



WILLOWS NEWS

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What an extraordinary week it has been. Science Week 2026 has filled our school with curiosity, excitement, and a real sense of wonder. It has been wonderful to watch our children explore, question, experiment, and discover the world around them in such imaginative and meaningful ways. We began on Monday with a visit from the brilliant Sublime Science Professor, who captivated the whole school during assembly. The children were enthralled by mind-bending optical illusions, delighted by the hands-on experiments, and inspired by the clear and engaging explanations behind each scientific surprise.

Midweek brought another highlight as the Science Dome arrived and transported us to incredible places — from the mysterious depths of the ocean to the vast reaches of outer space. The immersive experience left the children wide-eyed with awe and buzzing with questions.

One of the most talked-about moments of the week was undoubtedly VR Day. Pupils stepped into virtual worlds, encountering mini-beasts and wild animals and other wonders in astonishing detail. And today, during our final assembly, we were treated to a wonderful rendition of *Starman*, arranged by Mr Sam Leo and performed beautifully by our school choir. It was a truly uplifting moment — a joyful, musical celebration and provided the perfect finale to an inspiring week. I hope the children will take the time to look through and read the interesting Whizz, Bang Fizz, Pop magazines sent home yesterday.

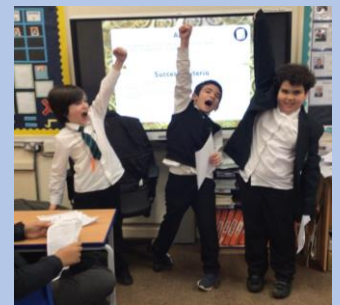
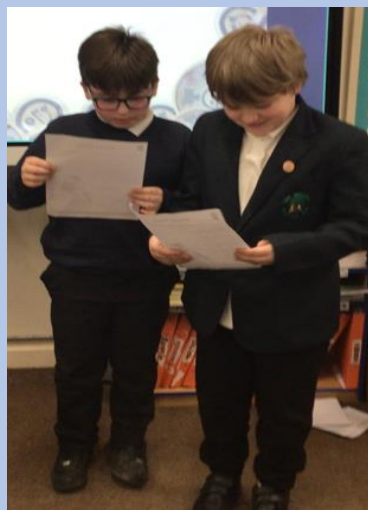
We look forward to some special visitors in assembly on Monday...

Enjoy the weekend,

The Willows

Lime Class - History

Continuing with our learning about Vikings, we read and performed a poem called "Danegeld" by Rudyard Kipling. This was a fantastic opportunity for cross-curricular learning. Lime class carefully considered their use of actions, voice and intonation to bring their poems to life.



Hazel - Science

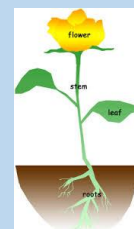
This week Hazel class has been exploring Plants as living things for Science. They have been having so much fun learning about the different features of a range of plants with lots of practical hands-on learning.

It has been Science Week and they have done some fantastic learning.



Elm - Science

This week in Elm Class the children learnt about the parts of a plant. They were able to name the roots, stem, leaves and petals. The class discussed what each part is for and how it helps the plant to stay alive. The children then created their own plant by sticking each part in the correct place to form their plant



Chestnut - Science

In today's Science lesson, the children explored the properties of magnets and learnt that magnetism is a non-contact force, meaning magnets can attract certain objects without touching them.

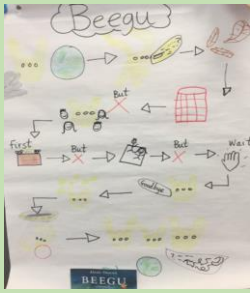
For their main activity, the children made predictions about which materials they thought would be magnetic based on what they had learnt. They then tested a range of materials using magnets to see whether they were magnetic or non-magnetic. After carrying out their investigation, the children recorded and organised their results using a Carroll Diagram, helping them to group the materials according to their properties.

Through this investigation, the children discovered that non-metals are not magnetic and that some metals are magnetic but not all. This helped them develop a deeper understanding of how magnets interact with different materials and strengthened their scientific enquiry skills.



Maple class - English

Maple Class worked in groups to create maps inspired by the book we are currently studying in English. The children showed great creativity, collaborating well and sharing their ideas with one another.



Pine Class - Maths

This week, Pine class learnt how to add fractions that have the same denominator. Did you know that fractions, originating from the Latin "fractio" ("to break"), date back to ancient Egypt (circa 1800 BC)?



Beech Class – Science

Another fantastic week of learning in Beech Class. In English we have been planning a setting description utilising the poem 'The Highwayman'. In maths we have revised our percentages of amounts and started looking at ratio. In science we researched plant adaptations and in History delved into the different ways people kept safe in the Blitz. In PE we continued to work on our flexibility in Yoga as well as our kicking skills in Tag Rugby. This week has been Science week we have had a number of different activities. We have had a planetarium dome, VR animals documentaries and science experiments. All in all amazingly fun week!



Oak Class - Science

This week has been Science Week and we have done some amazing Science experiments. We have had some workshops where we looked at whacky science phenomena as well as a planetarium and VR experience.

In class we have revised our knowledge of the solar system and looked at diffusion with skittle colouring.



Ash Class – Science

This week we have explored different ways to enjoy our daily mile, morning exercise.

Running around, star jumps, the children have used their imaginations to create games incorporating exercise.

Did you know?

The Daily Mile is a 15-minute, inclusive, and free initiative where children jog or run at their own pace, significantly improving physical health, mental well-being, and classroom focus. It reduces sedentary time by 18 minutes daily, boosts fitness, strengthens social connections, and lowers anxiety, with over 5 million children participating worldwide



School Council

The School Council met with Mrs Downie and worked together to design posters for Red Nose Day, which will take place next Friday 20 March 2026. The posters will help to raise awareness and excitement for the day. Please watch this space for further information about how the school will be celebrating and supporting this important event.

The School Council has also been involved in creating a lunchtime questionnaire, which is now ready to be distributed to classes. The questionnaire will give all pupils the opportunity to share their views about lunchtime in school.

The feedback gathered will support the development of a Lunchtime Charter, helping to ensure that pupils' views and voices are heard and reflected in creating a positive and enjoyable lunchtime experience for everyone.



Enrichment Learning - Litter Picking

This week in Litter picking Enrichment Club, the children focused on one specific area so they could clearly see the impact of their hard work. Working together, they carefully collected litter and were amazed at how much they removed, filling two full bags. By the end of the session, the children felt incredibly proud as they saw how much cleaner the area looked. Larger items that could not be safely collected were reported to the local authority so they can be removed. To make the experience even more special, a neighbour stopped to thank the children and compliment them on their efforts, which made them feel absolutely amazing.

It was wonderful to see the children taking such pride in caring for their environment and making a positive difference in the community.





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.



The Willows School
Academy Trust

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