WILLOWS NEWS

Date: 23.10.2026 **Tel: 020 8841 7176**

www.thewillowsschoolacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy half term, the children have certainly earned a well-deserved break. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved over the past few weeks and would like to thank you for your continued support. We hope you enjoy some special family time together and have the opportunity to rest and recharge.

There is so much to look forward to when we return for Autumn 2. The children can expect exciting visitor workshops, educational and reward trips, engaging topics, high-quality book studies and, of course, plenty of marvellous maths lessons. With Christmas on the horizon, dare we say it, our Christmas Panto will soon be here! Much to the delight of many children, our much-loved riddles will also be making a return in Autumn 2.

As the weather becomes colder and wetter, please ensure that children come to school dressed warmly and in the correct uniform. We love making the most of our outdoor spaces during break times, and the children thoroughly enjoy getting outside for fresh air and play, whatever the season.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holidays on **Tuesday 3rd November**, as there will be an INSET Day on the Monday.

Until then, we wish all our families an enjoyable half-term break. Thank you, as always, for your support. We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for another exciting half term.

Miss Jones

Pine Class

This week, Pine Class embarked on a fascinating journey to ancient Rome as part of their English learning. The children discovered some amazing facts about the iconic Colosseum!



Did you know?
The famous arena wasn't always called the Colosseum! Its original name was the Flavian Amphitheatre, named after the dynasty of emperors who built it.

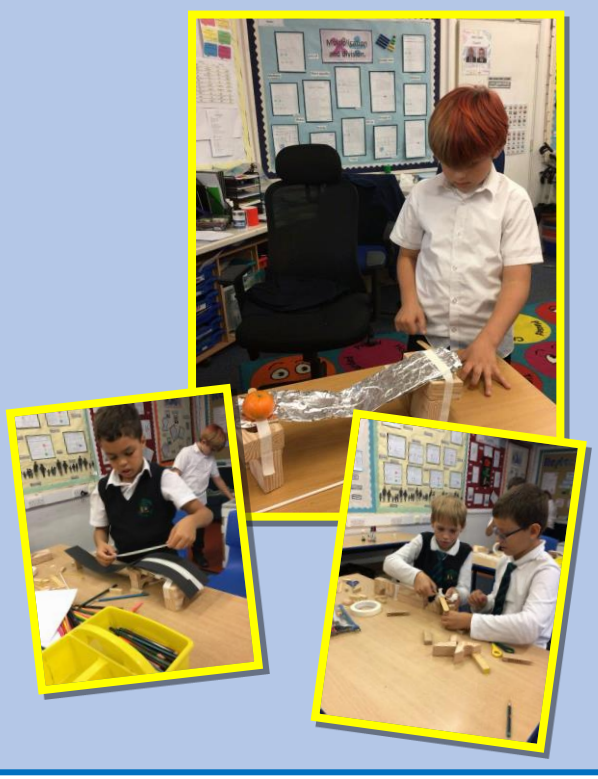
Chestnut Class

In Science, Chestnut Class explored how shadows change size depending on the distance between an object and a light source. The children created their own simple shadow puppets and used a torch and white paper to investigate what happened when they moved their puppets closer to and further away from the light. Through practical exploration, the children discovered that the closer an object is to a light source, the bigger its shadow becomes and the further away it moves, the smaller the shadow becomes. This hands-on investigation helped the children develop their understanding of light and shadows,



Ash Class

This week, Ash Class had a fantastic hands-on Science lesson exploring the strength of different materials by building bridges!
The children tested various materials, including wooden lolly sticks and aluminium tin foil, to see which could hold the most weight. Before testing, they made predictions about which bridges would be the strongest, then put their theories to the test to see if they were correct.
Through this practical investigation, the children developed their understanding of materials and their properties, whilst practising important scientific skills such as predicting, testing, and evaluating results.



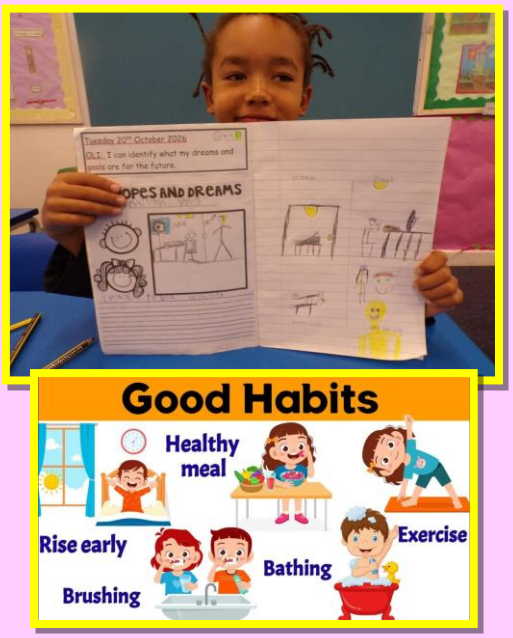
Maple Class

This week, Maple Class enjoyed a calm and creative art lesson exploring the wonderful world of colour.
Using the three primary colours – red, blue and yellow – the children discovered how mixing two colours together creates entirely new ones. They loved experimenting with different combinations and were delighted by their colourful results!
This hands-on activity helped the children develop their understanding of colour theory whilst encouraging creativity and exploration.



