



Dear Parents and Carers,



As we come to the end of the Spring 1 half term, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support. Your commitment to your child's education—whether through reading with them daily, taking an interest in their learning, asking questions, or supporting their homework—plays a vital role in their progress across all curriculum areas. Every small effort each day helps your child to develop confidence as a learner.

This week, the children have been busy publishing their writing outcomes for their class floor books. It has been wonderful to see our core value of resilience shining through across the school as pupils take pride in their work. In our weekly celebration assemblies, we continue to recognise and celebrate children's progress in their presentation and cursive handwriting skills. The impact of this focus is evident in the care, effort, and pride that children are putting into their learning.



Teachers have also been working diligently to enhance our learning environment by updating our subject boards to reflect the breadth and richness of our curriculum. A well-organised and inspiring learning space is essential, as it mirrors the high expectations we have of ourselves and our pupils. It has been fantastic to see the respect our children have for their school environment.

Today, teachers across the Trust are meeting at Limewood Primary School to share and moderate writing books. This collaboration ensures that our judgements are accurate across all five schools and allows for valuable sharing of good practice. It is always a fantastic opportunity to work together and continue developing excellence in teaching and learning.



Upcoming Sharing Assemblies – Spring 2 and Summer 1

A reminder that the following classes have their sharing assemblies coming up in Spring 2. Please make a note in your diaries:

Class	Date
Y5 Hazel Class	Friday 14 th March
Y5 Walnut Class	Friday 21 st March
Y4 Almond Class	Friday 28 th March
Y3 Redwood Class	Friday 04 th April
Y2 Hornbeam Class	Friday 18 th April
Y1 Yew Class	Friday 25 th April
EYFS Magnolia Class	Friday 2nd May
Y6 Sycamore Class	Thursday 22 nd May

Finally, we would like to wish all our families a **relaxing and enjoyable half term break**. We look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 24th February at 8:40am** (or **8:25am for Breakfast Club**).

Thank you for your continued support.

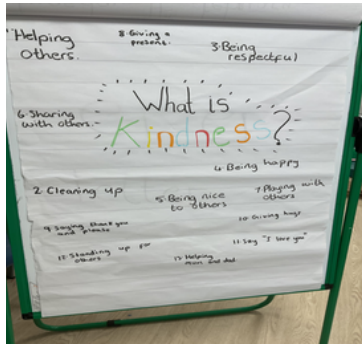
Best wishes,

Mrs Oldfield and the Willow Bank Team



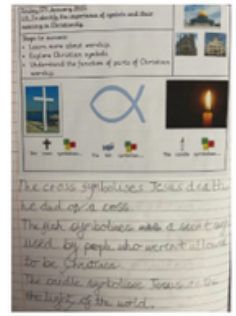
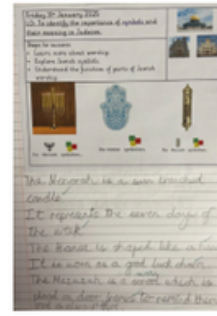
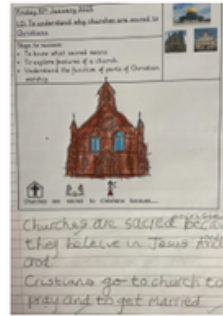
Year R

The children shared thoughtful responses about what kindness is. We also recognised that while being kind can sometimes be challenging, it's always worth trying. To explore this concept further, we passed around a heart using only our elbows, which was tricky but helped us understand that even when it's difficult, we can still try to be kind.



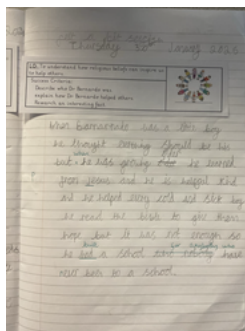
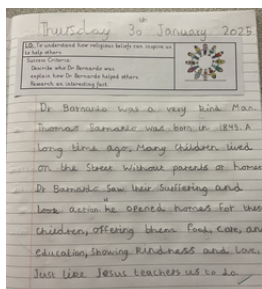
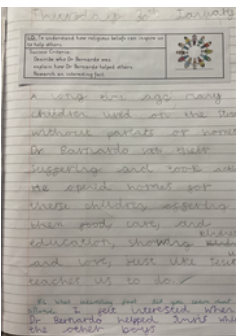
Year 1

In Year 1 we have been exploring the terms 'sacred' and 'holy'. We have discussed why places are considered as sacred and holy and we have also been exploring different symbols in both Christian and Jewish religion and understanding their significance.



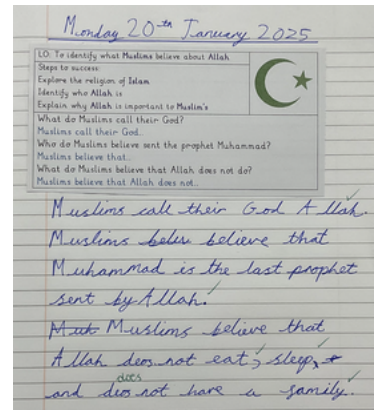
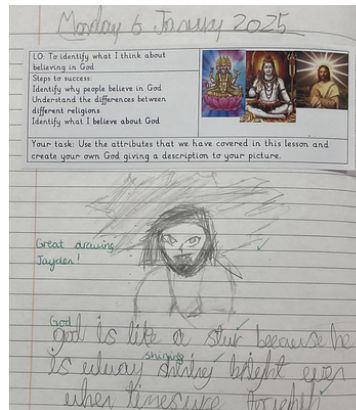
Year 2

In Year 2, we have been exploring how religious beliefs can influence people's actions and choices. We learned about Thomas Barnardo, a Christian whose faith inspired him to care for orphans and provide them with shelter, education and hope for a better future. Through his story, we discussed how religious values such as kindness, compassion and helping others can shape the way people behave and make a positive difference in the world.



