



# WILLOWS NEWS



Date: 24.10.2025

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[www.thewillowsschoolacademy.co.uk](http://www.thewillowsschoolacademy.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a long half term – 8 weeks! The children are tired, as well as everyone else and are now due a well deserved break from school.

I wish to congratulate them on how well they have worked together as a community; there has been a focused atmosphere through the building and visitors have noticed how friendly and welcoming the pupils are.

School uniform plays a valuable role in supporting positive behaviour for learning. It is designed to instil a sense of pride, identity and belonging. All pupils are required to wear full school uniform when attending school and we thank you for continuing to support the school in this regard.

I wish you all a great break and look forward to seeing you back in Autumn 2 on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. There will be much to look forward to in Autumn 2 in the run up to Christmas.

Paul Gregory-Hunt (Head of School)

## ATTENDANCE

We're pleased to share that our whole school attendance for the first half term stands at **90.4%**.

Thank you to all our pupils, parents, and staff for your continued efforts in promoting good attendance.

Let's keep working together next half term to raise this even higher — every day in school counts!



## Hazel Class – Diwali

In Hazel class this week, we made some stained glass lamps and some tissue paper lamps to celebrate Diwali.



## Elm Class – English

This week in Elm room the children created a map of the story 'We're going on a bear hunt' using pencil to draw the journey taken by the family.

The children used tissue paper to represent the places they had to walk through. Grass, river, mud, forest, snowstorm and cave. They also worked in pairs to sort objects in to groups, separating them in to colour and identifying which is the largest in number.



## Maple Class – Black History – Rosa Parks

Maple Class has been working incredibly hard on a special role-play to mark Black History Month. The children explored the inspiring story of Rosa Parks and her courageous stand on a Montgomery bus in 1955.

Each pupil took on a role, bringing the story to life with great enthusiasm and understanding. They did a wonderful job portraying such an important moment in history.

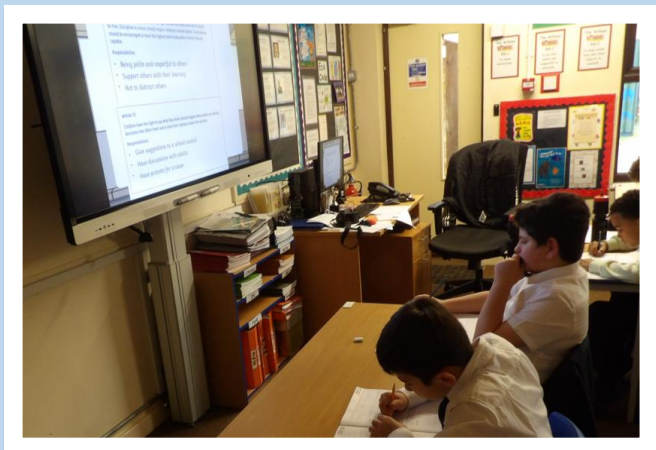
Through this story, the children learned how Rosa Parks bravery helped to spark change and showed the world that everyone deserves to be treated fairly and equally, no who they are.



## Lime Class – PSHE

This week, we looked at UNICEF rights of a child articles and identified what rights we have.

We also discussed our responsibilities to help ensure all children are able to have their rights met.



## PINE Class - Drumming

Pine Class had great fun celebrating Black History Month with an exciting African Drumming Workshop!

The children learned lively rhythms, explored African languages, and chanted new phrases together. It was a joyful and educational experience for everyone!



## Ash Class – Our Learning Week

Ash Class thoroughly enjoyed our visitors on Wednesday and Thursday last week teaching Capoeira.

Learning movements linked to animals and hearing all about the history of where Capoeira originated from.

The class were captivated with each stage of the sessions. We hope to have our visitors again.



## Oak Class - LITERACY

This week Oak continued reading and working through the Chapters of our CLPE book 'Wonder'.

For this particular lesson they carried out some research of the condition our main character has Treacher Collins Syndrome. The children were able to identify what the condition is, what causes it and what kind of treatments are available for someone who has TCS.



WONDER

## Beech Class – Our Learning Week



Another fantastic week of learning in Beech class this week...

We have been learning about efficient ways to make our brains work better.

We also had a brilliant day trip to snakes and ladders. A treat for the children's hard work this half term.

We look forward to an exciting Autumn 2.



The Willows School  
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# Black History 2025 class Projects

Alvin Thomas

BLACK HISTORY

All Class have been researching!

KATHERINE JOHNSON

ADE Adepitan

All Class have been researching!

Ian Wright

Rosa Parks

Montgomery Bus

Discrimination

Courage

Segregation

Political Activism

Michael Jordan

South African flag

## Autumn Term

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

### 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.

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of the  
W E E K

## Trepidation

A state of alarm,  
dread or nervousness.

*e.g. He entered the exam  
with a feeling of trepidation.*

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