

## Message from Mrs Branton

### Holly Class Toys Workshop

Holly class had so much fun in their toy workshop today! They got to learn about and play with old toys and compare them to new toys. They also made their own puppets and told stories with hand puppets! What a great day.



### Whitebeam Class Assembly

Thank you to the parents that came along to the Whitebeam class assembly today, the children loved sharing with you everything they have been learning about Romans.



### Parent Coffee Afternoon

Thank you to the parents that came to the parent coffee afternoon and the PTFA for providing the refreshments. We hope you enjoyed the wonderful performance from our choir and the fabulous Pine class performance too. If you would like to know the information that I shared at the coffee afternoon, you can find the powerpoint slide on our school website under the heading: Parents-> Parent Coffee Events.



### Children's Christmas Bazaar

On Thursday 18th December, the children will be having their Children's Christmas Bazaar. This is an annual Christmas shopping event that the children absolutely love. It gives the opportunity for children to experience going shopping; making choices about what they want to buy; and managing their own money. It also raises money for the school to spend on educational resources and to subsidise the rising cost of trips.

Each class will be making things that can be sold; there will be a toiletry/ jewellery stall; and year 6 also run fun games. The children have a shopping experience where they walk around the hall with their shopping bags and money and they can buy things from the stalls that they may want to give as Christmas gifts to others or maybe keep for themselves!

On the day, please send your child into school with a bag for life or plastic bag and money in a named wallet/purse/envelope. It is entirely up to you on how much money you wish to give to your child, but please give them coins rather than notes. The prices are kept low with items ranging from 20p- £1, with the toiletry / jewellery stall costing slightly more.



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Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025



A huge thank you for the donations we have received so far. If you have any unused toiletries, unwanted jewellery, unwanted gifts or good quality books/ bric-a-brac that you can donate, please can you hand it in to the office until Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you for your continued support.

## Christmas Jam Jar Competition

We will be selling Christmas Jam Jars at our Children's Christmas Bazaar and we need your help! Please can you begin to send into school with your child any filled jam jars that you have made. These can be filled with sweets/ chocolates which are in packets; small toys eg bouncy balls, cars etc; mini stationery items eg colouring pencils and rubbers; or any other small items. We are running a competition to support this and any class that brings in the number of jam jars which matches the number of children in their class, will win a non-uniform day for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025!



## Chocolate Donations

As part of our Children's Christmas Bazaar, our year 6 pupils will be running a chocolate tombola game. To run this game, we need chocolate donations. From Monday, our House Captains will visit each classroom and collect any chocolate donations from the children. If a child donates a chocolate bar, they will be given a raffle ticket and can be in with a chance to win a prize which will be drawn on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

## KS2 Christmas Show

Our key stage 2 shows will be performed next week. Please encourage your children to learn their words for their songs and practice any performances that they will be doing. Children can bring in a Christmas themed hat or headband for the day that they are performing for the finale song. Year 5 & 6 are performing on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 2:15pm. Year 3 & 4 are performing on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2:15pm. Please contact the office if you need further information on purchasing a ticket.

## Panto Trip

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December we have our panto trip! Please don't forget that the children will need to arrive at school for 08:30am in full school uniform. The children will be provided with a drink and snack whilst at the panto and then we will be returning to school for lunch. A big thank you to the PTFA who have helped to subsidise the cost of the trip and have also provided the drink and snack. Teachers will be talking about the panto to their classes in preparation for the trip on Tuesday. A social story around the trip, which teachers are using with their class, will be put onto db primary today so that you can share it with your children over the weekend if you wish to.

## Christmas Post boxes

From Monday morning, Christmas post boxes will be appearing on the playground outside each classroom. They will be put out at drop-off and pick-up. If your child would like to send a Christmas card to their friends, they can post the card into the relevant class post box.

## Christmas House Morning

Our children had a lovely morning today, working together in their houses to create Christmas decorations for the school. All of the teachers have commented on how well behaved the children have been and the visibility of our core value of 'caring' through the older children helping and supporting the younger children. Our House events are a fabulous way of instilling our school ethos: Each Working For All. Some photographs from the morning can be seen on X (twitter).



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## Medical Appointments

We are seeing an increasing number of parents collecting children for medical appointments without prior notice and without providing evidence of the appointment. Please note that if evidence is not provided, time out of school for appointments will not be authorised. Please also be reminded that children are expected to return to school after attending an appointment. Thank you for your support.

