



WILLOW BANK PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have managed to stay dry in the endless downpours this week!

Last Friday, the whole school held a two minutes silence to commemorate Remembrance Day . Key Stage 2 children stood in circles on the playground and then listened to The Last Post and Key Stage 1 children did the same in their classrooms. We were very proud of the respect shown by every child in the school during this very important event.

We have had some exciting learning experiences outside the classroom this week with our Year 5 classes visiting the British Museum as part of their history topic on Ancient Egypt. The children caught the train to the museum and enjoyed looking at the exhibits and deepening their knowledge about the ancient kings and queens of this period, as well as being fascinated by seeing the mummies they have read about in the classroom first hand. We were also thrilled to receive some feedback from a member of the public at Abbey Wood station regarding the excellent behaviour of the children while they waited for their train.

On Wednesday, we all participated in Positive Noticing Day as part of Anti-Bullying Week. Miss White led an excellent assembly in which children discussed different situations and strategies they can use to manage conflicts with their peers, and Ms Adeel showed the children how they could make someone's day by writing them a positive note on a luggage label to say how much they appreciated their kindness. Staff also joined in by adding positive messages to the shout out board in the staffroom, so everyone went home walking a little taller.

This morning we all enjoyed Almond Class' sharing assembly in which the children shared their learning across the curriculum this term. It was fantastic to see so many parents joining us in the hall- the highlight being the Viking dance choreographed by the children in their PE lessons. Well done everyone!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

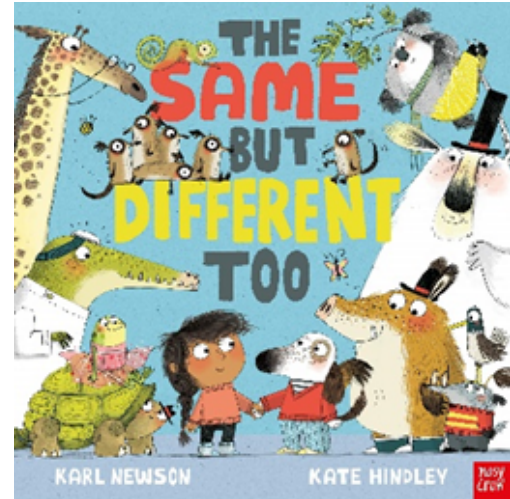
Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,
Mrs Oldfield
Headteacher



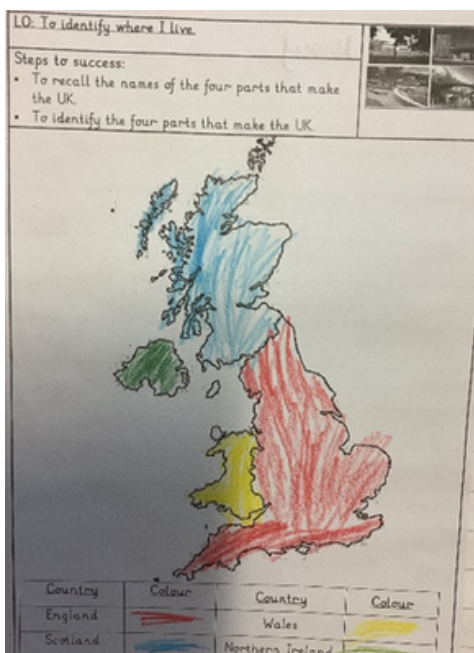
Me, My Family and My Home

Reception have been learning about themselves and understanding the importance of family relationships. The core text which the children learned about was pivotal to knowing that we all different yet the same. Stories were shared about book the characters and also about people who are important to them. They enjoyed this aspect of their learning which really helped to settle them into their learning journey at Willow Bank.