Year 3

In Year 3, we have been exploring why people believe in God. We started by identifying our own beliefs in God and then we looked at different religions and what they believe. Whilst looking at what different religions believe in God, we have been able to deepen our understanding towards people of different religions and their beliefs.





Year 4

Year 4 have been enjoying exploring various genres of Christian music, from hymns to contemporary worship. They have loved evaluating different styles, reflecting on lyrics, and discussing how music enhances faith and worship.

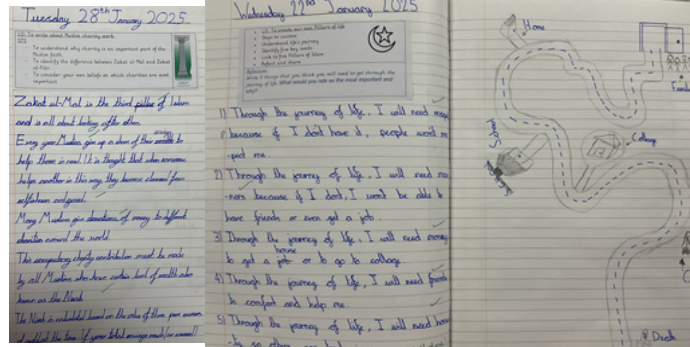
BC

I liked listening to Alive because its more modern and happy and colourful!!!!!! =)

I like alive song because it has high beat and good lyrics and it tell us that the world will never end and it made me feel happy and joyful and it feel energetic.

Year 5

This term, Year 5 have been exploring Islam, focusing on the Five Pillars—Shahada (faith), Salah (prayer), Zakat (charity), Sawm (fasting), and Hajj (pilgrimage). Through discussions, artwork, and writing, they have gained a deeper understanding of how these pillars guide the lives of Muslims around the world.



Year 6

Year 6 have been examining the religion of Islam and in particular the significance of being part of the Muslim Ummah, exploring its impact on the lives of Muslims. We also discussed the question 'How might being part of the Muslim Ummah be different from other communities?'

Muslim community	Christianity community
They read the Quran, which is their holy book	I read the Bible, which is my holy book
They go to mosque, which is their holy place	I go to church, which is my holy place
They have the five pillars of Islam	Christianity has the 10 Commandments that was given to us by Moses from God

OUR CORE VALUE FOR SPRING TERM 1 IS KINDNESS

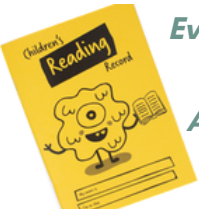




KS1 & EYFS Parent Reading Morning

Every Thursday from 8:40-9:10am



All parents and carers welcome!



We are looking for Read with Me volunteers at Willow Bank! These volunteers will visit our Yr 1 & 2 classrooms and listen to our children read.

If you are interested in volunteering with us for 30 minutes or an hour each week, then please pop into the office to express your interest and pick up our application pack.



Well done	Our target is over 96%
Magnolia - 81%	★ Yew - 96%
Hornbeam - 94%	★ Redwood - 96%
	★ Almond - 99%
★ Hazel - 97%	★ Walnut - 97%
★ Larch - 97%	Sycamore - 90%
	

School Reminder

Children should not arrive earlier than 8.20am, for Bagel Breakfast club from 8.25am - 8.35am
 School gates close at precisely 8:50am. After this time, entrance is via the school office and parents will need to sign your child/children in using the screen.

A reminder that we have our Chance To Chat.

As a school we provide ongoing support for the children’s wellbeing and mental health to which one of the methods is they can fill out a form while in school to express their worries. The form then gets placed in the ‘Chance to chat’ box where it will be addressed by the wellbeing team.
 We also have an online form which is located on the school website named ‘Chance to chat’.
 The children can complete the form if they are worried about something or need some advice? A member of staff will get back to the child at school.

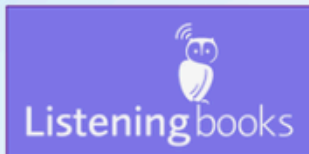
Please copy the link below and paste in the search bar and it will direct you straight to the form.
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=MvrWB2Z-r0qnuEuN-giOI1CAPQc0X4RFje43giTliLNUOE5BWUFISE40VjBXODZYRVFITLNXvzZYNCQLQCN0PWcu>



Having difficulty reading a book or comic? Try listening to an audio book or audio comic instead!

Listening Books is an audiobook lending charity for those that find their illness, mental health, physical or learning disability affects their ability to read the printed word or hold a book.

Listening Books provides a postal and internet-based audiobook service with over 10,000 fantastic titles for you to enjoy and includes educational, fiction and non-fiction books.



Find out more about Listening Books and Comics:

- **Telephone:** 07729 278 461
- **Website:** [Local Offer](#) | [Listening Books](#)



• Advisory Service for Autism

Parent/Carer Drop in session

An opportunity to speak to members of the Autism Advisory team for information and advice. For families pre or post diagnosis

🕒 **Wed 26th February 2025, 10 AM - 12 PM**

**Crayford Community Centre
175 Townhall Square
DA1 4FN**

For more information please visit
<https://www.bexleylocaloffer.uk/Services/5553>