## Driving around the local area

Please take care when driving in the local area and be mindful of children crossing the roads when in the vicinity of the school.

## Breakfast and After School Club (BASC) – Contact Details

Please be reminded that if you need to contact the BASC, please use the number below in case of emergency: 07742 900319 - this will be in use Monday to Friday from 7.30-8.30am and from 4.30-5.30pm

## Sports News

Tuesday was a full day of football. In the morning, a team of year 3 boys played in a 5-a-side tournament at Brentwood Town FC. They grew in confidence and the team improved with each match played. Well done boys! In the afternoon, our year 4 boys attended a 7-a-side tournament at Brentwood Town FC. Over 20 teams were competing and our boys played brilliantly. They won 2 games, drew 2 and didn't concede a goal throughout the competition. Great teamwork boys!



On Wednesday, our girls football team had a cup game against Doddinghurst Junior school. This was our first competitive match as a team and unfortunately lost to a strong Doddinghurst side. We are so proud of their determination, a much-improved 2nd half and mindset of never giving up.



## Community News

Please see the link below to our community news page, lots of new and exciting events have been added this week: <https://www.willowbrook.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Community+News&pid=85>

## Share a thank you

Please see link below to share a special thanks for a member of staff:

<https://forms.gle/1uMKprmxmHRbe5CK8>

Your kind words go a long way in brightening their day and acknowledging their hard work. Thank you for helping us spread positivity and support throughout our school community!

Finally, we wish Mrs Youngblood well as she leaves us to begin her maternity leave today. Whilst she is away, I will be taking over as SENCO and Mr Shrimplin will be covering a lot of her Deputy Headteacher responsibilities.

Also, a big thank you to our PTFA ladies for coming into school to decorate Christmas trees to get us all in the Christmas spirit!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Branton

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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## Science in the News

Another great week with fantastic learning in Science. Here is the wonderful work from Holly and Chestnut class.

Well done, everyone!

Mrs Cirdei - Science Co-ordinator



In Holly class, the children have been learning about objects and materials. The children talked about transparent and opaque; investigated what materials are suitable for various purposes; and classified them accordingly.



Chestnut Class have been learning all about Living Things and their Habitats. They have discussed asexual reproduction in plants and the concept of 'tubing'. Last week, they set up an investigation to observe potatoes over time to see the tubing process begin to occur. They made predictions whether they believed a potato could reproduce by tubing, through just one parent plant.

They have also been learning about the life cycles of different mammals and created their own life cycle wheels. Chestnut Class explored the different life stages of a range of mammals, including a rabbit, platypus and kangaroo.

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*This week's Headteacher superstars is:*

*Olly G*



*Well done*

## Word of the week

*'Wonderful words of the week'*

### Key Stage 1

Year 1 Holly – bossy  
Year 2 Elm – interesting

### Key Stage 2

Year 3 Beech - discovery  
Year 4 Whitebeam - opulent  
Year 5 Chestnut - monastery  
Year 6 Pine - desperate

## Core value pupil



Well done to the core value pupil from Holly class who received this week's award for Independence in the celebration assembly.



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## PTFA Feature News



We have had a great week putting up the Christmas trees and making the school feel festive ready for House morning today and the start of the Christmas shows next week.

We hope the children enjoy the trees and the decorations.

A massive thank you to @hunterschasegardencentre for donating our beautiful tree, pop down and see Westley for your tree this year, and another thank you to @laurynjtravel for supporting our school this Christmas.





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## DIARY DATES

	AUTUMN TERM 2025
1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025	Last week of clubs
2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025	Whole school Panto Trip
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2025	Year 5 & 6 Show for parents at 2:15pm
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Year 3 & 4 Show for parents at 2:15 pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	EYFS & KS1 Nativity for parents at 2pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Make-up session for KS1 Music Club
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	EYFS & KS1 Nativity for parents at 9:20am
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Beech class visiting Hutton View 1:30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	RockSteady Concert for parents at 2:20pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Christmas Wonder workshop for Pine class at St Peter's Church
17 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Christingle Workshop for all classes
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Elm Class Darkness to Light Christmas workshop for children
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Children's Christmas Bazaar
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Make-up session for KS1 Music Club
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Last day of term