

Willow Green Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children of Willow Green have really hit the ground running after half term. They have come into school with energy and enthusiasm and ready to learn. Walking around the academy this week I have seen superb attitudes and behaviour in all classrooms and a real buzz of engagement with some of the fantastic activities that have been taking place. As always, it is so pleasing to see the children enjoying such a wide array of learning experiences and this is something I take great pride in saying. Due to the dedication and resilience of our wonderful staff, children are happy and motivated with the topics and learning that is happening. We have seen the Year 6 pupils enjoying their first experience of Forest Schools, classes active and engaged with sport and after schools clubs and even a surprise visitor (in the form of Edna the mannequin) who visited us from the Victorian Era - the Year 5 pupils were very surprised! All in all a very successful start to the term. Overall attendance this week was also very pleasing at 95.7%. Attendance so far for this academic year is **96.7%**.

Control measures update

As we enter our second period of national lockdown I think it is important to draw your attention to the control measures which apply directly to you as parents and carers:

We ask that:

- Parents follow the one-way system around the school site.
- Parents practise social distancing when on the school site
- To reduce the amount of people on site on any one time, only **one parent per family** will drop off and collect children
- Parents ensure that when they have collected their child/children that the children remain with them as they leave the site. Children are not to mix with pupils from other bubbles (unless they are siblings).

I am also now recommending that parents wear face coverings when on the school site at pick-up and drop-off times. This just gives us an extra control measure and helps to add to support all of our other procedures.

I trust you understand the reasons for all of these measures and thank you once again for your fantastic support and co-operation.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Parkinson

Golden Awards

Year 1	Sophie
Year 2	A
Year 3	Faye
Year 4	Rosie
Year 5	Cameron
Year 6	Billie-Mai

Dates for your diary:

Monday 9th November

Tempest photography. Individual Photos.

If your child has PE on Monday 9th, they will need to come to school in their uniform and bring their PE kit to change into.

Friday 13th November

Children in Need day. Please see separate letter that was sent on 6.11.20

Thursday 10th December

Flu vaccination mop up

Friday 18th December

End of half term

Attendance and Lates – Our Attendance Target for the year is 97%

This week: 95.7% and 14 late.

Year to date: 96.7%.

Reception 94.6%, 3 late	Year 1 96.1%, 1 late	Year 2 94.5%, 2 late	Year 3 94.8%, 3 late	Year 4 93.6%, 4 late	Year 5 96.4%, 1 late	Year 6 99.2%, 0 late
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This week's Dojo points

Reception
101

Year 1
249

Year 2
191

Year 3
151

Year 4
154

Year 5
253

Year 6
287

EYFS

This week in literacy we have been looking at the story 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have been learning how to retell a story using actions and drawing pictures. They have also used puppets and props to retell the story. Outside we have been using crates, guttering and wooden blocks to build bridges for the Troll. Inside we have used Lego to build the Troll a bridge. In maths we have been learning how to add 2 groups of objects together to find a total. We have also sequenced numbers from 1-20.

Year 1

This week in year 1 we have been consolidating our learning on addition and subtraction using the crossing out method and showing our workings out on a number line. In English we have been rehearsing our new story map and are getting ready to write it up next week. We have begun learning about verbs and have been describing the action of the wolf from the 3 little pigs story. In Science, we have been looking closely at different materials and which materials we see often in the classroom.

Year 2

This week, in year two we have been learning the story of Pirate Tom! He sailed the seven seas in his ship called the Jolly Roger but the pirates were glum because they didn't have any treasure. We have been learning the story and have really enjoyed re-telling it to anyone who will listen! Why not ask the children to tell you the story? Don't let them forget to include the actions! Also, we have continued our topic on the Great Fire of London and this week have been investigating why the fire spread so quickly. Did you know they only had buckets and wooden ladders to put the fire out with?

Year 3

We have had a lovely first week back at school.

This week we have started learning the story of Little Red Riding Hood.

We have been using Talk for Writing to help us recite the story by heart. First we made some predictions as to what the story might be about after finding clues around the classroom, there was a variety of wigs, a wicker basket, some glasses, a wolf's head and others!

Year 4

This week Year 4 have been working very hard. We have been retelling the poem of The Iron Man and thinking up actions to go with our poems ready to perform them next week. We have also created some beautiful art work in relation to the poem. We have been writing descriptions of a haunted house using some very exciting vocabulary and adjectives. Super spooky! Well done Year 4. Keep it up!

Year 5

This week we have carried on with our Victorian topic. We have looked at Victorian clothing and began to understand the different clothing of people depending on their social class. We have also started our new topic in Science: Earth and Space. We kicked off our new topic by analysing the different theories that argue whether the Earth is flat or spherical. Ask children what evidence they found most persuading.

Year 6

It has been a busy first week back for Year 6. Lots of exciting things going on, from working with Elite coaches in our PE lessons, to getting outdoors in the nature area as part of our forest schools lessons. In Maths, we have been working hard on learning the long division method as well as keeping up our improving arithmetic scores. There has also been some rather scary writing going on in English, which we look forward to sharing on Dojo next week! Polite request: As the weather is looking changeable at the minute, we would like children to bring in an old pair of tracksuit bottoms/joggers and a pair of wellies or old trainers to take part in our forest school lesson. Thanks, Mr Duncan

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