

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.

School Uniform

We have already noticed this term that several children are not wearing the correct uniform. Please be reminded of our school uniform below:

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

Additional items

Foundation and Year 1:

- white polo shirt

Year 2:

- transition year, ties and collared shirts are optional

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6:

- school clip on tie
- white collared shirt (long or short sleeves)

All children

- Plain stud earrings
- Red/black/white/grey small hair ties (no big bows)

Thank you for continuing to support our school.

Pickup Arrangements

Just a reminder that if your child is being collected from school by someone different, to please ensure they have the pickup password. If the person collecting your child has the password, you **do not** need to call or email the office to advise them of the change in pickup arrangements. If the person collecting your child does not have the password, Miss Gadd will call you to check that you give permission for your child to be collected.



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 4th September 2026



Cake donations for our MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September 2026

On Friday 25th September 2026, 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 22nd September onwards and for freshly baked cakes from the Thursday please. Please note that we cannot accept any cakes containing nuts (please check the ingredients on the packet before donating), 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 by 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

Please also be reminded that fruit and vegetables are offered as free snacks in KS1 and when children are bringing in snacks in KS2, these must be healthy snacks and not crisps or chocolate bars.

SCARFSpace Visit

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

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.



Parent Talk re Willowbrook's Commitment to a smartphone-free school

We are delighted to invite you to a parent information session led by Papaya, a company that works with schools and families to support children's wellbeing in the digital age.

 **Date:** Friday 18th September

 **Time:** 9.30am

 **Location:** School Hall

Parents are welcome to come straight to the hall after dropping off their children.

During the session, Papaya will explore why Willowbrook is committed to being a **smartphone-free school** and discuss the growing body of evidence surrounding the impact smartphones can have on children's learning, wellbeing, relationships, sleep and mental health. The session will also provide practical advice and guidance for families navigating today's digital world.

To help parents understand the importance of this topic, we are sharing the following short video ahead of the event:

 **Watch the video here:**

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Bm17QK_NEZYwnOimvRyeNQ4eulE6CBdG/view?usp=drive_link

We hope this video will provide valuable insight into the impact smartphones can have on children and young people and encourage you to join us for what promises to be an informative and thought-provoking session.

This is an issue that affects all our children and we are keen to have as many parents as possible in attendance. By working together and developing a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities surrounding smartphone use, we can better support our children to thrive both in and out of school.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you on **Friday 18th September at 9.30am.**

PE Timetable

Please find below the PE days for all classes for Autumn 2026. PE lessons will be starting the week beginning Monday 7th September 2026. On PE days, children come into school wearing their PE kit.

Class	Outdoor	Indoor
Cherry	N/A	Monday & Thursday
Maple	Friday	Wednesday
Holly	Friday	Tuesday
Elm	Monday	Wednesday
Beech	Thursday	Monday
Whitebeam	Thursday	Tuesday- swimming
Chestnut	Wednesday	Friday

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

white round necked logo T-shirt

red shorts

white plain socks

plain black trainers or plimsolls (non-marking)

black track suit (optional)

Clubs

The before/after school sports and activity clubs' letter will be sent today, and the booking system will go live on Tuesday 8th September. Clubs will start for this term w/c Monday, 14th September. Before and after school sports/activity clubs for our new reception class children will start in the Spring term.

Knowledge Planners

Please be advised that all knowledge planners will be emailed out to classes next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Branton



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 4th September 2026



DIARY DATES

	AUTUMN TERM 2026
14 th September 2026	Lessons begin for those children that have signed up to Essex Music Services for Piano lessons (10 lessons)
14 th September 2026	Extra-Curricular clubs start
18 th September 2026	Parent Talk re Willowbrook's Commitment to a smartphone-free school 09:30am school hall
15 th September 2026	Whole class swimming starts for Whitebeam and top-up swimming for selected Chestnut pupils. (11 weeks)
21 st September 2026	Cherry Class phonics workshop for parents.
22 nd September 2026	Drama4All - Superheroes Save Planet Earth Cherry, Maple, Holly and Elm Class. Dress up as super heroes
23 rd September 2026	Author Visit for years Maple, Holly, Elm and Beech Class
23 rd September 2026	Year 6 SATs information meeting for parents via TEAMS 4:45pm
25 th September 2026	Parent Macmillan Coffee morning- Cherry, Maple & Holly to perform to parents.
28 th September 2026	Individual and sibling photos
1st October to 31st October 2026	Black History Month
2 nd October 2026	Elm Harvest Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
6 th October 2026	Prospective Parent Tour 5 till 6pm
7 th October 2026	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
9 th October 2026	Chestnut Class Assembly
12 th October to 16 th October 2026	Book Fair will run alongside parents' evenings – dates and times to be follow
13 th October 2026	Parents Evening (All year groups)
14 th October 2026	Parents Evening (EYFS only)
15 th October 2026	Parents Evening (All year groups)
16 th October 2026	Cherry Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
19 th October 2026	Don-Rae Drama workshop with Chestnut and Whitebeam Class
20 th October 2026	Whole school flu immunisation
20 th October 2026	Last day of term
21 st -23 rd October 2026	INSET DAYS
2 nd November 2026	Towers and Turrets Holly Class Workshop- letter to follow
2 nd to the 6 th November 2026	Year 6 residential trip
6 th November 2026	Beech Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
6 th November 2026	Prospective Parent Tour 10am till 11am
10 th November 2026	Whitebeam One Plan meetings- AM / PM
11 th November 2026	Maple One Plan meetings - AM
13 th November 2026	BBC Children in need day – wear non-uniform with a Pudsey theme (eg something yellow; something spotty; or both!)

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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	Collection buckets will be at the school gates for anyone wanting to make a voluntary donation
13 th November 2026	Maple Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
13 th November 2026	Whitebeam Class year 6 residential parent meeting via TEAMS 4:45pm
16 th November 2026	Anti-Bullying Week
16 th November 2026	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.
16 th , 17 th , 18 th , 19 th , 20 th November 2026	Year 6 Bikeability course
17 th November 2026	Beech One Plan Meetings – AM/ PM
18 th November 2026	Elm One Plan Meetings - AM
18 th November 2026	Beech One Plan Meetings - PM
19 th November 2026	Chestnut One Plan Meetings - AM
19 th November 2026	Cherry One Plan Meetings -AM
19 th November 2026	PTFA Winter Disco
20 th November 2026	Catch-up for those who missed the flu immunisation
20 th November 2026	Whitebeam Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
24 th November 2026	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2:40pm start in the school hall- Find out more about our PTFA, governors and parent council. Performances from school choir and Chestnut class.
26 th November 2026	Holly Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
27 th November 2026	Christmas House Morning
1 st December 2026	Last swimming lesson for Whitebeam and top-up swimming for selected Chestnut pupils.
1 st December 2026	Year 3 & 4 Show for parents at 2:15pm
2 nd December 2026	Whole school Panto Trip
3 rd December 2026	Prospective Parent Tour 1:30pm till 2:30pm
4 th December 2026	Year 5 & 6 Show for parents at 2:15 pm
7 th December 2026	Last week of clubs
10 th December 2026	EYFS & KS1 Nativity for parents at 2pm
11 th December 2026	EYFS & KS1 Nativity for parents at 9:20am
14 th December 2026	RockSteady Concert for parents at 2:20pm
16 th December 2026	Christingle Workshop for all classes
17 th December 2026	Children's Christmas Bazaar
18 th December 2026	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
18 th December 2026	Last day of term