



WILLOWS NEWS

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Today we welcomed the children into school in their mufti and with their toys as we celebrated the end of Spring Term 1. The children have worked extremely well this half-term and are certainly ready for a well-deserved break.

This week, Mr Khan delivered an engaging and informative assembly on E-Safety, helping pupils to understand the importance of staying safe online. Following the assembly, classes took part in focused E-Safety lessons where they created eye-catching posters highlighting key messages about responsible and safe internet use. In addition, pupils participated in a variety of discussions and activities to mark Children's Mental Health Week. These sessions supported their well-being, encouraged open conversations, and raised awareness of the importance of looking after their mental health.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 23rd February** for an exciting Spring Term 2, which will include key events: World Book Day/Week and Science Week, with several specialists visiting to deliver engaging and educational workshops.

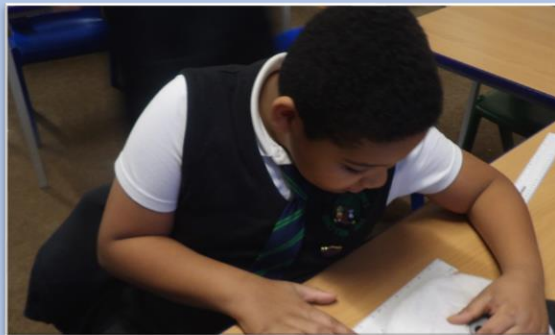
It has been a very wet first half-term, and we hope for drier weather next week so that your plans are not disrupted.

Thank you as always for your support.

Enjoy the break,
The Willows

Lime Class - Maths

This week, we continued our learning on measurement. Focusing on mm, cm, M and KM. We solved complex problems and even took out our rulers to measure different objects around the classroom.



Chestnut – Dance

Chestnut Class have been working incredibly hard over the past six weeks in Dance, showing fantastic enthusiasm and commitment as they learned and performed You Can't Stop the Beat from Hairspray The Musical. Throughout this half term, the children developed key skills such as coordination, timing, rhythm and spatial awareness, while also learning to remember and sequence dance moves accurately. They worked brilliantly as a team, listening carefully to cues, supporting one another and performing with growing confidence and expression. Their final performance was full of energy and joy and they should be extremely proud of the effort, resilience and teamwork they demonstrated throughout the whole process.



Elm - Art

This week in Elm Class the children looked at different examples of Pointillism art and did their best to do their own version of a piece. They used paint and ear buds to apply paint and create the dots, following the colour pattern to their best ability. They enjoyed the lesson and were proud of their work



Ash Class - Mental Health Week

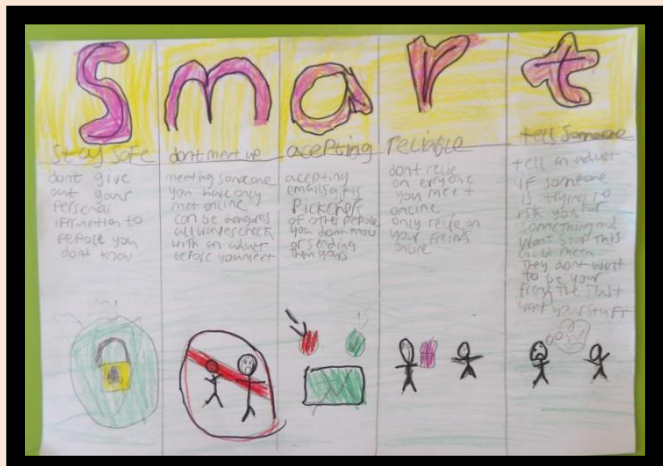
Low lighting and calm music setting the scene.

On Tuesday Ash Class explored mindfulness, having children's mental health week in mind. What is Mental health? What emotions can we recognise in our selves? How can I help my self feel better if I feel stressed or upset ? Exploring mindfulness with children offers significant educational value by fostering emotional regulation, enhancing focus, and building resilience against stress.



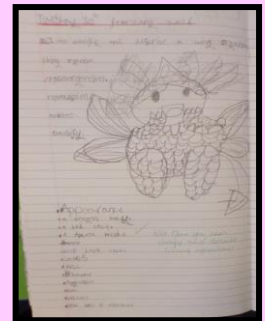
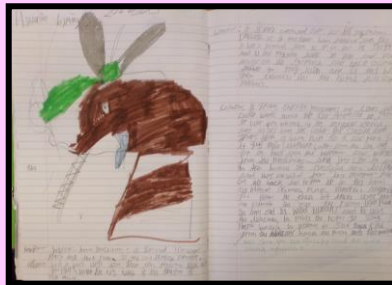
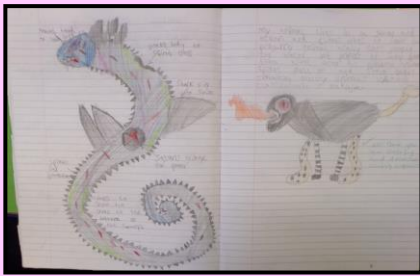
Pine Class - Safer Internet Day

This week, Pine class celebrated Safer Internet Day 2026 by creating posters promoting safe ways to use AI and the Internet.



