



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 13th January 2023



Message from Mrs Branton

Welcome back to school and Happy New Year to you all. I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break and were able to spend time with friends and family members.

The children have settled back into school well after the holidays and have been happy to see their friends and teachers again. You will have received your child's class knowledge planner via email earlier this week. These will provide you with the children's topics for this term, along with a range of information on the key skills and vocabulary that they will be covering under their curriculum subjects. These are a great way for you to keep up to date and see what your child will be learning.

We continue to warmly welcome, with a smile, every child, every day and continue to create an environment where children enjoy coming to Willowbrook Primary School. One of the most important ways in which you can support us and your children in 2023 (and beyond) is to ensure that your children attend school every day. Attendance in school is of paramount importance as any absence can have a profoundly negative impact on their learning as important aspects of a sequence of work can be missed.

Working Together to Improve School Attendance; a document from the Department of Education states that 100% attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Those with the highest attendance achieve the highest grades at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4.

As you can see, it is exceptionally important, for the educational success of your children, to attend school as much as possible. We are always happy to talk to parents about ways the school can support them so that their children have the opportunity to attend 100% of the time. Whole school attendance this week was 98.12% with 3 classes achieving 100%, which is a fantastic start to the new term, thank you for your continued support.

On Thursday the 19th January school census day, our catering company Pabulum will be offering a 'Favourites Day' menu for the children. This is a great day for your child to try a school meal, if they haven't done so before. All infant children are entitled to free school meals under the government universal infant free school meal scheme. Junior children will be at a cost of £2.15 payable on school money, unless they are entitled to free school meals. You will find next week's menu on the forth page of the newsletter

A reminder that the closing date for primary (reception) school place applications at an Essex primary school for September 2023 is 15 January 2023.

Essex County Council held an online learning event for parents and carers of children with SEND linked to speech and language. It was an Early Years Webinar for parents- Strategies to use with your child to develop their early language and communication. The workshop is based around the TLC Top 10 Talking Tips. The tips include strategies to help a child develop their SLC skills through play and everyday experiences. The workshops were recorded and you can access it through the school website: Click on information-> SEND and equality-> Speech and language.

Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Clare Branton, Headteacher.



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Science in the News

Happy New Science Year!

We are looking forward to continuing our Science adventure in Spring Term. Watch this space to find out our amazing scientific achievements! 😊

Mrs Cirdei - Science Co-ordinator



Oak class have been exploring and developing their understanding of what electricity is. They have used some equipment to identify what components are needed and briefly explained how they work. We have also discussed and identified appliances at home that would use electricity to run as well. Well done, Oak!

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This week's Headteacher superstars are:

Charlotte, Chloë, Bobbi, Albie, Harrison and Evie



Well done

Word of the week

'Wonderful words of the week'

Key Stage 1

Whitebeam – dilemma
Chestnut - waterproof

Key Stage 2

Pine – contemporary
Oak - create
Cherry – resolution
Hawthorn - erosion



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WE STILL NEED LOTS MORE VOLUNTEERS TO GET 3PR BACK UP AND RUNNING



Dear Parents and Carers,

Pre Covid, with the help of our regular parent and child volunteers we were able to run a '3PR Parking Scheme'. Some of you may have seen the large green 3PR alien mascot that sits in the school office.

By following the 3PR 3 parking rules we are able to create a 3PR Zone in Rosen Crescent, which in turn reduces the traffic and congestion, which unfortunately builds up at drop off and pick up times.

We encourage the children to enter the 3PR zone by foot and in doing so they are rewarded with a token that they collect from a bucket each morning. The token is then taken to their class and put in a collection box. Each half term we have a count up of the tokens to see which class is our 3PR winners. They will be presented with the 3PR cup by the Alien himself in assembly.

How do we create the 3PR Zone?

This is where our regular team of parent/carer 3PR volunteers come in.

There are several ways in which we can achieve this: -

- Asking our families to walk, cycle or scoot to school.
- Our volunteers will be visible in their high viz tabard and present at the start and end of the school day to encourage anyone parking in the zone to move on and find a parking spot away from the zone.
- Then finally, we would like to be able to go back to offering a drop off point. The drop off point would be available each morning from 8.35am. Parents can drive to the allocated point in Rosen crescent, where one of our volunteers will help your child/children out of the car, leaving you free to drive off and not have to worry about finding a parking spot. Your child/children would then be walked safely down to their classrooms with one of the volunteers.

