



WILLOWS NEWS



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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a truly wonderful week it has been, filled with Christmas cheer! From the sparkle in the children's eyes to the dedication of the staff, the festive season has brought joy and togetherness across the school.

Christmas lunch – our school hall was transformed into a Polar Express-themed wonderland, welcoming our children into a magical setting for a delicious Christmas lunch. The atmosphere was enchanting and the meal itself was a triumph of teamwork – thank you to everyone involved in preparation and service.

Visits – This week marked our final class visit to the church, a special tradition that always grounds our celebrations. Chestnut class enjoyed a highly successful trip to the Natural History Museum, London, returning with excitement and stories to share.

Festive – Fun – The much anticipated Christmas Door Competition is in full swing, with judging set for next Wednesday. Creativity has been flowing through the corridors, and we can't wait to see which class will take the prize.

Despite the wintry coughs and colds and germs doing the rounds, staff and pupils alike have shown great resilience, continuing to engage in activities with energy and enthusiasm and festive spirit.

Warm regards

The Willows

Lime – Arts & Crafts

This week, Lime Class has been hard at work creating a festive scene for our corridor winter display. The children collaborated to design and construct unique snowmen. Using a variety of materials they practiced their fine motor skills and creativity. The completed snowmen are now proudly featured on our exterior display board for everyone to enjoy.



Chestnut – Natural History Museum

To build on their amazing Science learning this half term on Animals including Humans and History learning on the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age, Chestnut visited the 'Human Evolution Gallery' and the 'From the Beginning' Gallery at the Natural History Museum.



Beech – SATs Practice

What an amazing week in Beech Class! We took a short pause from our usual curriculum to gently dive into a practice SATs week. It was fantastic to see everyone put in such an incredible amount of effort and resilience. For many, this was their very first experience sitting a test, and while nerves were certainly present, Beech Class managed the week brilliantly.



Elm – Arts & Crafts

This week, children in Elm Class collaborated on a Christmas door display. They decorated Christmas trees using various materials, including paint, felt-tip pens, shiny paper, and tissue paper. As part of this activity, the group using paint successfully identified the primary colours needed to mix green.



Maple - Arts & Crafts

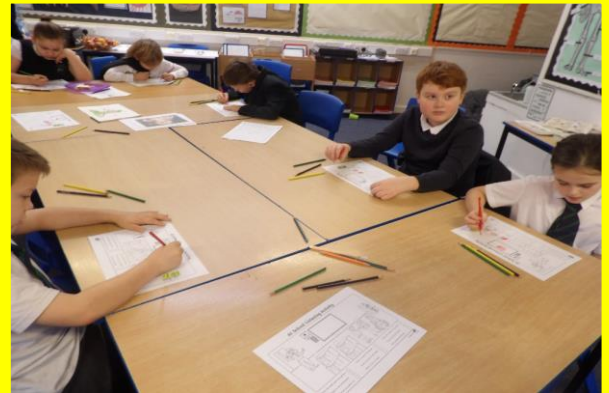
The festive spirit is alive and well in Maple Class! The children have been busy taking part in a range of Christmas activities this week, showing wonderful engagement and impressive listening skills.

It's lovely to see how much they are enjoying all the holiday fun. Everyone is now very excited and eagerly looking forward to Christmas!



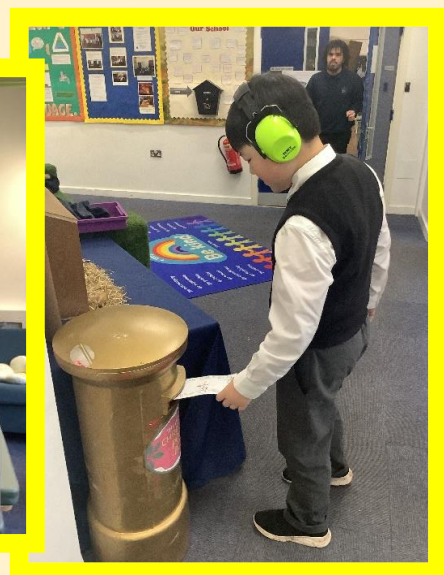
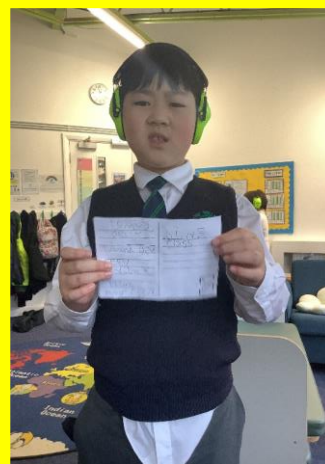
Ash – Speaking and Listening

Ash Class started their Tuesday morning with an engaging speaking and listening activity! The children did a fantastic job of listening carefully and following a sequence of instructions to complete their task. Teachers were impressed by how they used a whole range of colours for each specific direction given.



Hazel – Christmas cards

Hazel Class shared some wonderful festive cheer and gratitude this week! With support, the children thoughtfully wrote Christmas cards to teachers they are grateful for. The children then posted their completed cards into the communal Willow's post box for delivery.



Oak - Bullying

This week for PSHE, Oak class were further looking into 'Reasons why people use bullying behaviours'. Throughout the lesson they took part in a debate and discussed scenarios to identify if the circumstances involved 'bullying behaviours' or not.



Pine – Cave Paintings

This week in Pine Class, our focus was on how Stone Age cave paintings help us learn about the past and the way ancient people used to live. We explored the historical significance of these ancient artworks and then recreated our own versions of a cave painting. Students used various techniques to mimic the authentic look and feel of the art created thousands of years ago.



Christmas at The Willows

On Thursday, we celebrated our annual Christmas lunch, and the atmosphere could not have been more festive. Students and staff gathered together to enjoy a delicious traditional Christmas meal, complete with all the trimmings. This year's Christmas theme at The Willows was "The Polar Express," and the magic of the beloved story came to life throughout the day. Decorations transformed our space into a wintry wonderland, with sparkling lights, snowy accents, and touches inspired by the enchanting journey to the North Pole. The event was a wonderful reminder of the importance of community, celebration, and togetherness—especially at this time of year. We're excited for more holiday activities to come as we continue spreading Christmas cheer at The Willows!



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



Our special Christmas Post Box is now ready to receive Christmas cards!

Please send in cards and children can post them.

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

W O R D
of the
W E E K

Accommodate

To allow for; to help.

e.g. She said she could accommodate his request for extra time.

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