



# Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025



## Message from Mrs Branton

We hope you all had a wonderful summer break, we have enjoyed hearing from the children this week all about their holidays, trips and outings over the summer.

## Inappropriate Parking on Grass Verges

We have received a letter from Brentwood Borough Council stating the following:

*“It has been noted that a number of parents and guardians are routinely parking their vehicles on the grass verges adjacent to the school. This behaviour is causing significant damage to the grassed areas, leading to deterioration of the landscape and creating potential hazards for pedestrians and other road users. Preserving the condition of these green spaces is essential for maintaining the visual amenity and safety of the local environment. “*

Please ensure that you park responsibly during school drop off and collection times and refrain from using grass verges.

## School Uniform

We have already noticed this term that a number of children are not wearing the correct uniform. Please be advised that as per the uniform policy, black shoes are required as part of our school uniform NOT trainers, black trainers are for PE only. We have also noticed various patterned and coloured socks. Socks should be plain with no logos or patterns. In addition, children in KS2 are expected to wear a school tie.

Boys	Girls
Red v-necked sweatshirt/sweatshirt with the Willowbrook logo	Red v-necked sweatshirt/sweatshirt cardigan with the Willowbrook logo
Charcoal grey trousers/tailored shorts	Charcoal grey knee length skirt/pinafore dress. Red Gingham dress (summer only)
Plain black socks (no logos)	Plain white or grey socks/grey, red or black tights (no logos)
Red fleece/shower proof school jacket (optional)	Red fleece/shower proof school jacket (optional)
Flat black shoes of sensible style - No boots, trainers or logos	Flat black shoes of sensible style - No boots, sandals, heels, trainers or logos
Red hat (optional)	Red hat (optional)
Red book bag	Red book bag



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## **P.E. kit consists of: (Boys and Girls)**

white round necked logo T-shirt

red shorts

white socks

plain black trainers or plimsolls (non-marking)

black track suit (optional)

Thank you for continuing to support our school.

## **Cake donations for our MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September, we are hosting our annual MacMillan Coffee Morning to help raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Our infant classes will entertain you with some fantastic singing. To help us raise as much money as possible we are asking you, our wonderful parents and carers, for donations of cakes! Donations of sealed shop bought cakes including vegan/plant based/gluten free cakes can be dropped off from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September onwards and for freshly baked cakes from the Thursday please. Please note that we cannot accept any cakes containing nuts, and as a precautionary measure for allergen safety, we kindly request that anyone donating homemade cakes provide a list of the ingredients used in their baking.

## **Harvest Festival Appeal – supporting the local food banks**

Once again, we would like to be able to offer our support to the local food banks, with a Harvest Festival Appeal. Each year at this time, with your generosity, the food banks are able to replenish their greatly depleted stock; offering a great foundation for their work throughout the year. Requests for help are at unprecedented levels and showing no sign of easing any time soon. Please help us show our support buy donating any of the following items over the next few weeks: -- tinned/canned food (vegetables, fruit, meat, fish) - spreads (jam, honey etc.) - long-life milk, juice and drinks - dried pasta – rice - cooking sauces – condiments - tea and coffee – cereal and toiletries. Thank you for your support.

## **Nut Free School**

Please can I remind you that we are a nut free school and our aim is to protect children who have severe allergies to nuts. We do not allow nuts or nut products in school lunch boxes. We would ask for your support by not sending any of the following items into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts or Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Cakes made with nuts
- Any home cooked meals for packed lunches that are made from nuts



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## LifeSpace Visit

The Coram Life Education & SCARF team visited our school this week with their pop-up, inflatable classroom – **LifeSpace!**

The children really enjoyed visiting the inflatable classroom and meeting Harold the giraffe! Every class took part in a themed workshop linked to mental health such as: gratitude; calming a busy mind and bouncing back. We hope that you also found the drop-in session yesterday and the parent workshop this morning a useful opportunity to find out how you can support the mental wellbeing of your children.



## Moving Towards a No Smartphone School Environment – A Vision for September 2026

From September 2026, our school plans to transition to a 'no smartphone' site for pupils. We are sharing this information early so that families can be fully informed and supported throughout the process. A structured timeline, along with resources, guidance and regular communication will be rolled out to ensure a smooth and successful transition. Please click on the link below to support this decision:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/726477>

I have also included within this email a document from the smartphone free childhood and Dr Chatterjee with some useful tips for parents.

