



WILLOWS NEWS



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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderfully positive start to the half term, with a real sense of energy and purpose across the school. The buzz is growing as we look ahead to next week's World Book Day/Week celebrations, a moment in the year that reminds us just how powerful reading can be in shaping children's futures. Reading opens doors, fuels imagination, and helps our pupils make sense of the world around them. It builds empathy, curiosity, and confidence—skills that stay with them far beyond the classroom. World Book Day/Week shines a light on the authors, illustrators, and stories that inspire our children. By encouraging reading for pleasure, it strengthens life chances and nurtures a love of stories.

The highlight of the week will undoubtedly be Thursday's Dress-Up Character Assembly and Parade. It is always a joyful celebration of creativity, imagination, and the characters who capture children's hearts. We also have lots of book give aways, competitions, poetry performances and a special visitor who will demonstrate the power of storytelling.

We would love for families to join in at home in the spirit of the week by sharing stories, favourite books, and even snippets of non-fiction at home—those small moments of reading together make a big difference to children's confidence and curiosity.

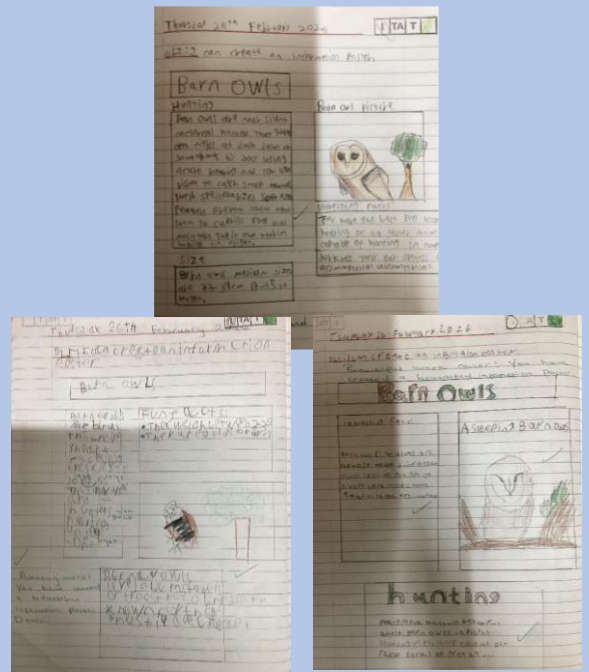
Enjoy the weekend,
The Willows

Lime Class - Literacy

This week, we began reading our new story "White Owl, Barn Owl". As part of our unit, we researched Barn Owls and created our own information posters.

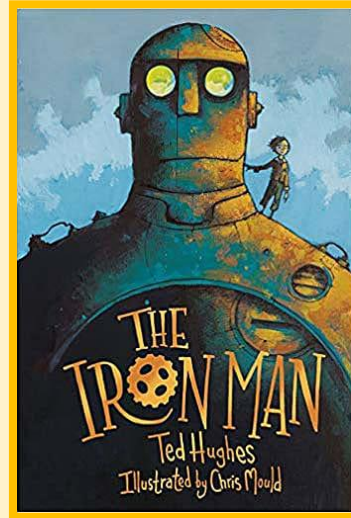
Did you know?

Barn owls are globally widespread, nocturnal hunters with silent flight, exceptional hearing, and a distinctive Heart-shaped facial disc that makes them extraordinary predators.



Chestnut - English

In English this week, Chestnut Class performed a reading from our new class book, *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. The children focused on using tone, volume and expression to bring the text to life, adding drama and emotion to the scene. Their confident performances showed a growing understanding of how vocal choices can engage an audience and enhance storytelling.



Elm - Art



This week in Elm Class the children had fun being tested to build a structure of their choice in four minutes. They were asked to share and build as a team. They were able to show good communication skills to ask for Lego bricks and explain how their structure should be made. Once the four minutes was over, the children showed and explained what they had made.



Hazel - English

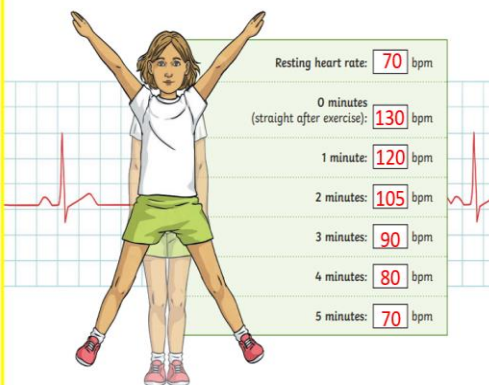
To introduce the story *Hooray for Fish!*, the children created their very own aquarium filled with bright, colourful fish. This hands-on activity sparked a lively discussion about where fish live, with the class deciding that the sea and ocean would make the perfect home. Inspired by the book, the children followed Little Fish on an underwater adventure, meeting lots of fascinating fish friends along the way.



Pine Class - PSHE

This week, Pine class investigated how exercise affects our bodies and heart rate. Did you know that a child's heart beats over 100,000 times a day to pump blood through 60,000 miles of vessels?

Instructions: Sit on your chair and find your pulse. Count how many beats you feel for 30 seconds and double it to get your heart rate in beats per minute (bpm). Making sure you have enough space, complete an energetic exercise (e.g. star jumps) for 2 minutes. Immediately, measure your heart rate again. Restart your timer and continue exercising, stopping to take your heart rate at the end of every minute until 5 minutes.



Beech Class

Another fantastic week of learning in Beech Class. In English we have started our new text of the half term, "The Highwayman".

In Mathematics, we have started our percentages and decimals unit.

In Science, we have begun our evolution and inheritance topic and in history we explored the different countries involved in WW2.

This week has also seen the class take a trip to a Hindu Mandir Temple in Harrow. We learnt many new things about how Hindu's pray to their god and the different ways they worship.



Ash - Art

This week Ash class have started looking at sculpture and pottery. The children had a great time exploring the use of clay, working together to sculpt and shape the clay, forming and shaping clay bowls and learning techniques to smooth clay to gain the shape they were after. They found that it was challenging at times, not using tools.

They are looking forward to sculpture art lessons next week using tools.



Maple - Literacy

Maple Class has had a lovely first week back after half term, full of learning and creativity.

In English, we started our new book, *Beegu*. The children have really enjoyed the themes of aliens, planets and spaceships. We have completed lots of writing tasks this week, and in one lesson we created our own settings inspired by the story using drawing, colouring, cutting and sticking. It was great to see their imagination come to life.

We would also like to give a warm welcome to Poppy, who has settled in well and had a positive start in Maple Class.



School lunch boxes...

A nutritious, balanced lunch helps children stay focused, energised, and ready to learn throughout the day. Including a mix of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and good sources of protein gives children the steady energy they need and encourages healthy habits that last.

We encourage families to help children try a wider range of healthy options—small changes like adding a new fruit or swapping a sugary snack for something more wholesome can make a real difference to their wellbeing.

Please also remember that **we are a Nut Free Zone**. For the safety of all pupils, especially those with severe allergies, no nuts or nut-containing products should be brought into school.



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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