Elm Class

This week, Elm Class had an important PSHE lesson focusing on healthy habits and personal wellbeing.
The children explored what it means to look after ourselves, both physically and mentally. They discussed different healthy habits such as eating nutritious food, getting enough sleep, staying active, and taking time to relax and enjoy activities we love.
To bring their learning to life, each child designed their own colourful wellbeing poster. These creative posters showcased the healthy habits they had learned about and served as a visual reminder of how to take care of themselves.



Hazel Class

This week in Hazel class, Nour baked cupcakes. The instructions were carefully followed, and there was great enjoyment in mixing and decorating the cupcakes. Nour was excited to see the finished results, engaged well throughout the activity, and was proud of the delicious creations.





Oak Class

This week, Oak Class combined history and creativity by learning about Greek mythology and creating artwork inspired by legendary creatures. Pupils researched mythological beasts such as the Minotaur, Medusa, Pegasus, and the Hydra before choosing their favourite to draw.

Throughout the week, the class demonstrated excellent artistic skills, experimenting with shading, proportion, and texture to bring their chosen creatures to life. The finished artwork showcases impressive creativity and attention to detail.

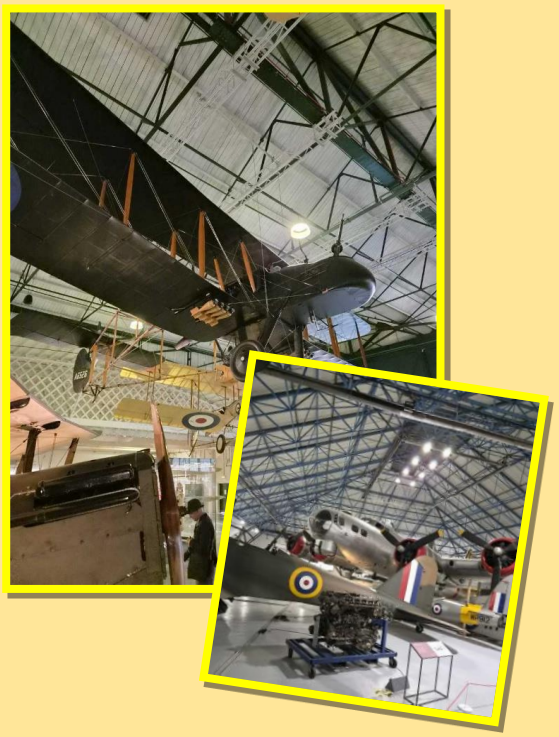




Walnut Class

What an amazing week in Walnut Class! Pupils visited the Royal Air Force Museum at RAF Hendon as part of their History unit on the Battle of Britain. They saw real Spitfires, Hurricanes, and Lancaster bombers, bringing their classroom learning to life and deepening their understanding of this pivotal moment in British history.

Back in school, learning continued across the curriculum. In **Maths**, the class has been mastering multiplication, whilst in **Science**, pupils investigated different activities that raise our heart rates and discussed the importance of exercise for our health.



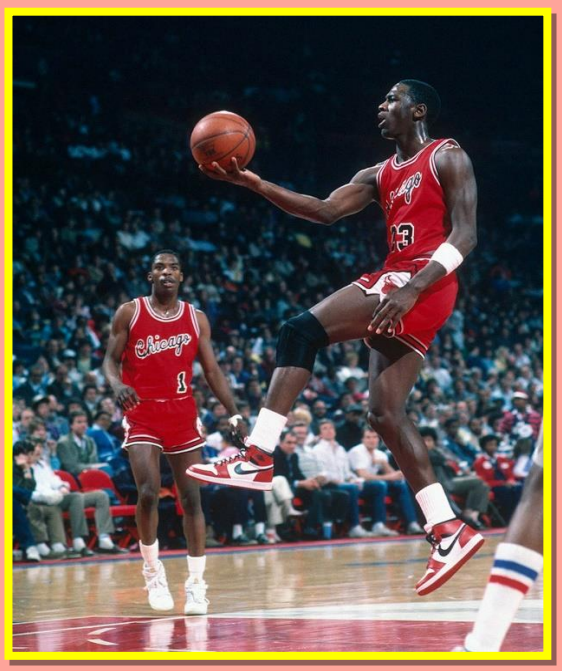
Beech Class

This Tuesday, Beech Class visited the Science Museum to bring their Science topic on light to life. In the interactive Wonderlab, pupils explored hands-on experiments about light, mirrors, sound, and space, investigating how light travels and discovering the science behind reflection.
Pupils were fully engaged throughout the visit, asking excellent questions and making connections to their classroom learning. The class represented The Willows School brilliantly with their curiosity, enthusiasm, and exemplary behaviour.



Lime Class

Lime Class took to the stage this week with an inspiring presentation about Michael Jordan. After spending time mastering their lines and practising their delivery skills, the children's hard work truly paid off. They captivated their audience by skilfully adjusting their voice, intonation and pacing throughout the performance.



A Special Message of Thanks from the Local Church

"Please accept our sincere thanks for the harvest gifts which your children brought last week. We blessed the gifts at the altar on Sunday, and we will use them to help those who come to us having found themselves in an emergency and in need of food.

It was also a pleasure to meet the children. Please pass on our thanks to them, and to those who provided the donations.

With best wishes,

Fr Stephen"



We are a Rights Respecting School

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 28
We have the right to learn.
(education)

Article 19
We have the right to be safe.
(protection from violence)

Article 24
We have the right to be healthy.
(health & services)

Article 31
We have the right to play.
(leisure, play & culture)



