



Pride News...

Date - Issue 01.07.22

I can't believe that I have already been here just over a week. It has absolutely flown by, and I am really enjoying meeting all the children and families at Willow Primary Academy. The welcome I have received from the children has been tremendous and this has helped me settle into my new role. I have initially focused on gathering feedback from all members of the school community and will use this information to shape the future of Willow. We are at a place where amazing things can happen by developing a real collaborative approach to the work we need to do.

Nico

Nico has been a real hit! He is enjoying being in school and the children have been so kind towards him and learning how to be dog smart. It is great that some children have overcome their fear to stroke him, and children are now using him to help their behaviour. Nico is writing a weekly blog [here](#)

New Developments

I am pleased with the progress we have made with the development of the new Reception Classroom. This is an exciting project and can't wait for this to be ready for September 2022.



Communication

We are developing our methods of communication with parents to share the news of Willow. I firstly hope you like the new format for the newsletter. We also have a new Facebook page which would be great if everyone followed (@willowprimaryacademy). Further new strategies are being developed and further information will come out soon.

September 2022

We have placed teachers for September, and I am delighted we are moving back to single age classes. This has meant some new appointments, but we are confident of the changes being positive.

- Acorn - Reception – Lisa Simmonds
- Ash - Year 1 – Sophie Green
- Birch - Year 2 – Sarah Aston
- Chestnut - Year 3 - Melissa Morgan-Partridge
- Elm - Year 4 – Carly Tonks & Beth Griffin
- Maple - Year 5 – Lauren Powell
- Oak - Year 6 – Coral Flynn



We will be supporting the children with the transition over the coming weeks. I hope you all have a fantastic weekend, and we enjoy some sunshine!



Pride News...

Acorn

This week, Acorn class have been learning about what life is like under the sea. During busy time, we have chosen to make boats and have tested them to see if they sink or float. We have also enjoyed finding other things in the classroom and have sorted them into 'sink' and 'float' hoops.

Acorn have also been making jellyfish, paper plate fish and starfish to put on our classroom display. We have still been enjoying our time on the pedal bikes and have been practising for our Sports Day! We have started 'Wake and Shake' to get our bodies moving between sessions and have been learning a new poem every week! Can your child tell you the poem about the little frog called Tiny Tim? In English, we have been writing sentences about what we like about the summer. Take a look at our wonderful work!

Acorn

In Ash class we have been enjoying our English unit on writing letters to inform. We have been working hard to use our phonics knowledge to help with our spellings. We are looking forward to starting a new book for English next week called 'The Secret Sky Garden.' In Maths, we have been reviewing our fractions knowledge and are looking forward to learning about quarters next week. As a class, we have been enjoying our class story, George's Marvellous Medicine. We have been listening carefully to the story and working hard to answer questions. Our DT unit this half term, is textiles. So far, we have practised a running stitch. Miss Aston was very impressed with our sewing skills. We are looking forward to creating our bunting in the next few lessons.

Birch

This week in Birch Class, we have been very busy! In English, we have been learning about the features of a letter and we will be writing letters to our new class teacher soon. In Science, we have learnt that a magnet has two poles and what happens when magnets attract and repel. In DT, we have been using our plans to make healthy sandwiches. We have also learnt more about India in Geography. We looked on Google Earth for the Himalayas and found out some facts about them.



Chestnut

This week, Chestnut have been charging on through an intense assessment week of Math and English tests. The children show positivity, resilience and an 'effort beats talent' work ethic every day which has been especially useful this week.



Pride News...

Elm

In Elm class, we have been finishing our fiction text unit where we have been reading, 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear'. Each child wrote an exciting chapter based on how they thought Podkin lost his ear. These stories were fantastic!

In Maths we have been working with decimal numbers. We have revised skills such as rounding decimals to the nearest whole number, and we have been comparing and ordering decimal numbers.

Elm class have been enjoying learning about samba music. The Year 4 children have been participating in MAD sessions each Friday. Year 5s have been learning how to swim each Tuesday and they have been enjoying football sessions on a Friday with our coach, Elliot. Our class are very excited to be making cushions in our textiles unit. We have been busy creating our designs which are shown below.

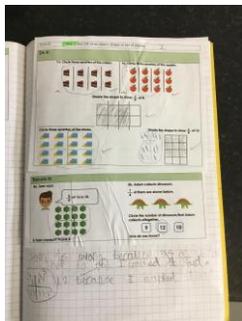
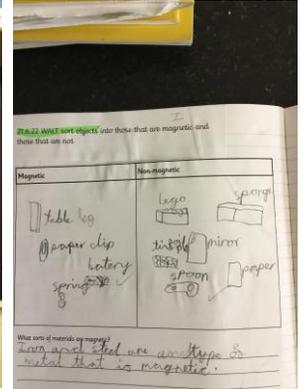
Oak

In our literacy we have been using many videos to inspire our writing. We have been practicing our comparative writing, rewriting endings and starting to look at classic Shakespeare texts! In Maths we have been focusing on constructing and reading charts and using coordinates.

Our children have been very active as of late, we continue to swim on Tuesdays but now have the bonus of extra football sessions on Wednesdays! These have been a real hit.

As you can see, in Art we have been learning about John Constable who draws scenery and with this we will be looking to create some textured paintings before the end of term.

Finally, in Science we were learning about bacteria but now are focusing on evolution and adaptation - we had great fun counting the seeds inside berries!





Pride News...

Dates for Your Diary

Meet and Greet with Head Teacher

Our new Head Teacher, Pete Hales, will be available as an opportunity for parents and carers to share any ideas or concerns in an open forum. The dates are as follows:

- Tuesday 4th July at 9.00 am and again at 2.30 pm
- Friday 8th July at 11.00 am
- Monday 11th July at 9.00 am and again 2.30 pm

I will also be available during Sports Day and the Open Afternoons, and these are informal opportunities to share your views and opinions.

