



WILLOWS NEWS



Date: 05.09.2025

Tel: 020 8841 7176

www.thewillowsschoolacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 2025/2026 Academic Year at The Willows School Academy Trust.

It has been lovely to meet so many of you after the school holidays and wonderful to meet so many new parents, carers and family members of our new children that have joined our Willows School community for this year. We have had **18** new children join our school community and all have now been placed into their new classes. All children are aware of the staff members that are allocated for them for the school year and we have had 3 school days as a gentle start to what we anticipate to be a fantastic school year.

As a staffing group we have 2 new members join our team and many of you have already met them. We have Mr Woodman who is leading Beech Class this year and Mr Hillier who is leading Elm Class. I am sure that you will come across them in their capacity at the school at some point in time.

A change for all classes this year is that Home School Link Books will be coming home from next week with information being slightly different. From Monday through to Thursday staff members will just be recording the points that your child receives for the day and then on a Friday the classroom teacher will be writing to you to give you a summary of the week about your child. This is because we now have more children so it is about making the process manageable. The staff will still be continuing to contact you by telephone at least once a week to give you verbal updates as well.

We have some exciting events planned for this half term and look forward to seeing many of you on site when they do occur. It is so great to see that one of our pupils, Mr N. Kanabar, wrote to the King over the summer holidays and he received a response which his dad shared with us yesterday-how fantastic-and what a great representative of The Willows.

Within the newsletter you will find the prices for school uniform pieces-which have stayed the same as last year. Please remember it is part of school policy that your child must attend in school uniform whilst at The Willows. We do have a non-uniform day planned when our Disco happens and will let you know more about that closer to the time.

Also find attached the copy of the school menu-which changes termly. If you choose not to have school dinners please be aware of the Government School Standards for Food which means that some foods are not allowed within a packed lunch box. We are a NUT-FREE school. If you are unsure please contact the school office or speak with the school cook, Miss Emma.

I do hope you have been satisfied with the start of the school year. If you have any concerns please make sure to contact us as soon as possible.

I look forward to meeting more of you over the coming weeks,
Malcolm Shaw - Headteacher



Pine Class – Art

This week in Pine Class, we began our self-portrait project. We are decorating our backgrounds using a fun art style called collage, combining different colours and textures to make each portrait unique.



Hazel Class – Art

Hazel class enjoyed making some autumn art using different coloured autumnal leaves that they collected. With some guidance they created leaf people.

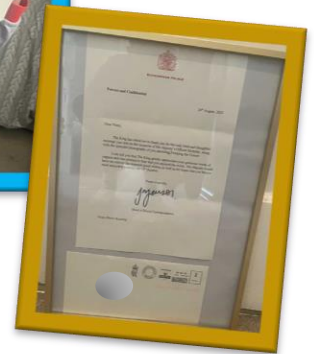
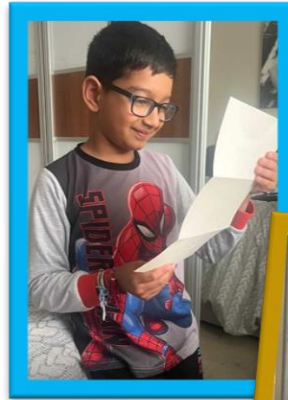


Oak class – Art



Oak class have had a great start to the term. They have engaged in an art activity to draw their self-portraits.

On one side they created a realistic depiction of themselves (using a mirror or photo) and the other side a symbolic representation of their inner self using imagery of their hobbies, dreams, and emotions, such as musical notes for music lovers or clouds for a creative person.



A truly wonderful response from King Charles II to Niam after Niam attended a special event in London, Trooping of the Colours, and writing to the King on his birthday. Well done, Niam.

Beech Class – Message for Year 6s

Welcome back! We hope you've all had a restful and enjoyable summer. A brand-new school year is a fresh start for our children and families, and we are excited to work together to make it a positive one. I know being in Year 6 can be daunting but I am sure everyone will be fantastic!

Currently this week we have been establishing classroom rules, expectations and routines. We have also been doing a multitude of fun activities, sharing our summer holiday experiences, as well as creatively expressing who we are as individuals.

I just wanted to take a moment to say every day in school makes a difference. Even missing a few days here and there can affect how your child feels about school and their progress. We understand that transitions can be tough for some children. If your child is feeling anxious or finding things difficult, reach out.

Warm regards

Mr Woodman and Mr Weech (class staff)



The Willows School
Academy Trust

Learning - Achieving - Succeeding

Lime Class – Art

This week, we learnt about the Artist 'Yayoi Kusama'. Also known as 'the princess of polka dot'.

After analysing her work, we then created our own polka dot art pieces.



Maple Class – Speaking and Listening

Maple Class has had a brilliant start to the new school year! We are excited to welcome two new children to our classroom, and the whole class has made them feel very included.

The children were so happy to be back and enjoyed fun activities like sharing things about themselves. It was lovely to see their confidence shine as they spoke in front of everyone.

A wonderful first day back for Maple Class!



Elm Class – First days...

Elm class have had an energetic start to the term, with new children and a new teacher to settle in to the group.

The children have enjoyed playing ‘What’s the time MR Wolf?’ as a group with their new puppet friend Mr Wolf.

Two children sat nicely with a teacher to play Jenga. They showed good turn taking and played the game correctly.



Chestnut Class - PSHE

Chestnut have had a great start to the year.

We talked about our top 10 favourite things and created a poster to represent it. Getting to know each other was really fun.



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.



Ash Class - Sculptures

Ash Class have enjoyed working with clay to create sculptures during our Thursday morning session.

Some of the children have said:

“It was smooth.” “It’s enjoyable to use.”

“It feels sticky sometimes.”

“Its so fun and exciting building your own things when you use your imagination.”

Ash Class worked well together supporting each other when spotting a peer finding something tricky.



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

WORD
of the
WEEK

entertaining
provides amusement or
enjoyment

e.g. The music
concert was very
entertaining.



**The Willows School
Academy Trust**

Learning - Achieving - Succeeding