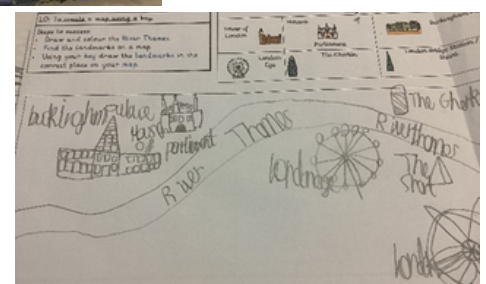
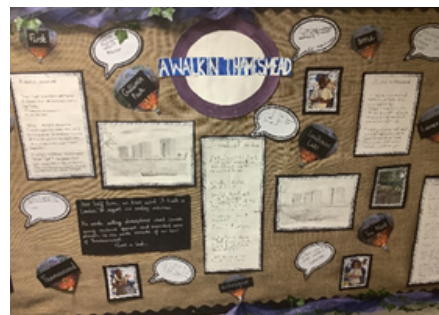
Once Upon a Time

Yew class (Year 1) learned about the local area. They also learned about the United Kingdom and how it is made from the four nations. The children were introduced to the idea that maps use keys to represent areas as well as colour to show where boundaries lie between nations. They had discussions about where they live and how it feels to live in the UK and being part of a diverse country.



Maybe it's Because I'm a Londoner

Children were learning about City of London and how exciting it is to live in our city. The River Thames is a key geographical feature of London and children learnt about how important it was to the growth of London. Atlases were used by the children to see where London is within the UK. Year 2 used the outside space and forest school of Willow Bank to understand the concept or area and land use. Children drew maps of London which included the Landmarks along the Thames.





Viva Espana

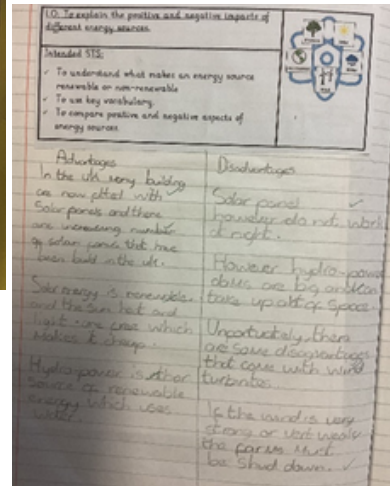
Spain was the focus for Year 3 and how it compares to the UK. Catalonia and the South-East of England were studied and examined by our children. Culture, history, language, climates and food were all researched



Whose World is this?

Year 4 children were asked about who the world belongs to. It started children thinking about all of the resources which we use and where they come from. Different energy sources were researched, and renewable energy sources were examined closely to see if they were sustainable and as efficient more traditional ones.

Children drew up tables and listed the advantages and disadvantages about energy sources.



Fading Rainforests

Year 5 have been looking at the main biomes of the world. Through images and videos, children learnt about how each biome differed from each other. The children planned and recorded dynamic travel reports about the biomes to inform viewers of the biomes characteristics. Small production teams worked collaboratively to make them clips interesting and engaging to the viewers. Children were also asked to find out about rainforests around the world. They were located by the children, who were horrified to learn about the impact of deforestation across the world rainforests. These were fiercely debated between groups who presented their ideas in a professional manner.



Race to the End

Year 6 have been looking at the wonders of Antarctica. They read about Arctic explorers in history and thought about the possibility of more of the world population seeking a world which is so different from our environment in Europe. There was much discussion over whether responsible tourism in Antarctica can ever be possible, given the long-haul flights involved in getting there and the potential to spoil such a pristine environment. Our pupils quickly found out that this is one of the best protected places on the planet, with strict responsible tourism regulations.