The 3PR team of volunteers seems to have worked best when we were able to have lots of volunteers covering one morning or afternoon session each. During the morning session your own child/children will be able to be part of the team by holding the buckets from which the children collect their tokens.

Morning volunteers will be required from 8.40am until 9am and afternoon volunteers from 3pm to 3.15pm.

Please contact the school office if you are able to volunteer and together let's work on making a safer environment with less traffic and congestion for the children.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Branton

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Children's lunch menu

WK 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday Favourites Day	Friday
Week commencing 16 th January 2023					
Main Meal RED	Cottage Pie topped with Sliced Sweet Potato	Chicken & Sweetcorn Meatballs with Tomato Sauce & Pasta	Thyme Roast Chicken Breast with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Beef Burger in a Bun with Potato Wedges	Fish Fingers with Oven Baked Chips
Main Vegetarian GREEN	Macaroni & Cheese (V)	Vegetable Jambalaya (Ve)	Roast Ratatouille with Crumble (Ve)	Margherita Pizza (V) with Potato Wedges (Ve)	BBQ Vegetable Quesadilla (V)
Alternative YELLOW	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve)	Jacket Potato with Salmon Mayonnaise or Tuna Mayonnaise	Wholegrain Pasta with Cheese Sauce (V)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve)	Pasta with Tomato Sauce (Ve)
Accompaniments	Peas & Carrots (Ve)	Cauliflower & Broccoli (Ve)	Seasonal Greens & Mashed Swede (Ve)	Sweetcorn (Ve) & Coleslaw (V)	Baked Beans & Peas (Ve)
Cold Option	Cheese, Tuna or Ham Sandwich	Cheese, Tuna or Ham Sandwich	Cheese, Tuna or Ham Sandwich	Cheese, Tuna or Ham Sandwich	Cheese, Tuna or Ham Sandwich
Dessert	Sticky Banana Bread (V) Fresh Fruit (Ve)	Chocolate Shortbread (Ve) Fresh Fruit (Ve)	Mandarin Jelly (Ve) Fresh Fruit (Ve)	Rainbow Jelly (Ve) Fresh Fruit (Ve)	Icecream Fresh Fruit (Ve)
(V) suitable for vegetarians (Ve) suitable for vegans & vegetarians Salad Bar available daily					



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Diary Dates

Please note dates and times are subject to change, please check the weekly newsletter and the website for updates. Thank you.

SPRING TERM 2023	
9th January	Children return to school
10th January	Swimming starts years 2 and 6 for 10 weeks last lesson 21/3/2023
19th January	Drama 4 All – 30-minute circus themed workshops for Beech, Whitebeam, Chestnut and Pine classes
22nd January	Chinese New Year begins
26th January	KS1 reading workshop with Miss Cox 9am – 10:30am in the school hall
27th January	KS1 Author visit from Eva Wong Nava – all about her book “I love Chinese New Year”
2nd February	Parent coffee morning- online safety and educational apps
6th February (week of)	Parents evening week – further information to follow
Book Fair	
6th - 12th February	Children’s mental health week
10th February	Oak Class Bikeability
13th to 17th February	Half term week
14th February	Safer internet day
20th February	Back to school
2nd March	World book day – dress up as your favourite book character
2nd and 3rd March	One Plan Meetings
9 th and 10 th March	One Plan Meetings
10 th to 19 th March	British science week
15 th March	Parent Coffee Morning
16 th and 17 th March	One Plan Meetings
17 th March	Mother’s Day assembly for Beech, Whitebeam and Chestnut class parents at 9:15am in the school hall
30 th March	Easter hat and Easter egg assembly

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 Essex County Council

“We wanted to help children who needed a stable and safe home.”
Foster with our support.



“It is the most rewarding job you will ever have.”

Fostering offers great flexibility and puts family at its heart. Training is local, support is 24/7 and your family could receive a competitive financial package per child, per week.

Join our fostering community and together we can transform children’s lives.

Could you or someone you know foster?
Get in touch today.

Join us,
recruiting now.



www.essex.gov.uk/foster

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