, there are times when we are legally obliged to share our concerns with other agencies, without first speaking to parents, or without the consent of parents. The safety and protection of our pupils is our most important concern and we wish to reassure you that any sharing of information is done with the children's best interest at heart. If you have any concerns about the welfare or safety of any child in our school, the Designated Child Protection Officer is Miss L Walker. In his absence, you should contact Mr C Parkinson. They can be contacted through the main office. The academy has a duty to inform parents that there is a prohibition on reporting or publishing details (including on social media) that could identify anyone who is subject to an allegation.

The Government have launched a new website aimed at parents, teachers and school leaders to give practical advice on protecting young people from extremism and radicalisation. This was launched by the Education Secretary and contains information which address many questions / issues faced by parents and children. The website can be found at www.educateagainsthate.com