



# WILLOWS NEWS

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope all our families enjoyed a wonderful Easter break. The children have returned to school happily, and it's been lovely to see everyone looking so smart in full school uniform and school shoes. We're excited for a half term filled with learning, fun, and plenty to look forward to — not to mention our Year 6 pupils getting ready to shine in their SATs.

This week, classes took part in an excellent VR Workshop to celebrate Earth Day, sparking lots of curiosity and excitement. Our new topics for the half term are now underway, and enrichment clubs will begin next week, bringing even more opportunities for creativity and exploration.

## Keep Your Contact Details Up to Date

Please pop by or get in touch with the school office if any of your contact details have changed. Keeping everything up to date helps us stay connected with you and ensures smooth communication throughout the term.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

The Willows

Thank you to Mr Roberts and Mr Shaw for the staff PGL briefing and the pupil meeting regarding expectations ahead of a very special residential trip next week.

Our PGL residential trip isn't just an adventure — it helps children grow in so many brilliant ways:

- **Learning Comes Alive:** Hands-on experiences that make learning unforgettable.
- **Growing Independence:** Looking after their own things and keeping to a schedule helps build confidence and responsibility.
- **Stronger Friendships:** Sharing new experiences brings everyone closer together — pupils and teachers alike.
- **Teamwork Skills:** group activities and problem-solving boost cooperation, listening, and resilience.
- **Personal Growth:** Children return braver, more confident, and ready to take on new challenges.



# Earth Day

Ahead of next week's Earth Day on 20<sup>th</sup> April, our children took part in an exciting Eco VR workshop called **Glido's Voyage**. The story follows friendly aliens who visit Earth over many years. As they travel, they see how our planet is being harmed by global warming, pollution, and our heavy use of fossil fuels. The children were completely engaged as they watched the aliens learn what's happening to Earth – and how we can help fix it.

The workshop makes big ecological problems easy to understand. It explores climate change, plastic waste, overfishing, pollution, and farming, while also showing simple everyday actions that can make a real difference.

The children watched three short films:

- **Your Planet** - showing the challenges our world faces today, like rising temperatures, melting ice caps, and warming oceans.
- **Causes of Climate Change** - explaining what's behind these changes.
- **How to Help the Planet** - offering practical ways we can all reduce our impact.

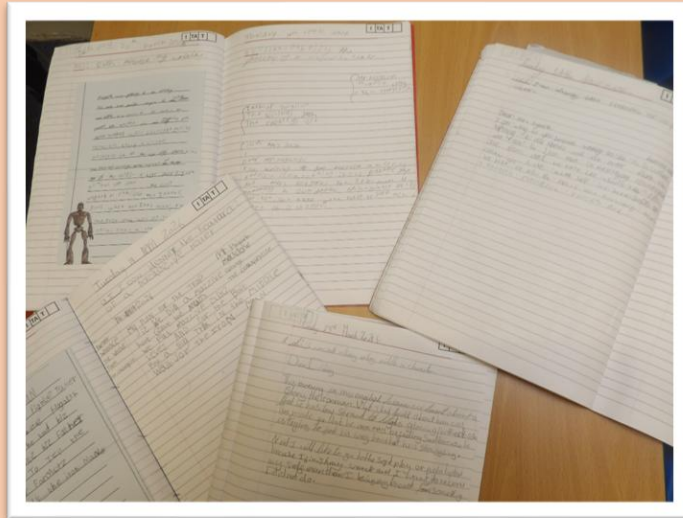
It was a powerful and inspiring experience that encouraged the children to think about how they can protect our planet, not just on Earth Day, but every day.



## Ash Class

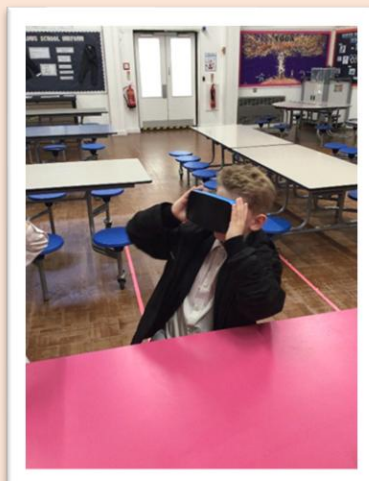
We have been continuing the iron man, during our English lesson on Tuesday the class were identifying features in a letter.

