



# WILLOWS NEWS



Date: 05.12.2025

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another solid and purposeful week of learning, with preparations well underway and everything on schedule for our festive activities and events. We are especially looking forward to sharing Christmas lunch together on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December (optional Christmas Jumpers), a highlight for all children and staff.

Visits to Church – Several classes have visited Reverend Alan at St John's the Baptist Church this week, enjoying moments of reflection that enrich our children's understanding of the season.

Christmas Panto – Beauty and the Beast – Excitement is building for our up-coming pantomime, Beauty and the Beast. We all know it will be a joyful experience.

Choir Performances – A select group of just twelve voices will perform at a local care home for the elderly on Monday afternoon, bringing festive cheer to the community. Our full school choir will perform in assembly on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December, sharing their festive songs with their peers and staff.

After a drizzly week, the forecast looks a bit brighter for the week ahead with sunny days expected, perfect for the children to enjoy time outdoors.

Enjoy the weekend.

Warm wishes,

The Willows

## HAZEL– Christmas is coming...

On 1<sup>st</sup> December, in keeping with tradition, Hazel class decorated their class Christmas tree.

Hazel's tree is extra special as it has fibre optic lights offering a wonderful sensory experience.



## Lime Class – Dance

Lime class enjoyed their dance lesson this week and were able to understand the importance of warming up and stretching before any physical activity. They explored movements in different ways and were able to create a sequence by putting different moves together.



## Oak- RE trip

On Tuesday, Oak class went on a religious education trip to St Johns' Baptist Church. We learnt about resurrection, reincarnation and the importance of Christmas to Christians



## Chestnut Class – Science

As part of our learning on The Polar Express, Chestnut class explored the use of lines and then applied this knowledge to create their own piece using metallic acrylic paint pens.



## Beech Class – Science

Had another brilliant week in Beech class. We have been looking through past grammar SATS papers and continued the story of wonder in English. We have been looking at multiplying and dividing by 10,100 and 1000 in maths. In History, we researched the famous military general and high priestess of the Shang dynasty, Fu Hao. We have also taken a spectacular trip to St John's Church near Uxbridge and enriched our learning of Christmas. Overall its been a great week and look forward to seeing you all next week.



## Elm- Dancing fun

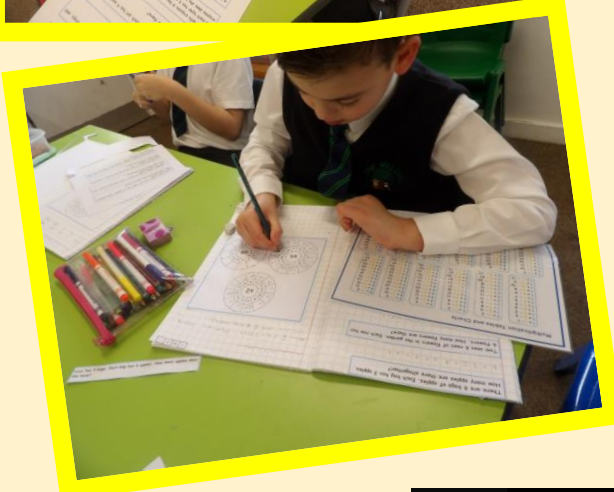
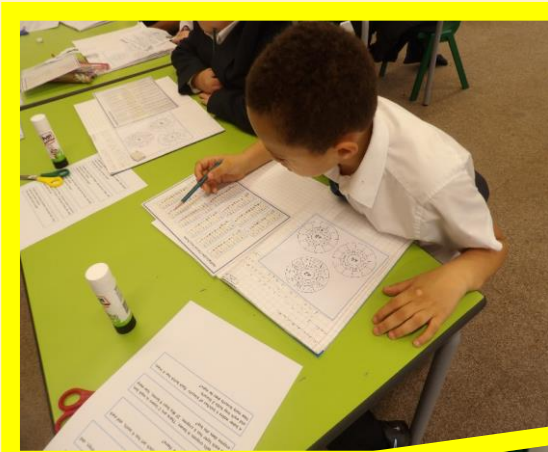
This week in Elm the children had a great time during dance. Playing a game where they had to dance and react to the music stopping to find a small flat circle to stay in for the next round. The children laughed and accepted when they were out and the winner was delighted. There was some really good dance moves and also some questionable ones, but all children expressed themselves and had fun.



## Pine - Mathematics - Multiplication

This week, Pine Class began an intensive focus on times tables in preparation for upcoming math lessons.

Next week, students will advance to learning how to multiply 3 and 4 by one-digit numbers using the formal written layout.



## Maple - Reading

This week, Maple Class has been really enjoying their reading time. It has been wonderful to see how engaged the children are during independent and group reading, and how much confidence they are gaining. We have seen some fantastic progress, with few children moving from very early reading levels to much higher levels in a short period of time. They are incredibly proud of their achievements, and we are proud of the effort and enthusiasm they bring to their reading every day.



## Ash- Kindness matters

Ash class have been working hard during PSHE discussing the importance of using kindness towards others and the positive and negative affects on people from words we say.

The whole class were able to show understanding and compassion for others. We were able to talk about what it is to be a bystander or an upstander.



## Supporting Our Families – Working Together

As Family Liaison and a member of the Senior Leadership Team, I want to thank all of our parents and carers for your continued partnership this year. We are committed to building strong relationships based on openness, transparency and support.

This term, we were pleased to host a Meet & Greet session for our new families and an online safeguarding workshop for all parents/carers. We are grateful to everyone who took part and shared their feedback.

We will be relaunching our weekly Coffee Mornings in the New Year – a relaxed opportunity to meet other parents, access advice and take part in supportive discussions. Please watch this space for dates and details.

Thank you to everyone who completed the Coffee Morning questionnaire. Your views have directly shaped our upcoming sessions. We will be sharing a **“you said... we did...”** update to show how your feedback has influenced our planning.

We want every family to feel supported, connected and valued. If you ever need advice, a listening ear or help accessing services, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Together we can achieve the very best for your children.

## Autumn Term

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



Our special Christmas Post Box will be ready to receive Christmas cards on Monday morning.

Please send in cards and children can post them.

Each class will have a turn to sort the post and deliver to classrooms.



