



WILLOWS NEWS

Date: 13.09.2024

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Dear Carers and Parents,

Week two has gone by at lightening pace, and I am pleased to report that the pupils have been outstanding in their attitude to learning and each other. There has been a positive feel to the school all week, which speaks volumes about the richness of personality and strength of character each pupil brings with them into the building on a daily basis.

The full curriculum programme got underway this week, which meant that we had Sifu Jack teaching Kung Fu, Mr Oscar with yoga and Miss Anna and Mr Nahum with African dance and drumming, and contemporary dance. Already I am thinking about the possibility of a school production, especially given the skills and talents of our staff as well.

Choir also started today as well as the first of the weekly School Council meetings.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who attended the Zoom 'Coffee Morning'; it was a pleasure to meet with you and talk and I hope we see more of you, along with others who were unable to attend.

Weather-wise, we are clearly heading into autumnal days, time for falling leaves, spring bulbs going down, and a decent cold snap to kill whatever it was that ate all my acanthus plants this year! I wish you a peaceful weekend and look forward to another Monday.

Paul Gregory-Hunt (Head of School)

International Primary Curriculum (IPC) - 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?



Physical Education - Dance

Maple Class had a fantastic time during their first dance lesson of the term! The students were full of energy and enthusiasm, showing off their happy feet as they learned new moves and enjoyed dancing together. It was a great way to start the term, and everyone is looking forward to the upcoming sessions.



Religious Education

In Monday's R.E. lesson, Elm Class explored Christianity by learning about the story of Jesus. The students also got creative by decorating their own crosses with tissue paper!



History

The Great Fire of London

This week in Beech Class, students have been exploring the historical event of 'The Great Fire of London.' To bring the lesson to life, they participated in a fun and educational activity by baking bread, as the fire famously started in a bakery. This hands-on experience helped the students connect with history in a memorable and delicious way.



The Willows School Council

By Oliver Axtell-Kent

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.



International Primary Curriculum - Brainwaves

This week in Ash Class, students delved into the fascinating world of brain function. They explored neural connections by engaging in an interactive activity where they matched and explained a series of pictures. This hands-on approach helped them understand how different parts of the brain work together, making the learning experience both educational and enjoyable.



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Music

African Dance and Drumming

Lime Class had an exciting start to their African Drumming lesson this week. They not only learned to play traditional rhythms but also participated in an engaging African dance. The session was a hit with the children, and they are eagerly looking forward to their weekly classes to further explore and enjoy this vibrant aspect of African culture.



Literacy – Poem Writing

Chestnut Class has had a fantastic start to the new term! In literacy, the students have been busy crafting their own unique poems, showcasing their creativity and expression.



Mathematics – Place Value

This week, Oak Class has shown remarkable effort and understanding in their learning activities. Working in groups, the students excelled at counting forwards and backwards up to 1,000.



Term Dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term

First Day of Term	Monday 2 nd September 2024
Staff only - INSET day	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
First Day of Term for Students	Wednesday 4 th September 2024
Half Term	Monday 28 th October 2024 - Friday 1 st November 2024
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 th December 2024 1:30pm Early Finish
School Holiday Dates	Monday 23 rd December 2024 – Friday 3 rd January 2025



WORD
of the
WEEK

magnificent

extremely beautiful or
impressive

e.g. The artist's painting
was magnificent.



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