

Message from Mrs Branton

Drama4All - Superheroes Save Planet Earth

On Tuesday, EYFS, KS1 and year 3 were asked to dress up as superheroes for our drama workshop. Thank you to everyone who dressed up and got involved in the morning, the children really enjoyed it. They were all extremely well behaved and showed some amazing drama skills. Each class had a secret mission and used different drama techniques to complete each mission and defeat their nemesis.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

A huge thank you to everyone who donated cakes for the coffee morning and to all those who came along to share a cake and enjoy the wonderful singing from our infant children. The event had a truly wonderful family feel, made even more special by Mr Shrimplin, who engaged parents and children alike in a fantastic Friday morning sing-along, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for everyone. We raised a total of £367!

An extra special thank you to the PTFA members who came along to help. We simply could not run these events without your continued support and dedication. Thank you all for helping to make the morning such a success!



Harvest Festival Appeal – supporting the local food banks

Please help us show our support by donating any of the following items over the next few weeks:

- Tinned/canned food (vegetables, fruit, meat and fish)
- Spreads (jam, honey, etc.)
- Long-life milk, juice and drinks
- Dried pasta and rice
- Cooking sauces and condiments
- Tea, coffee and cereal
- Toiletries

Harvest is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a school community and support local families who may be facing difficult circumstances. Every donation, no matter how small, can make a real difference and will be greatly appreciated.

Elm Class will be leading our Harvest Assembly on **Friday 2nd October 09:05am**, so please ensure that any donations are brought into school by this date. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity. Together, we can make a positive impact on the lives of others and demonstrate the caring values that are at the heart of our school community. Thank you for your support.

School Photos – Monday 28th September 2026

A reminder that we have AJS Photography in school on Monday to take the children's individual school photos. For children that have PE that day, please note the following:

Cherry class to come into school in their full school uniform, PE will be light activities in the hall just removing shoes and socks – no PE kit required.

Beech and Elm class – children to come to school in their full school uniform and bring their PE kit in a named bag to change into after lunch.

Thank you

Sporting News

A glorious Tuesday morning for some of our Year 3 boys who attended a football tournament at BTFC. This was their first team outing and they showed great teamwork and effort. Well played boys!



In the afternoon, our year 5 & 6 team attended the Primary Cup competition hosted at BTFC. This event is highly competitive. Our team played great football and showed great teamwork and improvement with every game.



Congratulations to both our Year 4 and Year 6 archery teams. Both taking the bronze medal place at the competition today. Precision, accuracy and great teamwork were on display. Two of our girls earned individual medals too! We are so proud! 🏹 🏆



WhatsApp Group Messages

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the importance of using parent WhatsApp groups and other social media platforms responsibly and respectfully.

While these groups can be a useful way for families to share information and support one another, they should not be used to discuss individual pupils, incidents involving children, or members of staff. Comments made online can easily be misunderstood, may not reflect the full facts of a situation and can sometimes cause unnecessary upset to those involved.

We are proud of the positive relationships we have with our families and ask that all communication within parent groups reflects the values of kindness, respect and consideration that we promote throughout our school community.

If you have concerns about your child's education, an incident at school, or any aspect of school life, please contact the school directly. We are always happy to listen and work with you to address any concerns appropriately and confidentially.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in helping us maintain a respectful and inclusive community for all.

Creating a Smartphone-Free School

We recently held an important talk exploring the impact smartphones can have on our pupils and on our own mental health and wellbeing.

As a school, we have taken the positive step to become a smartphone-free school, helping our pupils to stay focused, engaged and connected with the people around them.

You will now see signs at both school gates-reminding every one of our approach. We would really appreciate parents and carers working with us by not using mobile phones while on the school site. This helps us model the behaviours we are encouraging in our children and supports a calm, present and connected school environment.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us make our school a positive place for everyone.





Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



School Grid

Since the beginning of this academic year, our midday staff have seen an increasing number of children arriving for lunch without a pre-booked meal. By booking your child's lunch through SchoolGrid, you are selecting the meal they would like and helping to ensure that they receive their preferred choice on the day.

Children who do not have a meal pre-booked may need to wait until all pre-ordered meals have been served and will then be offered from the remaining available options. Unfortunately, this may not always include food that your child would have chosen, which can lead to disappointment and upset.

To help lunchtime run smoothly and to ensure your child receives a meal they are happy with, please remember to book their lunches in advance via SchoolGrid. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Homework

Homework has started this week. If your child is in years 1 up to year 6, they should be coming home with homework books. The teachers will be setting the children's homework on the class page via the school website, so please check it every Friday evening to see what pages have been set and remember to return the homework books to school every Thursday so that teachers can look at the work.

We will be continuing with our menu of themed homework. The themes have been put onto the class pages on the school website and Mrs Gardner will be talking to the children next week about the special poetry competition.

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-OWvI1rlqQiMdKMuKr3Qig/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!

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>

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Branton

Census Day – Thursday 1st October 2026

Next Thursday, 1st October is Census Day - an important day when schools across the country submit information that directly affects their funding.

One simple way you can help is by encouraging your child to enjoy a school meal on Thursday. Every meal taken helps us secure the resources we need for the children's learning and activities.

Please book all meals via School Grid. Thank you for your support.



PTFA FEATURE NEWS



PTFA EVENTS SCHEDULE

2026/27

16 FRI OCTOBER TRICK OR TREAT POP UP	19 THU NOVEMBER WINTER DISCO	19 FRI MARCH ST. PATRICKS DAY QUIZ
28 FRI MAY COLOUR RUN	24 THU JUNE SUMMER DISCO	3 SAT JULY SUMMER FAYRE

MORE EVENTS STILL TO BE CONFIRMED...

Willowbrook PTFA Registered Charity: 1046576



This week's Headteacher superstar is:
Adam Finnie



Words of the week

'Wonderful words of the week'

Key Stage 1

Year 1 Maple – growled

Year 2 Holly – firmly

Key Stage 2

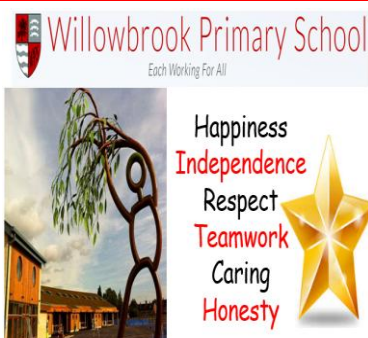
Year 3 Elm – rigorously

Year 4 Beech – devastated

Year 5 Whitebeam – resentful

Year 6 Chestnut - awkward

Core value pupil



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



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



Celebration Assembly



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)



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



DIARY DATES

	AUTUMN TERM 2026
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
8 th October 2026	Year 6 Respect session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
9 th October 2026	Chestnut Class Assembly
12 th October 2026	Whole School Firework and Halloween Safety assembly provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
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
12 th November 2026	Year 6 Online Safety session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
13 th November 2026	BBC Children in need day – wear non-uniform with a Pudsey theme (eg something yellow; something spotty; or both!) 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

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Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



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.
25 th November 2026	Year 6 cyber bullying session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
26 th November 2026	Holly Class Assembly. 09:05am. Parents invited.
26 th November 2026	Year 6 Online exploitation session provided by Essex Fire and Rescue
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