

# Willow Green Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, this week I would like to draw your attention to our current rates of attendance at Willow Green - it currently stands at **96.5%** for the Autumn term. Although this is below our usual target, it is a credit to our children and families that we have managed to get this proportion of children back into school and learning. I would also like to thank parents for their continued efforts in terms of our social distancing and safety measures on the school site - I asked last week that children remain with their parents on the one way system in and out of school and the vast majority have adhered to this, thank you. We know that the picture in relation to COVID-19 is an ever-changing one and it is our vigilance, co-operation and collective efforts that will make our school as safe as possible during these challenging times. As always, none of this seems to phase our children; they continue to approach all challenges with the same sensible and positive attitudes and I have seen these qualities applied to their learning once again this week - well done to everyone! Parents and carers will have received a letter about parents evening this week (**Wed 21st and Thursday 22nd, October**) and, although this cannot take place in a face-to-face format, the teachers are looking forward to speaking with you all about the progress and successes of this first term. As always, I hope you have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week. Thank you for your continued support. Mr Parkinson.

<b>Golden Awards</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Charlie</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Jack</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Lache</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Ashton</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Addison</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Heidi</b>

**Individual School Photos**

Tempest Photography will be coming to school to take individual school photos of the children on Monday 9th November. Due to the current situation we are unable to facilitate photographs with siblings or other family members.

**Dates for your diary:**

**Tuesday 13th October**  
INSET Day. School closed for pupils

**Tuesday 20th October**  
Flu vaccinations taking place at school

**Friday 23rd October**  
End of half term

**Monday 2nd November**  
Start of half term

**Monday 9th November**  
Tempest Photographer visiting school to take Individual Photos

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

This week: 97.4% and 25 late. Year to date: 96.5%.

<b>Reception</b> 99.0%, 3 late	<b>Year 1</b> 100%, 1 late	<b>Year 2</b> 96.1%, 5 late	<b>Year 3</b> 97.0%, 4 late	<b>Year 4</b> 96.7%, 9 late	<b>Year 5</b> 96.3%, 3 late	<b>Year 6</b> 98.1%, 0 late
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# This week's Dojo points

**Reception**  
196

**Year 1**  
219

**Year 2**  
344

**Year 3**  
180

**Year 4**  
397

**Year 5**  
286

**Year 6**  
148

## EYFS

This week in reception we have been learning all about Nocturnal animals which links to our book Owl Babies. We have been busy creating some owl pictures in our modelling area and painting.

In number, we have been ordering and sequencing our numbers and finding one more than. We have also been practicing our Harvest songs.

## Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been working really hard on our sentence structure; making sure that every sentence has a capital letter, finger space, full stop and that our writing always makes sense. In maths we have been finding the total of addition number sentences and have made fact families.



## Year 2

In year two this week, we have written some amazing stories about Mr Parkinson. He has jumped between lorries, scrambled over the church, bounced down the slide and climbed the power station! Thankfully, in the end, he did manage to get back just in time for his very important meeting! Alongside this, we have been finding out about animals and their habitats. We had a fantastic afternoon, with Mrs Moreton, exploring the habitats in our school grounds. We found spiders, millipedes, snails and even an enormous centipede!



## Year 3

In reading we have continued working on our inference skills. This week we have focussed on poetry and the children have really been stuck into their learning. Some fab inferences and deductions made by all! In maths we have been focussing on multiplication and division. We have been making sure we pick out key information from word problems to help us understand them better. We have also started our science investigations – this week we planted seeds ready to find out if taking light, warmth or water away would affect growth....

## Year 4

This week in maths we have been working hard on multiplication. We've been using songs to help us remember about using main and subordinate clauses to improve our writing. We used these skills to help write a report about the goings on in Waters Down Town. Our vocabulary skills are really improving as we have been focusing on word class. In PE we have been working hard on our agility with games to help us work on building up our skills.



## Year 5

This week, we have studied the art of Kandinsky. We are now creating our own piece of art in the style of Kandinsky, based around a piece of music (Hans Zimmer). Children have really enjoyed the abstract paintings. Furthermore, we have worked on our expression when reading out. We are working on creating suspense and mystery to engage and excite the reader.

## Year 6

In Year 6 this week we have been looking at a mural by Banksy called Clacton Pigeon. The picture is considered a little controversial. We changed it to make it much more friendly and acceptable. In Maths we have been solving multi-step problems. R.E. was comparing Christian art and expressing our opinions on which was the most impressive piece and why. As always it's been a full and busy week. Check out Twitter for the pictures. Next week, we will be preparing for our first assessment point of Year 6. It will be a good opportunity to reflect on where we are in our learning following the lockdown break. Equally, it will identify what to focus on in the next half term. We will be completing the assessments every morning so it will be important to make sure you have a good night's sleep, breakfast and arrive focused.

## 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.educateagainsfate.com](http://www.educateagainsfate.com)