Beech Class

Another great final week in Beech class! In English we have continued to work through previous SPaG papers; looking at the style and type of questions that will be presented. In Mathematics we have continued our fraction work and started multiplying fractions to integers. In Science we were collectively using all our knowledge of living things and their habitats to create our own animal which was then analysed for its appearance, behaviour, habitat and where in the Linnaean it would sit. We have also made some pancakes for Shrove Tuesday which will be celebrated officially during half term. In Computing we have been tinkering with 'microbits' and becoming more proficient at coding and download software



Maple Class - Maths

This week in maths, we continued learning about multiplication. We' have been using arrays to help children see what multiplication looks like, and we revisited the idea that repeated addition is the same as multiplication.

Children practised matching the two by looking at a multiplication sentence on their table and then writing the related repeated addition on their whiteboards, explaining how they are equivalent.



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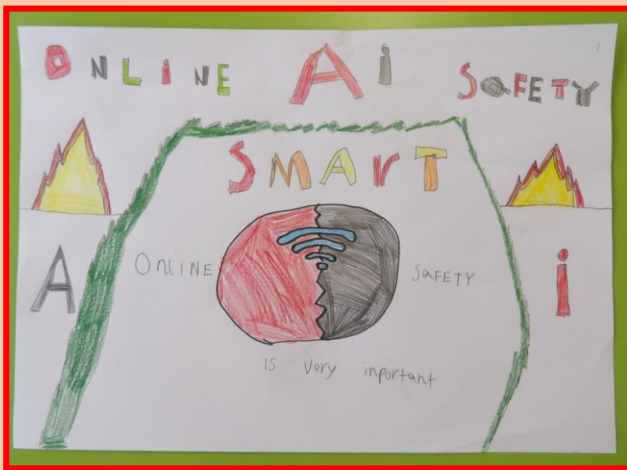
Learning - Achieving - Succeeding

Safer Internet Day 2026

Everyone's talking about AI, and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it's important they have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when they are using smart technology.

This year, we explored the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly.

We also revisited the SMART rules



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School Council Meeting

This week, the School Council met with Mrs Downie to look at the new Playground Charter, which has now arrived! It will be displayed in the playground so everyone can see the ideas they helped create.

The Playground Charter was made from questionnaires given to all pupils, asking for their thoughts on the playground and how they want it to feel. The School Council used the results to create rules for the playground, using words that the children suggested, such as:

"No swearing"

"Keep hands, feet, and objects to ourselves"

"Be kind and include everyone"

This project is a great example of how everyone's voice can be heard and how we can all work together to make our school an even better place.



Children's Mental Health Week

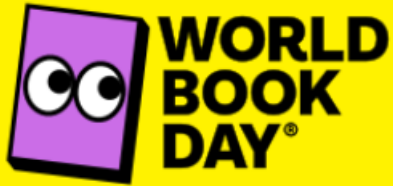
This week we marked Children's Mental Health Week with a focus on Place2Be's theme "This is Our Place." Children explored what mental health means and why it is just as important as physical health. Through discussion, stories and reflective activities, they learned simple ways to care for their own mental wellbeing, such as talking about feelings, recognising when they need help and using calming strategies.

A key focus of the week was belonging. School adults helped children understand what it means to feel safe, valued and included and how their words and actions can help others feel that they belong too. The week encouraged empathy, kindness and a shared understanding that everyone deserves a place where they feel accepted and supported.

As a Rights Respecting School Children's Mental Health also ties with our 6 focus UNCRC rights:

Article 2 We have the right to be treated fairly. (non-discrimination)	Article 12 We have the right to be heard. (respect of views)
Article 19 We have the right to be safe. (protection from violence)	Article 24 We have the right to be healthy. (health & services)
Article 28 We have the right to learn. (education)	Article 31 We have the right to play. (leisure, play & culture)





IT'S COMING!... In the second week after half-term, we will be celebrating World Book Day with a special Dress Up Day. All pupils and staff come to school dressed as a book character.

If your child does not already have a costume, please do not worry. We know this can take a bit of planning, and we really appreciate the time and creativity that families put into helping children take part. Half-term can be a good opportunity to think about ideas together, whether that means ordering something or making a simple, home-made outfit.

We also have a small selection of costumes available in school for anyone who may need one, so please let us know if this would be helpful.



W O R D
of the
W E E K

Oration

A speech given at a formal occasion.

e.g. His oration moved the crowd to tears.

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