



WILLOWS NEWS



Date: 17.10.2025

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Dear Parents and Carers,

With the end of the Autumn 1 half term coming to a close next week, this is just a reminder that school finishes on Friday at 1pm. This is the case for every end-of-half-term.

I would also like to congratulate the pupils on how well turned out they have been in their school uniforms. We will continue to encourage the children to wear full uniform; it does contribute towards a sense of identity and belonging. Thank you, parents and carers for your continued support in this area.

Perhaps the highlight of the week was the capoeira team that came in to teach on Wednesday and Thursday. The pupils were all very engaged and enjoyed the session, with almost everyone showing enthusiasm for the art form.

Meanwhile, all is well and the week has passed quickly and, for the most part, calmly. I wish you a peaceful and relaxing weekend.

Paul Gregory-Hunt (Head of School)

Harvest Goods

On Tuesday this week some representatives of the School Council helped deliver our Harvest Goods collection to St Anselms. We were delighted to find Father Josiah and Father Stephen awaiting our arrival. After taking the goods inside the children had a brief tour around the church before heading back to school.

Thank you to all those families who kindly and generously donated goods. It was greatly appreciated.



Ash Class – Yoga and Dance



Ash Class did well in Yoga with Mr Oscar and impressive DANCE this week, feeling relaxed and refreshed for the afternoon following Mondays session in Yoga.



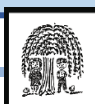
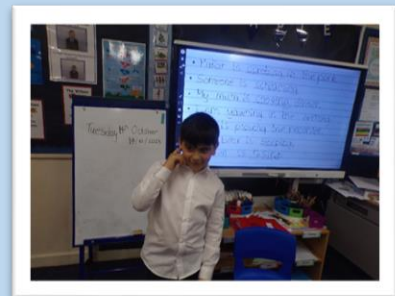
The class were able to follow directions for each step and hold the positions well, completing an Ash class thriller during dance with Miss Remy.



Maple Class – English

This week, Maple class started learning about verbs in our English lessons, and the students absolutely loved it! They learned that a verb is an action -a “doing” word - and quickly understood how to identify and use them. The children chose different verbs and created their own sentences, writing them down to show their understanding.

We also played a fun game where they acted out a verb while the rest of the class guessed what it was. It was a really successful and engaging lesson!



Lime – IPC



This week, we planned and conducted a fair investigation to find out which surface will allow a toy car to travel the farthest. Then, we measured and recorded our observations in a table and came up with a conclusion.



Chestnut – Tesco Trip



To celebrate Black History Month, Chestnut learnt all about Alma Thomas. Alma became an artist at the age of 70 and found her inspiration from nature. The children made milk chocolate chip cookies and decorated them in the style of Alma. They measured, mixed and whisked the ingredients and waited patiently for them to cool before decorating with icing pens.



Elm Class – PE

This week in Elm class some children took part in a PE lesson and were able to be the teacher and create a PE lesson for their peers to take part in.

The children demonstrated and assisted to help their peers do the activity successfully.

The class also had great fun learning about 'Capoeira' a form of martial arts from Brazil



Pine Class –Barack Obama (BHM)

This week Pine Class have been working very hard on their project for Black History Month. The class have chosen to focus on former USA president, Barack Obama.

They have been writing fact-files and exploring the life of Barack Obama.



Hazel Class - Art



In Hazel this week, we have been continuing with our story 'Beware of the Crocodile' and made our own crocodiles out of paper plates.

They decorated them using paints.



Beech Class – Our Learning Week

Another fantastic week of learning in Beech class. In English we finished our fact file on Treacher Collins syndrome. In maths, we continued our work with addition and subtraction but with decimal places. For Black History Month we researched and produced lovely posters about Katherine Johnson, the “human computer” whose mathematics allowed Nasa to get to the moon. We also had a Capoeira workshop! In Guided reading we looked at another 7 words to increase our vocabulary and in PE we had a mini class tournament in Basketball.

Overall, a great week and next week is our last before half term!



Oak Class - PSHE

This week for PSHE, Oak continued exploring the topic 'Being Me'. For this lesson they explored the Universal Rights of all children and discovered how for some children these rights may not be met.



Please ensure packed lunches do not contain any food items that contain nuts.



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.

