



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8th May 2026



Message from Mrs Branton

Library Visits

A reminder that library visits are coming up for all classes. Next week it is the turn of Holly, Whitebeam and Chestnut. If your child has a library card, please ensure they bring it to school on the day of their library visit, please check the diary dates section of the newsletter for the dates of all library visits. If your child does not have a library card and has not filled in a form, but would like to join the library, please pop to the office and complete a form.

Year 6 SATs Week

Next week, our Year 6 pupils will be taking their SATs, and we would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the very best. We are incredibly proud of the dedication, resilience and hard work they have shown throughout the year in preparation for these assessments.

SATs are an important milestone, but they are only one part of each child's journey. Our focus is on ensuring that the children feel calm, confident and supported so that they can showcase everything they have learned.

We would greatly appreciate your support at home during this time. Please help your child by ensuring they:

- Get a good night's sleep
- Arrive at school on time each day
- Have a healthy breakfast
- Feel reassured and encouraged

School will be providing a calm, positive environment, with staff on hand to support the children every step of the way. We know they will do themselves proud, and we look forward to celebrating their efforts at the end of the week. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Religious Celebrations

Throughout May, many members of our school community will be observing and celebrating important moments in their faith, often through reflection, worship and time with family.

Key observances include **Ascension Day** (14 May) for **Christian families** and **Vesak** (mid-late May) for **Buddhist families** which honours the birth, enlightenment and passing of the Buddha, often marked by acts of kindness and reflection. On 23 May, followers of the **Bahá'í Faith** mark the **Declaration of the Báb**. In the **Sikh tradition**, celebrations include the **Parkash of Guru Arjan Dev Ji (2 May)** and **Guru Amar Das Ji (23 May)**, along with **Vaisakhi Nagar Kirtan** processions during the month.

Towards the end of May (around 27 May, subject to the sighting of the moon), many **Muslim families** will celebrate **Eid al-Adha**. It is marked with prayer, acts of charity and time spent with loved ones following the **pilgrimage of Hajj**. Hindu families may also observe festivals such as **Akshaya Tritiya, Narasimha Jayanti and Vat Savitri Vrat**.

These are just some of the many celebrations taking place within our diverse community this month. If there is a festival or observance we have not mentioned, we warmly encourage families to share this with class teachers so that we can continue to learn from and celebrate one another's traditions. At our school, we are proud to celebrate the rich diversity within our community. By sharing and learning about different beliefs, traditions and experiences, we encourage understanding, respect and kindness among all. We also recognise that diversity extends beyond faith, embracing the richness of the world's cultures and the importance of intercultural dialogue, as well as promoting understanding of Deaf culture, communication and inclusion. Through this, we support our children in becoming kind, respectful and inclusive individuals.

We wish all families celebrating during this time a joyful, peaceful and meaningful occasion.

Coffee Afternoon

Unfortunately, the local Paediatric Registrar who was planning to attend our parent coffee afternoon on Tuesday 12th May to talk about mental wellbeing has had to postpone her talk until **Friday 3rd July**. This date will be added to the diary dates on the newsletter and both Chestnut class and Whitebeam class will also perform for parents. The planned coffee afternoon for Tuesday, 12th May will still go ahead as we have the wonderful Beech class performing and the PTFA will also give a short talk on changes to the PTFA and upcoming events.

Sports News

On Tuesday some of our KS1 children attended a Panathlon competition. This event is a carousel of activities experiencing different skills needed in a variety of sports including cricket, basketball and football. All of the children had an amazing time competing and finished 2nd place overall. They were very proud, as are we, of their silver medals, well done everyone!



In the afternoon it was the turn of our KS2 children. We all thoroughly enjoyed competing in this event. As a team we loved learning new skills, experiencing different sports and just simply having lots of fun. Well done to you all.



Community News

Please see the link below to our community news page, you will find lots of useful information and activities each week: <https://www.willowbrook.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Community+News&pid=85>

Share a thank you

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

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfNrd6PyxKW_b8tvMFyuCLSJ_Da-OWv11rlqQiMdkMuKr3Qig/viewform?usp=publish-editor

If a member of staff has gone above and beyond for you or your child, please give them a special mention. Your kind words make a real difference, brightening staff members' days and recognising their hard work. Thank you for helping us spread positivity and support throughout our school community!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Branton



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This week's Headteacher superstar is:

Quinn C



Well done

Words of the week

'Wonderful words of the week'

Key Stage 1

Year 1 Holly – journey

Year 2 Elm – ravenous

Key Stage 2

Year 3 Beech – triumph

Year 4 Whitebeam – graciously

Year 5 Chestnut – transformation

Year 6 Pine - sacrifice

Core value pupil

Willowbrook Primary School
Each Working For All



Happiness
Independence
Respect
Teamwork
Caring
Honesty



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



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Celebration Assembly



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

Science in the News

Take a look at what Holly, Whitebeam and Pine have been learning in Science this week — fantastic work, everyone!