WELLBEING



Well done to:	Our target is over 96%
Magnolia - 89.1%	Yew - 95.5%
★ Hornbeam - 97.7%	★ Mulberry - 96.8%
Alder - 92.2%	Redwood - 97.3%
★ Laburnum - 97.5%	★ Almond - 99.1%
Hazel - 94.2%	★ Walnut - 97.4%
Larch - 95.6%	Sycamore - 93.6%



THUNK OF THE WEEK

HAPPINESS is seeing the **SMILE** on a child's **FACE** as they **LEARN**

Willow Bank Primary School

**RECEPTION
SEPTEMBER 2023
OPEN MORNING**

Tuesday 15th November
Tuesday 13th December
Tuesday 10th January

9:30 - 10:30 am
Please confirm your attendance by calling or emailing the school office

0208 320 1900
wbpoffice@watschools.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you on a tour of our school and meeting members of the Willow Bank team



Attendance

Each class has 2 Attendance Ambassadors these children have duties to complete each day, from writing on the class door class absentees and number of children present to checking in on children who have been absent. Each child wears an Attendance Ambassador badge and meet with Mrs Edgar each term with ideas on how we can all work together to improve attendance.



Did you know being 5 minutes late each day equates to 3 days over the academic year

We always make sure we count the children who are in and write it on the classroom door



We really enjoy hearing if our class has the highest attendance in our celebration assembly

Did you know that having ½ a day off every week equates to 7 school days per term



We enjoy sharing our ideas about celebrating attendance at Willow Bank



On Wednesday the Wellbeing Team presented a whole school assembly relating to Anti-Bullying week and what the children can do if they or someone they know is being bullied. The children were given different scenarios of what bullying can look like, may it be face to face or online.

Sadly, bullying affects millions of lives and can leave us feeling hopeless. But it doesn't have to be this way. If we challenge it, we can change it. And it starts by reaching out. Whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, let's reach out and show each other the support we need.

We have taught the children to TAG

- Tell them how you feel
- Ask them to stop
- Get an adult

Copy and paste the link below into your search bar to watch a short video clip showing how we can all work together as a community to support bullying.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMfgZRdVbdw>

Please remind your child of this at home, together, let's be the change we want to see.



Safeguarding

YOUNG MINDS

The voice for young people's **mental health and wellbeing**

HELP LINE - YOUNG MINDS

Young Minds have lots of practical advice and tips on supporting your child-from how to encourage your child to open up about their feelings to dealing with mental health services. No matter what you and your child are going through, things can get better.

Young Minds also have their Parents Help line who can provide advice and support if you're worried about a child or young person. Call Parents Helpline for detailed advice, emotional support and signposting about a child or young person up to the age of 25. You can call us for free on 08088025544 from 9:30am-4pm, Monday-Friday.



SEND

Does your child or young person have a Special Educational Need or Disability?

Bexley Information, Advice & Support Service (IASS) are running IASS COFFEE MORNINGS.

This is an opportunity for you to meet other parents in a similar situation to yourself, relax over a coffee / tea in a friendly, non-judgmental environment and take a breather.

The sessions will be organised and facilitated by the Bexley IASS Parent / Carer Champions and attended by a member of staff from Bexley IASS.

If you would like to book a space on a session visit:

<https://www.bexleyiass.co.uk/training-andiass-drop-ins/>

Where: Virtual via MICROSOFT TEAMS
When: Every 3rd Tuesday of the month
Time: 10am – 12noon



Would you like to find out more about Children's University and how you can support your child/ren?

If so, please come along to a presentation by Louise at the following time:

**Thursday 24th November
8.45am – 9.15am
School hall**

Louise will share information about Children's University, what opportunities are open to you and your children and she will also answer any questions you may have.

Children's University is a charity that works in partnership with schools to develop a love of learning in children. We do this by encouraging and celebrating participation in extra-curricular activities in and outside of school.

Don't forget that your child should be reading with you every day at home and sign in the diary when you have done so. It is helpful to write which page they have read up to and maybe even a short comment on how well they did with reading/answering questions. Adults will be checking reading records everyday.



**EYFS and KS1 Parent Reading Morning
Every Thursday from 8:40-9:10am**

All parents and carers welcome!

