



Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, there's been a real buzz around school this week, with exciting learning opportunities, supportive family events, and lots of proud moments to celebrate.

Parent Voice Survey – We Need Your Views!

We are always striving to make Willow Bank the best it can be for our children, families, and community. To help us on that journey, we would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete our Parent Voice Survey: 📄

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=MvrWB2Z-r0qnuEuN-giOI3XYtWVwpOLUo0r8dzifUOE01M1dBU0c3MUFKRU1HWTdXVjNSVU9NQI4u&route=shorturl>

Your feedback is incredibly valuable and helps us reflect on what we do well and what we can improve. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us.



Parents' Evenings – Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th October

A reminder that our autumn Parents' Evenings will take place on **Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th October**. If you haven't already done so, please log into **Arbor** to book your appointment.

This is a great opportunity to:

- Find out how your child has settled into their new school year
- Ask any questions you may have
- View your child's books and celebrate their learning so far!

All meetings will take place in your child's classroom. We look forward to welcoming you.



Year 3 Visit Lesnes Abbey



Redwood Class enjoyed a fantastic trip to **Lesnes Abbey** this week as part of their history topic exploring the Big Question: **"How did life change for people from the Stone Age to the Iron Age?"**

The children took part in a Stone Age workshop, explored real artefacts, and even had the chance to make their own Stone Age tools. It was a brilliant way to bring history to life and spark curiosity!

Meet the SENCO Coffee Morning



Thank you to all the parents who attended our first Meet the SENCO Coffee Morning this week. It was a lovely opportunity to chat informally with Ms Rumbold, ask questions, and seek advice related to **Special Educational Needs**.

We were also pleased to welcome a representative from the Bexley Mental Health and Wellbeing Team, who was on hand to offer further support and guidance. We hope to run more of these sessions throughout the year.

Have a Wonderful Weekend!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to seeing many of you at our Parents' Evenings next week so that we can continue to work in partnership to ensure the best outcomes for your children.

Warm wishes,

Mrs Oldfield and The Willow Bank Primary Team



Magnolia

This week in Reception, the children have been exploring the outside area to observe the changes that come with the arrival of autumn. During our nature walks, we collected a variety of autumnal treasures including colourful leaves, conkers, acorns, pinecones, and twigs. The children were fascinated by the different shapes, textures, and colours they found, and we used this opportunity to discuss how the weather is changing – the air becoming cooler, the days shorter, and the leaves beginning to fall from the trees. All of our findings were brought back to the classroom and carefully arranged in our investigation area, where the children can continue to explore, sort, and talk about the signs of autumn throughout the week.



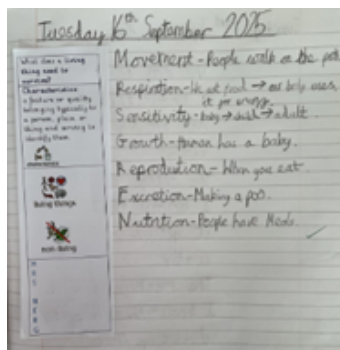
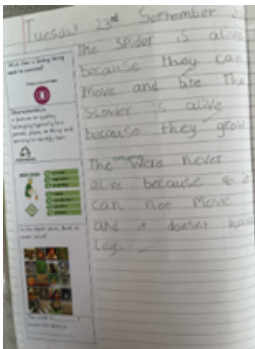
Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about the parts of a plant and how they grow from seeds. We have explored how plants get their nutrients from the soil and what they need to grow.



Year 2

In Science, Year 2 have been exploring the topic Living Things and Their Habitats. The children have been learning how to tell the difference between living and non-living things, thinking about the features that all living things share. They have also been finding out what plants need to grow and stay healthy, such as water, light and the right temperature. The class has enjoyed making observations and asking questions about the world around them.



Year 3

This term in Science, Year 3 are becoming rock detectives! The children have been exploring different types of rocks, learning about their properties and how to identify them. Through hands-on investigations, they are testing and comparing rocks to see how strong they are, whether they let water through, and how they are used in everyday life. These lessons are helping them build a deeper understanding of the natural world around them.



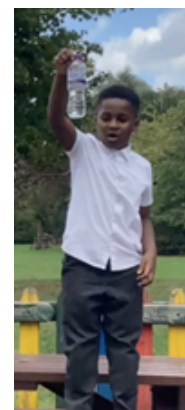


Year 4

Year 4 do not have a science topic this year!

Year 5

Year 5 have been exploring gravity through exciting experiments, testing how different objects fall. Pupils predicted, observed, and compared results, discovering how shape and size affect speed. Real scientists in action!



Year 6

In Year 6 this term we have been looking at classification, which is the grouping and identification of flora and fauna from close observation of physical characteristics. We have recapped the five main types of vertebrates (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish) and have started thinking about invertebrates before we will move onto micro-organisms.



