



WILLOWS NEWS



Date: 12.09.2025

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www.thewillowsschoolacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is encouraging to see the children settling down to the routine and rituals of the school, with very few teething problems. This was the first week of children putting learning in their exercise books and I am impressed with the quality of work I have seen to date. Well done. Equally so, almost everyone is coming in full school uniform which is important for helping to set the tone of excellence that the school aspires to. In this regard, I would like to congratulate Maple class for being the best dressed class in the school. They will be going to a local restaurant for lunch early next week to celebrate.

By now all parents and carers should have received their weekly telephone call. If you are not receiving them, please inform the office and we will ensure that this oversight is addressed.

It has come to our attention that rumours are circulating on social media regarding primary schools receiving threats in the London area. Please be reassured that we are not aware of any such threats, nor are we aware of any instances of this happening. At this stage there is no reason to believe that these posts are anything more than rumours or disinformation. I assure you that the school takes any kind of threat to your child's wellbeing very seriously; their safety and wellbeing is our priority.

Have a peaceful weekend.

Paul Gregory-Hunt (Head of School)

Maple – Settling Back into Learning Routines

This week, Maple Class has been taking part in a range of learning activities to help them settle back into their full routine. We enjoyed a creative painting session and some lively sound games to practise phonics. The children have been wonderful—showing excellent behaviour, great listening, and real effort in everything they've done.



Ash Class Sets Sail for Pirate Fun

Ash Class has been busy making pirate maps that led to delicious treasure cookies! The children loved working with cookie dough and creating their own treasures to hide in the decorated treasure chests they made. Some even managed to save their cookies to take home—though many couldn't resist eating them straight away. It's been a week full of pirate fun in Ash Class!



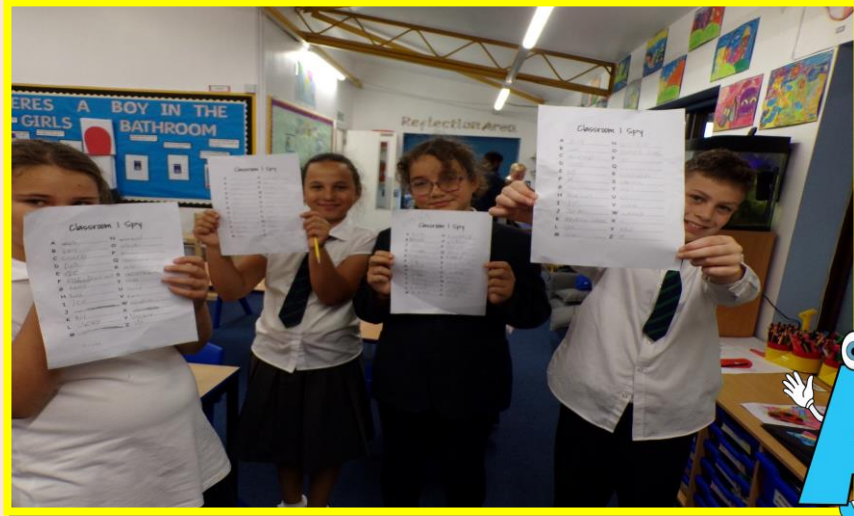
Elm Class Explores Emotions with The Colour Monster

This week, Elm Class have been reading *"The Colour Monster"* and exploring the different feelings and colours featured in the story. The children each created their own Colour Monster using a variety of materials and then proudly shared their creations with their classmates.



Oak Class Takes on the Alphabet with an 'I Spy' Challenge!

This week, Oak Class have been actively engaging in our transition activities. On Wednesday, they took part in a classroom "I Spy Challenge," identifying as many items as they could around the room and working their way through the alphabet.



Beech Class Builds Skills for Year 6 Success

We have had a fantastic week in Beech Class! The children have been developing their English skills, focusing on improving and up-leveling their writing. In maths, we have been refining our understanding of place value to prepare for Year 6. The class has also explored different art techniques and engaged in RE lessons, learning about citizenship and Christianity.

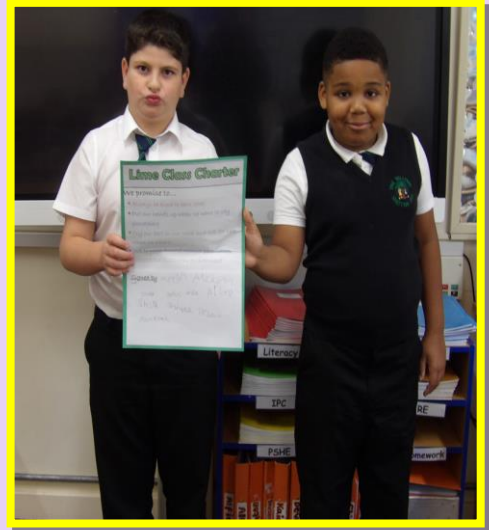


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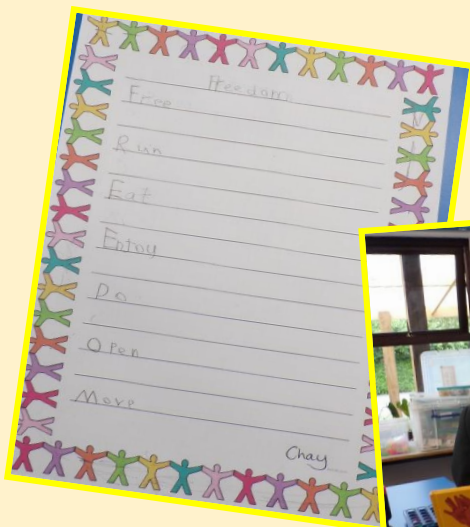
Respecting Rights: Lime Class Takes Action

This week, we explored the rights of a child as outlined by UNICEF. We then created our own class charter to make sure everyone's rights and responsibilities are recognised and respected in the classroom.



Exploring Control and Calm in Chestnut Class

This week, Chestnut Class have been exploring *Freedom We Sing* by Amyra León. We discussed how, even when we feel we don't have control over situations, we still have the freedom of our breath. Focusing on our inhales and exhales can help us feel calmer and give us a sense of personal freedom.



Pine Class Working Hard on Phonics

Pine Class have been working hard in phonics. We are learning new sounds, blending them to read words, and practising tricky words. The children are making an excellent effort in both their reading and writing.



Hazel Class Create Beautiful Autumn Art

Hazel Class had a wonderful time making autumn-themed artwork. The children used colourful leaves and pine cones to create their designs, exploring the textures and colours of the season. They were very proud of their creative work.



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Autumn Term

First Day of Term (Staff Training Days)	Monday 1st September 2025
INSET Days (Staff Only)	Monday 1st September 2025 Tuesday 2nd September 2025 Tuesday 30th September 2025 Monday 3rd November 2025
First Day of Term (for students)	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27th October 2025 - Friday 31st October 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19th December 2025 1pm Early Finish
School Holiday Dates	Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

School Uniform

Children attending The Willows Academy are expected to wear the correct uniform. This is:

- Grey shorts or black trousers
- White shirt
- School tie
- School blazer
- School Sweater
- Black school shoes (not trainers)

Purchased from school: Blazer £30, Sweater £15 and Tie £5

P.E.

It is expected that your child changes for P.E. and other sports-oriented classes.

- The school provides a blue t-shirt and black shorts.
- Please ensure that you provide a pair of suitable trainers for your child

If your child does not wish to wear the P.E. kit provided by the school, you will need to ensure they come with sports clothing.