Sports Day

So that we can bring the whole school community together we have made some changes to Sports Day. Sports Day will be on Wednesday 13th July from 10.00 am to 11.00 am and all parents, carers, family and friends are invited to support their child.

Enterprise Event

After school on Wednesday 13th July Year 6 will be running stalls to raise money for the Leavers Events. Please support them well.

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

We are looking forward to welcoming parents of children of Year 6 to their Leavers Assembly on Tuesday 19th July at 1.30 pm. There will be an Open Afternoon following this with a chance for parents and carers to speak to their child's class teacher. Also, at the end of day will be some stalls organised by our Friends of Willow Team! Selling raffle tickets/ tombola/ sweets/ice lollies.

Open Afternoon

For children in Acron, Ash, Birch, Chestnut and Elm there will be an open afternoon on Wednesday 20th July at 1.30 pm. This is a chance for parents and carers to speak to their child's class teacher. It would be great to meet as many of you as possible during this time.

Last Day of Term

The last day of term is Thursday 21st July 2022

Term Dates for 2022 – 2023

Term 1 from Wednesday 7th September 2022 to Thursday 20th October 2022

Term 2 from Monday 31st October 2022 to Friday 16th December 2022

Term 3 from Wednesday 4th January 2023 to Thursday 16th January 2023

Term 4 from Monday 27th February 2023 to Friday 31st April 2023

Term 5 from Tuesday 18th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023

Term 6 from Monday 5th June 2023 to Tuesday 25th July 2023

The term dates can be found [here](#)



Pride News...

PRIDE AWARDS!

These children have shown what it means to be:

- ★ **Be Positive**
- ★ **Be Respectful**
- ★ **Be Individual**
- ★ **Be Determined**
- ★ **Be Excellent**



Willow Award WINNERS...

Acorn – John-Boy & Ethan

Ash – Amy-Rose & Kaitlin

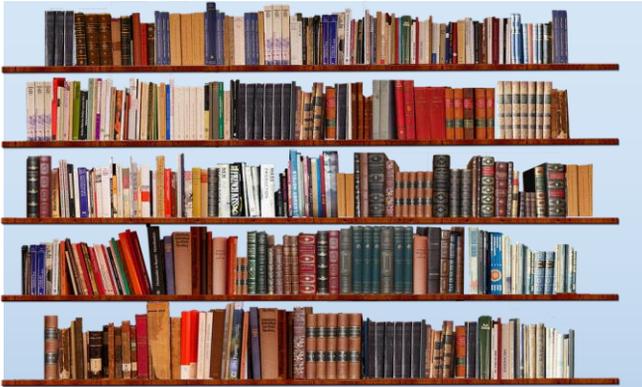
Birch – Cameron & Teya

Chestnut – Violet & AJ

Elm – Erin & Malik

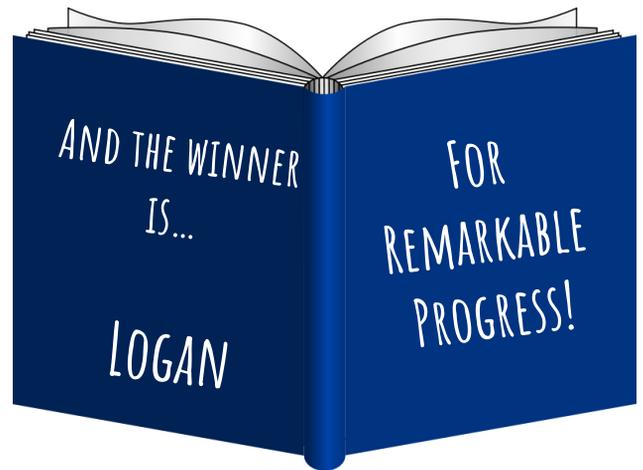
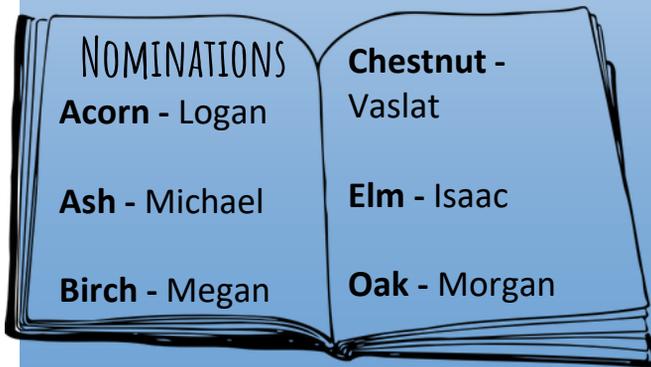
Oak – Ashley & Laila





STAR READER...

WILLOW'S STAR READER SPECIAL SURPRISE AWARD



Each week teachers will nominate a star reader from their class. A star reader is someone who has shown progress in reading, shown enjoyment of reading someone who has overcome difficulties in reading or shares their love of reading with the class or a friend. At Willow Primary Academy, we know the key to knowledge is reading and we want to inspire a lifelong love of reading! Willow has a special surprise book for the Super Star Reader to take home, keep, read and enjoy!



Pride News...

Attendance Superstars

This week: **93.27%**

Our year so far: **91.69%**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



gg98860872 www.gograph.com

Class	Attendance
Acorn	90%
Ash	92.08%
Birch	94.64%
Chestnut	96.25%
Elm	93.45%
Oak	94.62%



Piper Centre

Class	Attendance
Rainbow	80%
Blue	97.14%
Green	90%