Writing their own letters in character form.



## Oak Class

In light of Earth Day, Oak class took part in a workshop learning about agriculture and different animals and learning how to promote environmental protection.



## Maple Class

Maple class really enjoyed an educational VR experience. They learnt about the effects humans have had on the planet Earth and how we can help make it a better place.



## Pine Class

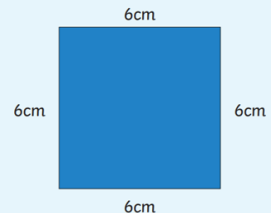
In maths this week, Pine class started measuring the perimeter of 2D shapes within their geometry curriculum. The word "perimeter" comes from the Greek words "peri" (meaning around) and "metron" (meaning measure). Essentially, it's the "measure around" a shape.



### Perimeter

The distance around the outside of a 2D shape is the perimeter.

the length of each side added together = perimeter



$$6\text{cm} + 6\text{cm} + 6\text{cm} + 6\text{cm} = 24\text{cm}$$



## Lime Class - RE

Dear Diary

Last term, we went to visit a Hindu Temple located in Hayes.

My favourite part of the temple was the candles because they smelt nice. During our visit, I saw a statue of the Monkey god called Hanuman. I also learnt that we need to remove our shoes when we enter. Another thing I learnt was the importance of being respectful.

If I visit again, I would like to talk to the priest more.

Yours sincerely,

Lime Class



## Beech Class

We've had a brilliant first week back in Beech class and have done lots of lovely learning.

In English we have done some SATs SPaG revision as well as some reading comprehension practise. In mathematics we started our Perimeter, area and shape unit. In science we have looked at light and the ways it travels. Geography has seen a personal approach to learning where children are researching their own country in the world and will be deep diving into its features over the coming weeks. In RE have started our Islam topic and how they show devotion to God. Whilst in PSHE we have started our "relationships" topic. We also had a VR experience where we learnt about the troubles happening with the climate around the globe.



## Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class investigated what plants need to grow, learning about water, sunlight, air, soil and temperature. They set up an experiment, changing one variable at a time, such as removing water or light. The class made predictions and will revisit their plants later this half term to observe changes and draw conclusions.



## Elm Class

This week in Elm Class the children have been able to work together to place pictures in the correct order sequence of brushing teeth. They spoke in a group about the importance of brushing teeth and when it should be done. They also enjoyed an activity of a VR experience, learning about the Earth and how humans are affecting nature.



## Hazel Class

Hazel class have made a strong start to the Summer term. They took part in a lively PE session, that helped everyone reconnect, regulate and get moving again after the break. The pupils showed fantastic enthusiasm and the session provided a brilliant boost to their wellbeing and engagement.



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## Support our Breakfast Club at Tesco

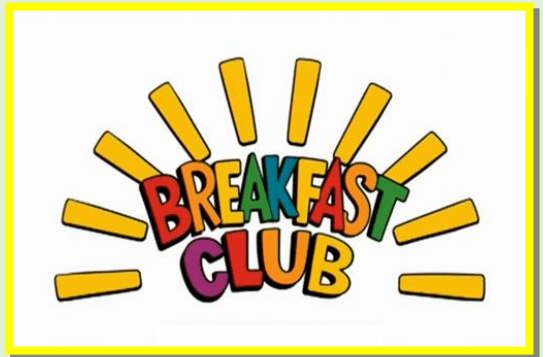
We're excited to share that *The Willows School Academy Trust Breakfast Club* has been selected for a Tesco community funding vote!

This wonderful project helps provide a nurturing, supportive start to the day for our children, and now we need your help. When you shop at participating Tesco stores, you'll receive a token at checkout—please use it to vote for our Breakfast Club.

The project with the most votes will receive up to £1,500, helping us continue and grow this vital provision for our pupils.

Voting is taking place in selected local Tesco stores across Hayes, Uxbridge, Ruislip, Northwood, Yiewsley, and West Drayton.

Every token counts—thank you for your continued support!



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