

3rd February 2023



THE WILLOWS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you

We were all very touched by the messages of support we received from so many parents and family members following my letter regarding strike action this week. It is a very challenging time for everyone who works in schools and your kindness and understanding was greatly appreciated.

World Book Day – 2nd March

A Blanket of Books!

On World Book Day children are invited to bring a book from home that they no longer want. These books will be put in the school hall to create a 'Blanket of Books'. The children can then choose another book to take home and keep.

Our PTFA will also be holding a book sale at the end of the day on Thursday 2nd March and Friday 3rd March on the School Playground. If you wish to donate any books for this sale, then please can they be brought in on Tuesday 28th February or Wednesday 1st March. Mrs Aris will have boxes on the playground for these to be put in.

Music

Music is so enjoyed by all our children and staff in school. We love hearing the children singing and playing and find it all so uplifting. It is wonderful to see how excited the children are when it is their music lesson and how much our orchestra is growing and developing. There has been numerous studies done to show that learning an instrument impacts positively on academic achievement too. We currently have spaces in our brass and strings timetable. Lessons cost £5 per lesson and the children are taught in small groups. If your child is in Years 2-6 and you would like your child to start lessons please contact Mrs Barnes or Miss Stedman in the office as soon as possible.

Next Week

Monday 6th February

Start of Children's Mental Health Week
3:30pm – Year 4 Computing Club
3:30pm – Reception & Year 1 Craft Club
3:30pm – KS2 Walking Club
3:30pm – Year 5 & 6 Baking Club

Tuesday 7th January

Safer Internet Day
12:30pm Dodgeball Competition (Y5/Y6 selected pupils)
3:30pm – Orchestra

Wednesday 8th January

4:00pm – Parent Consultations

Thursday 9th January

4:00pm – Parent Consultations

Coming Up

7th February

Safer Internet Day

8th February

4:00pm Parent Consultations

9th February

Year 2 Forest School
4:00pm Parent Consultations

10th February

3:30pm School closes for Half-Term

20th February

8:50am School re-opens

23rd February

Year 1 Forest School

2nd March

World Book Day

16th March

9:00am Reception Mother's Day Liturgy

Communication

Contacting teachers

Use the Messages tab on MCAS, press the + button and choose your child's teacher. Send a message from here.

Remember you won't get an instant response.

Contacting the Office, Mrs Barnett or Mr Wylde

Use the Messages tab on MCAS, press the + button and choose The Willows Catholic Primary School

Use this option for anything that does not need to go to a teacher. You are more likely to get a quicker response using this method.

If you need to tell us something – always ring the Office

If you need to book into After School Club, change something etc. please ring us – 01772 684371.

IN AN EMERGENCY – ALWAYS RING.

Open Door Policy

Communication is key to ensuring your child is happy and thriving at school. It makes sure everyone feels valued as part of our Willows Family.

We operate on open door policy where you can speak to your child's class teacher any time after school – please give teacher's time to dismiss their class first.

If you would like a longer appointment, please send them a message on MCAS or contact the Office.

Healthy Snacks

At The Willows we are keen to establish healthy routines and lifestyles with our children. For this reason, please give careful consideration as to what your child brings into school for breaktime and how much. Some children are bringing in numerous items. Please could you limit this to one healthy item. Thank you.

Can you help Mrs Aris?

If anyone has any spare stones, soils, bark or plant pots then please could these be donated to the Reception outdoor area. Thank you.

Our very own Dance Hero!

Many of you will know Annabella from Year 1's dad, Will, but did you know that he will be living out his 'Strictly Dream' in Dance Floor Heroes at the Empress Ballroom, Blackpool Winter Gardens on 24th February?

Will is currently training with his professional dance partner Megan Reeves in preparation for the contest. Will is assistant Headteacher at Pear Tree and is doing the competition in aid of Tia's Crown, a charity set up to support mental and physical wellbeing through free Let's Dance sessions. An all-star presenting team and judging panel which includes former Strictly professionals will be there. It promises to be a fantastic evening! If you would like to support Will, then tickets are available from the Winter Gardens and Will also has a 'Just Giving' page...

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/willthedancingteachernorris>

Good Luck Will from your Willows family.

My Child at School - MCAS

Please use the **Data Collection** tab on MCAS to keep us up to date with any changes to addresses, telephone numbers or email addresses. Thank you.