OUR CORE VALUE FOR AUTUMN TERM 1 IS RESPECT

**"THE TRUEST FORM OF
RESPECT IS TO LISTEN TO
SOMEONE, EVEN WHEN
YOU DON'T AGREE."**

UNKNOWN

liltigers.net



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 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.



	Our target is over 96%
Magnolia - 97% ★	Yew - 93%
Hornbeam - 96% ★	Redwood - 97% ★
Almond - 98% 🏆	Hazel - 93%
Larch - 92%	
	★ 🏅 ★

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>



Meet Our Safeguarding Team



HOW WE KEEP CHILDREN SAFE

- **Pupil Leadership:** Our School Ambassadors gather pupil voice to share children's views and ideas, while Play Leaders support at break and lunchtimes to make sure play is safe, fun, and inclusive.



• Personal Development

Curriculum: We teach children about healthy relationships, recognising trusted adults, managing emotions, and speaking up if they feel unsafe.

- **Computing Curriculum:** Children learn about online safety, including how to spot unsafe content, cyberbullying, privacy, and safe use of AI tools.



TIPS FOR KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE AT HOME

Our local safeguarding data shows that neglect, emotional abuse and physical chastisement are key concerns in our community. Here are some ways you can help keep children safe and supported at home:

Consistency & Care: Make sure children have regular meals, sleep routines, and a calm home environment.

Positive Discipline: Praise and rewards are more effective than physical punishment. Talk through problems and model calm behaviour.

Emotional Check-ins: Ask your child how they're feeling each day. Listen without judgement and reassure them it's okay to share.

Online Safety at Home:

- Set clear screen time boundaries.
- Keep gaming and devices in shared spaces.
- Talk to your child about who they interact with online.
- Use parental controls where appropriate.



We also offer Family Support Drop-In sessions with Mrs Edgar every Monday – Wednesday. Please come along if you would like advice, a listening ear, or help with accessing services.

For further guidance, please visit our Community Support page on the school website (under Inclusion & Safeguarding), where you will find a wide range of links to local services and organisations.





On Friday the 10th of October

WHEREVER YOU ARE,
SUPPORT WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

HELLO YELLOW

We want #HelloYellow to be a positive and fun way for people to share the message that it's okay to reach out for help.

Please donate £1
to support World
Mental Health
Day



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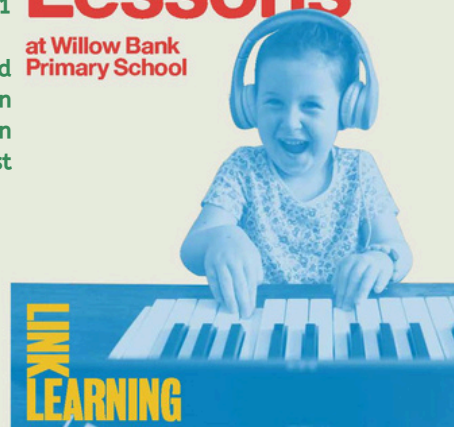
If you would like to learn more about us and what we do, please visit our website at linklearning.education

Exciting opportunity for pupils at WBP! (Y1 - Y6)

We will now be offering weekly piano and guitar lessons. Please see the details in this flier, you can register online or fill in a paper copy that had been sent out last week with the children.

Piano & Guitar Lessons

at Willow Bank Primary School



Link Learning is a team of teachers, musicians and artists who believe that every child should have the opportunity to develop and express their creativity.

We work with schools, children's hospitals and community centres to deliver high-quality creative activities that encourage exploration, discovery and experimentation.

Our fresh approach focuses on the individual learning styles and interests of our pupils.



To learn more visit
linklearning.education

Piano & Guitar Lessons at Willow Bank Primary School

What we offer

- Creative tuition tailored to the interests and learning style of the individual
- A digital resource pack
- Termly progress reports

Tuition price (15 min)

- Individual - £3 per lesson (15 minute duration)
- Individual - £18 per lesson (30 minute duration)
- Paired - £12 per lesson (30 minute duration)
- Paired 30 mins - £12 per lesson, piano or guitar

Link Learning are offering piano and guitar lessons at Willow Bank Primary School. Lessons will be held weekly during the school day during term time. We'll be in touch with you once we receive your registration to answer any questions you may have.

All our tutors are enthusiastic musicians able to teach up to a high level and have recent DBS certificates.

For any queries please get in touch via telephone on 07305507504 or email at admin@linklearning.education.



Please hand this form in to the school office to register, or register online:
www.linklearning.education/register

Name of child _____ Year Group _____ Class _____

Name of Parent/Carer _____ Mobile _____

Email (BLOCK CAPITALS) _____ Landline _____

Which instrument? _____ Which lesson format? _____

☐ Piano ☐ Guitar ☐ 15 min individual (£3) ☐ 30 min individual (£18)

☐ 15 min paired (guitar only, £6.50) ☐ 30 min paired (£12)

Please note
Link Learning will not share your data with a third party.

WBP/2025/10