

Message from Mrs Branton

Harvest Festival Appeal – supporting the local food banks

Thank you to the parents from Elm class that came into school this morning for the Harvest assembly, the children did a super job of sharing their knowledge of the harvest appeal with you all. A huge thank you to everyone that donated food and supplies for the appeal.



A message from our Inclusion Ambassadors

This morning we went to St. Peters Church to deliver the Harvest donations to the food hub. We talked about how harvest works and how many donations the church gets every year while showing us how they use all of the food. Every week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays they give out delicious breakfast pastries, hot meals and even tea and coffee. There is also a food hub where anyone can go to collect food. As well as a food hub, the Daily Bread cafe have a variety of clubs for everyone such as; Indian block printing, drawing seed heads, mindful scratch art and more. These clubs are for anyone to take part in.



Knowledge Planners

Our teachers have been working hard to create an exciting and engaging curriculum for your children. Please look at the class pages on the school website to access the Autumn term topic letter to parents and topic knowledge planner to get an insight as to what your children are learning this term.

New Football Tops

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to one of our incredibly generous parents, Mr Ward, who has kindly offered to purchase a new set of football tops for our boys' football team.

This thoughtful gesture is greatly appreciated and will have a positive impact on the team. Having a new kit not only helps the boys look smart and professional when representing the school, but it also promotes a strong sense of pride, teamwork, and belonging. Opportunities such as these help to create memorable experiences for our pupils and inspire them to continue developing their sporting talents.

The support of our school community plays a vital role in enriching the experiences we can offer our children, and we are extremely grateful for this family's kindness and generosity. Their contribution demonstrates a wonderful commitment to supporting our pupils and helping them succeed both on and off the pitch.

On behalf of all the staff, pupils, and wider school community, thank you for your generosity and continued support. We look forward to seeing the boys proudly wearing their new football tops as they represent the school throughout the season.

World Inclusion Day – Wednesday, 7th October

A reminder that next Wednesday is World Inclusion Day and we are encouraging children to come to school dressed in clothes that represent them. 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. We will have collection buckets at the main playground gates for anyone wanting to make a voluntary donation for the charity SNAP.

Chestnut, Elm and Maple class have PE on this day, so please ensure that your child is wearing non-uniform with trainers if they are in one of these classes. Thank you for your support.

School Photos

You child will be bringing home in their bag today, a slip for you to view and order their individual and sibling photos. All login details and your child's individual access code is on the slip.

Sporting News

Last Friday, our boys football team played their first-round match in the Parish cup. It was a great competitive game against a strong St Joseph's team. The boys were resilient and battled hard, the match finished at 1-1, taking it to penalties. A super finish 2-1 to Willowbrook, fantastic effort boys!



Sports Events

Parents may have noticed from our newsletters and social media posts that Willowbrook pupils have already enjoyed taking part in a number of sporting events this year. We are proud to offer children a wide range of opportunities throughout the year, from competitive tournaments where pupils represent the school, to participation events that encourage children to try new sports, build confidence and experience being part of a team.

Each event is organised with specific criteria, including the number of children schools can bring and the year groups that are eligible to take part. Sometimes children are selected because they are members of a school team; while at other times places may be offered to pupils who regularly attend a related extracurricular club; or a child may be selected so they can experience a new sport. We also take part in events specifically designed for children with additional needs, ensuring that as many pupils as possible can enjoy the benefits of sport and physical activity.

Providing these opportunities is something we value highly at Willowbrook, which is why we have a dedicated Sports LSA who works incredibly hard behind the scenes to coordinate our involvement in these events. From managing invitations and liaising with organisers, to arranging transport, preparing kit and supporting pupils during the events themselves, a great deal of work goes into making each experience possible for our children.

We know how special these experiences can be, so we carefully track participation across all sporting events. Our aim is that every child will have the opportunity to represent Willowbrook at least once during their time with us, creating lasting memories, developing new skills and fostering a lifelong enjoyment of sport and physical activity.

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

Join us on Twitter for the latest results and news: @Willowbrk



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 2nd October 2026



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-OWvl1rlqQjMdKMuKr3Qig/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

Science in the News

We are very happy to be back with pictures and news from our amazing Science lessons at Willowbrook Primary School. As before, every week, you will find here information about how we celebrate Science, what skills we learn to use when answering scientific enquiries and how we respond to our scientific challenges.

Find below what Holly and Whitebeam class learnt in Science last week. Well done, everyone!

Mrs Cırdei - Science Co-ordinator



Holly class looked inside and outside the school to identify objects made of various materials. The children then compared why some materials are suitable only for outdoor objects and others are suitable for inside ones. Well done!



Whitebeam conducted an experiment about insulators and conductors by wrapping ice cubes in different materials. We monitored how quickly each ice cube melted by photographing them at regular intervals. The material that caused the ice to melt fastest was the best conductor, while the material that kept the ice solid for the longest was the best insulator. We then compared the photographs to draw our conclusions.

Please see below what Elm and Chestnut class learnt in Science this week. Well done, everyone!

Mrs Círdéi - Science Co-ordinator



Elm class have been investigating magnetic forces. The children had various materials on their tables such as metal spoons, glass, wood, tin foil and coins. The children planned a fair investigation and method before using their scientific vocabulary to tell me if the magnets attract or repel the materials. Their predictions were pretty accurate! A surprise was that many of them thought the tin foil would be magnetic, but it wasn't.



Year 6 have been looking at Evolution. This week, they were learning about different scientists' and their theories regarding Evolution over the ages. They also looked at Charles Darwin's theory about the Finches in the Galapagos Islands. The children conducted an experiment about different beaks and picking up seeds.



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 2nd October 2026



PTFA FEATURE NEWS

Want to
help make
a real
difference?

We would love to welcome a parent who'd like to get involved and take on the Chair role.

Interested in finding out more?
Email PTA@willowbrook.essex.sch.uk

We'd love to hear from you!

Willowbrook PTFA Registered Charity: 1046576





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 superstars are:

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)

Rozario F, Adam F and Hunter W



Words of the week

'Wonderful words of the week'

Key Stage 1

Year 1 Maple – tumbling

Year 2 Holly – fierce

Key Stage 2

Year 3 Elm – peculiar

Year 4 Beech – stupefied

Year 5 Whitebeam – malicious

Year 6 Chestnut - outlaw

Core value pupil



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



Celebration Assembly





Weekly Newsletter

Friday 2nd October 2026



DIARY DATES

	AUTUMN TERM 2026
1st October to 31st October 2026	Black History Month
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 November 2026	Holly Class Towers and Turrets Workshop
2 nd to the 6 th November 2026	Year 6 residential trip
5 th November 2026	Maple Class Trip to the V&A Museum
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	Reception Height and Weight checks
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.

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 2nd October 2026



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.
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