

19th January 2024



THE WILLOWS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Fun in the Snow!

How lovely it was to see the whole school outside enjoying the snow this week. We so rarely get enough snow to make snowballs and snowmen that we simply had to take advantage!

In this cold weather please ensure that your child comes to school with a warm coat, hat, gloves and scarf as the weather does vary throughout the day.

Swimming Pool

We are all looking forward to the arrival of the pool next week. Messages will be coming out to inform you of when your child will have their swimming lesson so, please keep an eye out!

Thank you to those people who have sent in spare dressing gowns, towels, swimming kit etc they are greatly appreciated.

This will be a fantastic opportunity for all the children but will also ensure that as children leave our school, they meet the statutory requirement to be able to swim 25m.

PTFA – Coming Soon

The PTFA are busily organising our next two events. A family film night on Friday 9th February at 6:00pm and the Chocolate Bingo (previously known as the Easter Bingo) on Friday 22nd March at 6:00pm.

Please put these dates in your diary as we very much value the support of the PTFA and all our families.

These events will be raising money to introduce new reading books into the library and classrooms.

Thank you

Thank you to Year 2 for leading our Prayer and Liturgy so beautifully yesterday.

Next Week

Monday 22nd January

8:30am Family Photographs

Thursday 25th January

Year 2 Forest School morning

Friday 26th January

Holocaust Memorial Day (Year 6)
2:45pm Star Award Assembly

Coming Up

Monday 29th Jan to Friday 9th Feb

Swimming Pool is operational.

Thursday 1st February

Year 4 Forest School morning

Tuesday 6th February

Safer Internet Day
Year 3 A Roman Soldier Visits

Thursday 8th February

Year 3 Forest School morning

Friday 9th February

3:30pm School finishes for Half-Term
6:00pm PTFA Family Film Night

Monday 19th February

8:50am School re-opens

Tuesday 20th February

Year 3 & Year 4 Athletics (Carr Hill)

Thursday 22nd February

Year 6 Forest School morning

Thursday 7th March

2:45pm Reception Prayer & Liturgy

Thursday 14th March – Friday 15th March

Year 4 Residential

Don't forget, there is a calendar on our website (Parents > Calendar) that you can subscribe to, this will add all these dates directly onto your device.

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.

Academisation

Thank you to everyone who took time to submit their views, or speak to me, before Christmas, regarding the proposal for The Willows to convert to Academy status and join the Blessed Edward Bamber Catholic Multi Academy Trust. A report was prepared which was presented to Governors this week. Having carefully considered the results of the consultation exercise, Governors resolved to progress with the conversion and apply to the Department for Education to become an academy as part of the Blessed Edward Bamber Catholic Multi Academy Trust (BEBCMAT) on 1st September 2024.

Once again can I assure you that the Catholic character, ethos, values and day-to-day work of the school will not change, but it will bring closer working practices between The Willows and other schools in the trust which will only benefit us all.

Family Photographs

Once again, on **Monday 22nd January**, we will be having our individual and family photographs taken by Tempest Photography. Throughout the day we will ensure that all children have an individual photograph taken as well as one with any siblings they may have. If you would like the opportunity to have a photograph taken with any pre-school siblings, please arrive at the School Office for 8:30am and Mrs. Barnes and Miss Stedman will arrange this.

Plastic Bottle Tops

The Laudato Si' group are collecting plastic bottle tops to use for a project in the Summer Term. We will need thousands so please ask your family and friends to start collecting too. Mrs Wilks in Year 3 will happily take them off your hands.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thewillowsschoolptfa

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.