



WILLOWS NEWS

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www.thewillowsschoolacademy.co.uk



Dear Carers and Parents,

We have just finished the first full school week for the academic year. The routines and rituals are becoming known and the children are settled, happy and doing some great learning.

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and have lots of trips and surprises for the pupils along the way. I would like to welcome the new pupils and their families to The Willows Academy. I trust your children are happy and settling in.

Just a reminder about the parent/teacher evening next Tuesday, 19th September, from 3:15pm to 4:00pm. I'm looking forward to touching base with you and I know you will find it a valuable process, meeting your child's teacher and actually seeing their learning environment

Have a great weekend ahead and make the most of the warm weather as the temperature is slowly dropping.

Paul Gregory-Hunt (Head of School)

International Primary Curriculum - Brainwaves

This week, Pine class focused on the investigation of the human brain. Students created brain models using Play-Doh. The brain is in charge of coordinating all vital functions of our body and gives meaning to what is happening around us. It receives signals from our environment and sends messages to different parts of our body.

Did you know that **sixty percent** of the human brain is made of fat?



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Speech and Language Development

This week, Lime class enjoyed speaking and listening activities as part of their morning routine. Such activities give students the opportunity to bond as a team and start building positive relationships.

These daily sessions can help promote better communication and collaboration within classrooms.



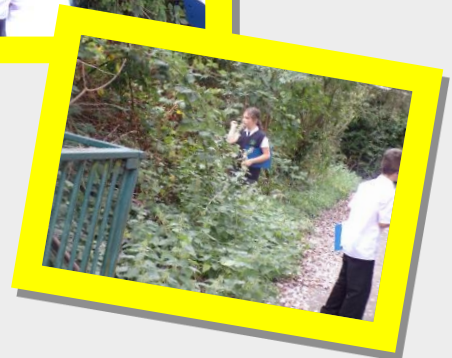
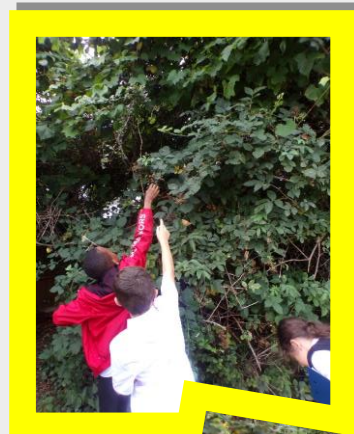
Origami Boats

Welcome to Maple class! We have had a busy week of getting to know each other. We have been practicing our listening skills in the class. We have been using these listening skills to follow instructions to make origami boats. We then tested these boats in water to see how well they floated!



Exploring our senses

Oak class engaged in some exploring this week in the form of a field walk. The aim of the field walk was for Oak class to test out their 5 senses, hearing, smelling, taste, sight and touch.



The Willows School Council

The School Council had their first meeting today along with Mrs Downie.

Mrs Downie congratulated us for being voted in by our classes after a democratic vote was held in each classroom and gave us our School Council Badges.

We talked about what it means to be a **School Councillor** and be a role model. For example, following the school rules. Mrs Downie gave us our School Council Badges.



Written by Nelly Rae – Oak Class and Oliver – Pine Class

Brainwaves

Ash class have had a brilliant week thinking about how our brains work. We have been playing memory games to strengthen our minds.



Treacher Collin's Syndrome

Beech have been reading the book 'Wonder'. August, who is the main character in the book, is born with a genetic condition called Treacher Collin's syndrome.



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Physical Education – Pony riding

We are delighted to have a new pony riding venue. Elm class had the most wonderful time this week grooming and riding the ponies. Pony riding provides many physical and emotional benefits. These include: improved balance, coordination, and flexibility, muscle building, improved cardio and posture, making a close connection with an animal and a unique therapeutic experience.



Autumn Term

First Day of Term Staff only - INSET day	Monday 4 th September 2023
Staff only - INSET day	Tuesday 5 th September 2023
Pupils back	Wednesday 6 th September 2023
Half Term	Monday 23 October 2023 - Friday 27 th October 2023
Last Day of Term	Thursday 21 st December 2023 1:30pm Early Finish
School Holiday Dates	Friday 22 nd December 2023 – Friday 5 th January 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Aquatic

... taking place, living in or growing on the water

Seaweed is an aquatic plant



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