



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week.

They have really enjoyed finding out about their new topics and core texts and have been experiencing some exciting Big Bang hook sessions that we will hear all about in next week's newsletter.

On Wednesday, we welcomed the DFE to WBP as we had been chosen to trial a revised assessment format for Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tests. They were very impressed with children in Larch class and wrote to thank us for making them feel so welcome.

Children in Key Stage 1 enjoyed dance and gymnastics sessions with specialist coaches and are learning to explore a range of movements and different balances which they will build upon next week.

In our assemblies we introduced our core value for the half term - Aspiration. Classes have been given sunflower seeds to nurture and grow to see whether we can grow a sunflower taller than the world record of nine metres!

Children have also been sharing their personal aspirations for the future including,

*"I want to be an actress and inspire people and find true love when I grow up."*

*"I want to be a zookeeper."*

*"I'm going to be a gardener when I'm 42."*

*"I wish to be a lawyer when I'm older."*

*"I want to have a great term."*

*"I want to earn enough money to travel business class when I grow up."*

On Wednesday we also celebrated Stephen Lawrence day at WBP with a special assembly led by Miss Nembhard.

Mrs Edgar and Miss Nembhard spent a very productive and inspiring morning with parents planning an exciting event for our community- more will be revealed at a later date!

Finally we would like to wish all our children and families celebrating Eid today, Eid Mubarak!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Oldfield and the WBP Team



# WBP Book Week 2023

Last term, Willow Bank had a very exciting week to celebrate reading and promote our love of reading. We celebrated different genres of books by engaging with a variety of activities across the different days. Excitedly, on Monday, we had been surprised with a tannoy calling us to,

'Drop

Everything

And

Read!'



**Reception Class: "We loved Drop Everything And Read! It was a lot of fun! We also loved getting a cookie in the hall."**

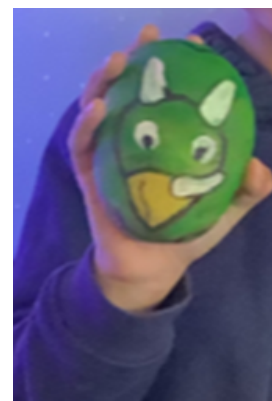
## Book Recommendation Vlogs

We then created a 20- or 50-word blog to describe our favourite books and persuade someone to read it. We uploaded it to Showbie so everyone in our class could read our fantastic book recommendations!



## Potato Characters

All year groups were asked to design and decorate a potato based around a character from their favourite books. Well done to everyone who made one at home because they looked truly fantastic! We enjoyed presenting our potatoes and seeing if anyone in our classes could guess the character and the book it was based on! Can you guess any of our potatoes?



**Year 1 and 2: "We really enjoyed making a potato based around a character from our favourite book!"**

**Year 3: "Our favourite part of Reading Week was creating a character from our favourite book out of a potato and becoming a vlogger to recommend our favourite books!"**





### **Bedtime Story Day.**

The children really enjoyed being cosy in their pyjamas on our final day of reading week for their bedtime story day. They were invited into the hall where their class teachers read their favourite books by candlelight and a cosy fire. We all relaxed on the mats and were delighted with their cup of squash and a cookie as they snuggled onto mats in the hall.



***Year 4: "We really enjoyed being able to create our potato characters and loved being able to take time out of class to read in the hall for the story time!"***



Excitingly, Willow Bank hosted their first 'The Masked Reader' where class teachers read a poem of their choice but were disguised behind a filter that hid their identity. The children were very determined to identify who was behind the mask and were very excited when they were right!

***Year 5: "We thought it was fun trying to guess which teacher was behind the mask!"***



***Year 6: "We found World Book Week at WBP interesting and exciting as each day had something unique. It was lovely and, on each day, we had to wait to discover and engage in the next day's activity. In addition to this, we liked that the teachers also got involved and it was a good end to the day trying to figure out who the masked teachers were."***



## Extreme Reading

The children were given an extra challenge outside of school to find an exciting and most unusual place to read their favourite book. We had fantastic entries from children across the school and they are very unusual and creative indeed!




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## Football School

We were very lucky to have a visitor from an author called Ben Lyttleton who co-wrote the 'Football School' book series with Alex Bellos. They created these series of books to help promote a love of reading and presented real aspects of the curriculum through sport. Ben led an exciting assembly for KS2 and involved maths, English, geography, singing, dancing, acting and was lots of fun! The children were captivated by his very interactive presentation and were buzzing about it afterwards!







## INCLUSION AT WILLOW BANK

There are times at school when we need to teach children how they can look after themselves and their bodies. At Willow Bank we use the NSPCC resource Talk PANTS.

Talk PANTS helps children understand that their body belongs to them, and they should tell someone they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried.



1

### **Privates are private**

Your underwear covers up your private parts and no one should ask to see or touch them. Sometimes a doctor, nurse or family members might have to. But they should always explain why, and ask you if it's OK first

3

### **No means no**

No means no and you always have the right to say 'no' - even to a family member or someone you love. You're in control of your body and the most important thing is how YOU feel. If you want to say 'no', it's your choice.

5

### **Speak up, someone can help**

Talk about stuff that makes you worried or upset. If you ever feel sad, anxious or frightened you should talk to an adult you trust. This doesn't have to be a family member. It can also be a teacher or a friend's parent - or even Childline.

2

### **Always remember your body belongs to you**

Your body belongs to you. No one should ever make you do things that make you feel embarrassed or uncomfortable. If someone asks to see, or tries to touch you, underneath your underwear, say 'NO' - and tell someone you trust and like to speak to.

4

### **Talk about secrets that upset you**

There are good and bad secrets. Good secrets can be things like surprise parties or presents for other people. Bad secrets make you feel sad, worried or frightened. You should tell an adult you trust about a bad secret straight away.



Search Pantosaurus into google or YouTube to find songs and videos to support your child's understanding. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqJOIA\\_\\_9IE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqJOIA__9IE)



**OUR CORE VALUE FOR SUMMER**

**1 -**

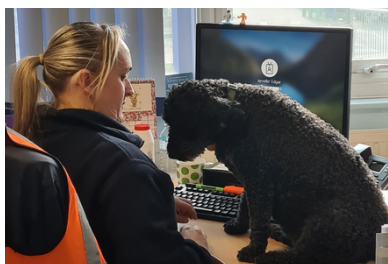
**ASPIRATION**



**THINK OF THE WEEK**



Willow the Well Being Dog loves to help Mrs Edgar with her work



Well done to:	Our target is over 96%
★ Magnolia - 96.0%	Yew - 93.0%
Hornbeam - 93.0%	Mulberry - 92.0%
Alder - 95.5%	Redwood - 90.5%
Laburnum - 95.5%	★ Almond - 96.0%
Hazel - 91.0%	Walnut - 93.0%
★ Larch - 97.0%	Sycamore - 89.0%

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!**

We are looking for Read with Me volunteers at Willow Bank! These volunteers will visit our EYFS, KS1 and KS2 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.



# LUNCH PRICE INCREASE

From 1st April 2023 there will be a 2p price increase in the cost of a school meal from £2.30 to £2.32