Mrs Cirdei - Science Co-ordinator



Holly class have been exploring the outdoor areas and investigating what flowers and trees we have on the school grounds. They have been extremely engaged and have thoroughly enjoyed discovering new plants.



Whitebeam Class enjoyed an exciting invertebrate hunt in the wildlife area today. The children showed fantastic enthusiasm and curiosity throughout the lesson. Brilliant work, everyone — well done!



Pine class explored electricity by observing and explaining the effects of differing voltages in a circuit. Fantastic scientific enquiry and teamwork from everyone!



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**WILLOWBROOK
PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA**

**SUMMER
FAYRE**

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE 2026
12pm - 3pm * ROSEN CRESCENT CM13 2TU

willowbrookpta willowbrookpta

Hilbery Chaplin
ESTABLISHED 1894

Estate Agents

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<https://volunteersignup.org/QKJYF>



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DIARY DATES

	SUMMER TERM 2026
11 th 12 th , 13 th , 14 th , May 2026	KS2 SATS Week
12 th May 2026	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2:40pm. Beech class performance and talk from the PTFA
13 th May 2026	Holly class visit to Shenfield library pm
14 th May 2026	Chestnut visit to Shenfield library am Whitebeam visit to Shenfield library am
15 th May 2026	Whitebeam Class Assembly for parents 9:00am
21 st May 2026	Beech visit to Shenfield library am Elm visit to Shenfield library am
21 st May 2026	Elm Class Assembly for parents 9:00am
22 nd May 2026	PTFA Colour Run
25 th -29 th May 2026	Half-Term
1 st June 2026	INSET Day
2 nd June 2026	Soccer Aid Teachers Vs School team football match for children
2 nd – 12 th June 2026	Year 4 multiplication check
5 th June 2026	Beech Class Fabulous Finish. Beech class parents invited.
8 th – 12 th June 2026	Phonics Screening
9 th June 2026	Pine One Plan Meetings- PM
9 th June 2026	Pine Class RSE parent meeting- TEAMS 3:45pm
10 th June 2026	Chestnut class visiting St Martins to watch High School Musical
10 th June 2026	Pine Class- Its Your Move workshop for children
11 th June 2026	Elm One Plan Meetings- AM Chestnut One Plan Meetings- AM
11 th June 2026	Pine visit to Shenfield library am
12 th June 2026	Holly Class Assembly for parents 9:00am
15 th June 2026	Pine Class visit to St Martins for DT project
17 th June 2026	Father's Day Breakfast 8am more information to follow
17 th June 2026	Whole school summer safety assembly provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
19 th June 2026	Maple One Plan Meetings - AM
19 th June 2026	Chestnut Class Assembly for parents 9:00am
20 th June 2026	PTFA Summer Fayre
22 nd June 2026	Class Photos
23 rd June 2026	Whitebeam One Plan Meetings – AM/PM
24 th June 2026	Beech One Plan Meetings- AM/ PM
25 th June 2026	Beech One Plan Meetings- PM
26 th June 2026	Beech class trip to Horniman Museum and Gardens
26 th June 2026	Maple Class Assembly for parents 9:00am
26 th June 2026	SATS Writing and Science Teacher Assessment submission
29 th June 2026	RockSteady Concert for children and parents 2:20pm start
29 th June 2026	Last week of clubs
30 th June 2026	Pine class trip to Diggerland
1 st July 2026	Holly and Elm class trip to Danbury Country Park
1 st July 2026	Maple Class visit to Shenfield library pm

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2 nd July 2026	PTFA End of year disco
3 rd July 2026	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2:30pm. A paediatric Registrar will be present to talk about a topic based on parent's choice. Whitebeam and Chestnut class performance.
7 th July 2026	Last week of swimming for Holly and Chestnut Class
10 th July 2026	Chestnut visit to St Martins- Taster morning
10 th July 2026	Chestnut and Pine Show to parents 2pm and 6pm more information to follow
13 th July 2026	Sports Day - more info to follow
14 th July 2026	Meet the teacher morning for children
15 th July 2026	Open Afternoon for parents - more info to follow
Date TBC	Year 6 reward day
17 th July 2026	Pine Leavers assembly 9:00am for parents
17 th July 2026	Last day of the school year