## Clubs

The before/after school sports and activity clubs' letter has been sent today and the booking system will go live on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Clubs will start for this term w/c Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> September. Before and after school sports/activity clubs for our new reception class children will start in the Spring term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Branton



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## PTFA Feature New

Willowbrook PTFA Registered Charity: 1046576



# WE NEED YOU!

**PTFA COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

**SECRETARY  
TREASURER**

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

**At the end of 2025/2026 academic year, we lose two PTFA committee members as their children move on to senior school.**

**We are looking to recruit (September 2025) new committee members who will be able to shadow the existing committee members and become familiar with the roles before taking on the position entirely in September 2026.**

**If you are interested in joining us and making a real difference, then please email the PTFA or speak to a member of the committee.**

**[PTA@willowbrook.essex.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@willowbrook.essex.sch.uk)**



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## DIARY DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2025	
23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	Swimming starts for Pine and Elm (9 weeks)
11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Whole school flu immunisation
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Extra-Curricular clubs start
17 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Drama 4 All – Castles, Knights and Princesses themed workshops for EYFS, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Dress-up day for EYFS, year 1, year 2 and year 3 inspired by castles, knights and princesses
18 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Year 3- Visitor to talk about Harvest
22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	Lessons begin for those children that have signed up to Essex Music Services for Piano lessons (10 lessons)
24 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Individual and sibling photos
24 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Year 6 SATs information meeting via TEAMS 4:45pm
26 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Parent Macmillan Coffee morning- Maple, Holly & Elm to perform
30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Maple Class phonics and reading workshop at 09:00
30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Prospective Parent Tour 6 till 7pm
1st October to 31st October 2025	Black History Month
3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Beech Harvest Class Assembly at 09:05am
8 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Year 6 Respect session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
10 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Pine Class Assembly 09.05am
10 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	World Inclusion Day - It is a day dedicated to ensuring that individuals of various abilities, backgrounds, ages, races, religions, genders, and other characteristics are accepted, welcomed, and treated fairly. Wear non-uniform and we will have collection buckets at the main playground gates for anyone wanting to make a voluntary donation for the charity SNAP
14 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Year 6 Bikeability course
17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Chestnut Class Assembly 09.05am
16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Prospective Parent Tour 10am till 11am
20 <sup>th</sup> October to 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Book Fair will run alongside parents' evenings – dates and times to be follow
21 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	Parents Evening (All year groups)
21 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	EYFS- Visitor to talk about Harvest
22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	Parents Evening (EYFS only)
23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Whole School Firework and Halloween Safety assembly provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Parents Evening (All year groups)
23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Last day of term
24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	INSET DAY
3 <sup>rd</sup> to the 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Year 6 residential trip
6 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Prospective Parent Tour 1:30pm till 2:30pm
7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Elm Class Assembly 09.05am

Our Core Values: **INDEPENDENCE** - HAPPINESS – **TEAM WORK** - CARING - **RESPECT** – HONESTY

Join us on Twitter for the latest results and news: [@Willowbrk](https://twitter.com/Willowbrk)



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10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Anti-Bullying Week
10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Odd Socks Day - All you need to do is wear odd socks! Odd Socks Day is all about embracing and celebrating people's differences and helps to launch Anti-Bullying Week.
10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Year 6 Cyber Safety session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Pine One Plan meetings- AM
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Chestnut Class year 6 residential parent meeting via TEAMS 4:45pm
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Whitebeam One Plan meetings- AM
13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Maple One Plan meetings- AM
14 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	BBC Children in need day – wear non-uniform following the theme 'The Great Spotacular! Collection buckets will be at the school gates for anyone wanting to make a voluntary donation
17 <sup>th</sup> November to 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2025	National Road Safety week - EYFS Road Safety Presentation and Year 5 Road Safety Presentation and Walk
18 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Elm and Chestnut One Plan meetings- AM
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Prospective Parent Tour 10am till 11am
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Beech One Plan meetings- PM
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Beech One Plan meetings- AM & PM
21 <sup>st</sup> November 2025	Maple Class Assembly 09.05am
24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Year 6 cyber bullying session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
25 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Last swimming lesson for Pine and Elm
26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Year 6 Online exploitation session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
27 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Whitebeam Class Assembly 09.05am
27 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Parent Coffee Morning- Meet the PTFA and Governors. Performances from school choir and Pine class
28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Christmas House Morning
2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025	Whole school Panto Trip
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2025	Year 5 & 6 Show at 2:15pm
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Year 3 & 4 Show at 2:15 pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	EYFS & KS1 Nativity at 2pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	EYFS & KS1 Nativity at 9:20am
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Beech class visiting Hutton View 1:30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	RockSteady Concert at 2:20pm
17 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Christingle Workshop for all classes.
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Children's Christmas Bazaar
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Last day of term

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