



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of what has been a very busy and rewarding half term, we have truly enjoyed spending this final week celebrating your children's fantastic learning.



Across the school, pupils have taken great pride in seeing their work displayed in classrooms and corridors, reflecting their effort, aspiration, and resilience. It has been a joy to see the children so engaged and excited to share their learning. The displays are a true testament to the high expectations we set at Willow Bank and the dedication the children have shown this term.

This week, we also welcomed CRIBS into school to perform the Easter Story for our pupils. The interactive performance, complete with puppets and lively storytelling, captivated the children and brought the Easter message to life in a fun and meaningful way. Thank you to CRIBS for such an engaging visit.



We are also pleased to share the results of our **Talk Matters Parent Survey**, which many of you completed in January:

- 88% of parents said they feel welcome in the school and are comfortable coming in.
- 91% said they feel able to talk to staff about concerns, and 88% feel that staff listen to them.
- 69% feel they are a part of the school community.
- 69% parents also said they would be interested in taking part in more activities or events at school.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part – your feedback is incredibly valuable, and we are so pleased to hear such positive responses.

This morning, we were treated to a brilliant sharing assembly from Redwood Class, who taught us all about the Romans and what they did for us. The children spoke clearly, confidently, and showed just how much they've learned – well done to everyone involved!



Finally, we have some sad news to share with our school community. Mr Talbot will be leaving Willow Bank to begin a new chapter in his career. We would like to thank him for all his hard work and dedication during his time with us and wish him all the very best for the future.

As we head into the break, we'd like to wish all our families a safe and happy Easter holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back on **Tuesday 22nd April**. Please note that **Breakfast Club** will resume on the first day back, opening at the slightly earlier time of **8:20am**.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm wishes,
Mrs Oldfield and The Willow Bank Team





Year R

This term, the Reception class has been utilising a variety of materials in the art area to create a range of arts and crafts. The children crafted their own animals from different habitats and used watercolors to design their own habitats. Additionally, they engaged in a paper mache project, creating eggs using newspaper and paint.



Year 1

In Art, Year 1 have been exploring various printing techniques as part of their learning. They have experimented with different methods to create unique and creative prints including different buildings and weather types based around our key text "Meet the Weather" by Caryl Hart. A highlight of this experience was the opportunity to work with artist Tom Berry from Bow Arts. The children were very lucky to learn from his expertise, gaining hands-on experience and inspiration to develop their own artistic skills. It was an exciting and enriching experience that encouraged creativity and expression.



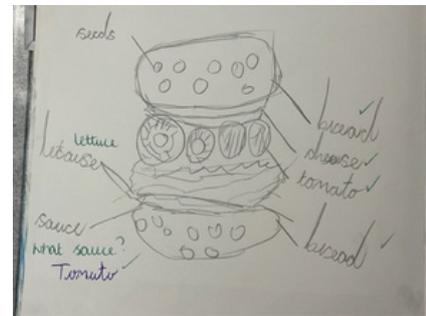
Year 2

In Year 2, students have explored how different climates around the world shape the way people live. From the icy Arctic, where thick clothing and sturdy shelters keep people warm, to the hot deserts, where loose clothing and shady homes help people stay cool, children learn how humans adapt to their environments.



Year 3

For DT in Year 3, we have been looking at Romans and their diets. First, we looked at identifying what foods the Romans would have eaten. Whilst doing this, we explored the work of Marcus Gavius Apicius and his cookbook. Once investigating their diets, we tried our hands at becoming bakers with the help of the kitchen staff who cooked our breads.





Year 4

In Year 4, we combined our learning from history with Design and Technology to create mythical pneumatic creatures. Using our knowledge of air pressure, we designed and built moving models that brought legendary beings to life.



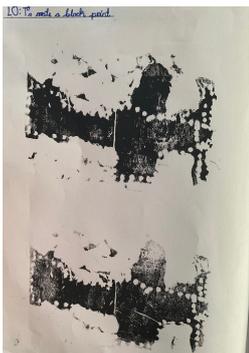
Year 5

This term, Year 5 took inspiration from Viktor Bevenda's artwork to create their own animal drawings. They explored and applied oil pastel techniques to bring their artwork to life.



Year 6

Year 6 have been inspired by the artist Stephen Jefferies and have produced block printing images inspired by our core text, Goodnight Mr Tom.



OUR CORE VALUE FOR SPRING TERM 2 IS RESILIENCE

YOUR STORY
OF RESILIENCE
WILL STIR UP
RESILIENCE IN
OTHERS.
— MHN



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 - 97%	Yew - 91%
★ Hornbeam - 96%	★ Redwood - 97%
	★ Almond - 97%
Hazel - 91%	★ Walnut - 96%
★ Larch -98%	Sycamore - 94%
	

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>



Active April 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Commit to being more active this month, starting today	2 Spend as much time as possible outdoors today	3 Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do	4 Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water	5 Turn a regular activity into a playful game today	6 Do a body-scan meditation and really notice how your body feels	
7 Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening	8 Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh	9 Turn your housework or chores into a fun form of exercise	10 Have a day with less screen time and more movement	11 Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge	12 Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside	13 Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time
14 Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation	15 Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)	16 Go exploring around your local area and notice new things	17 Be active outside. Plant some seeds and encourage growth	18 Try out a new exercise, activity or dance class	19 Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often	20 Focus on 'eating a rainbow' of multi-coloured vegetables today
21 Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day	22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it	23 Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour	24 Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting	25 Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself	26 Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes	27 Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil
28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat	29 Become an activist for a cause you really believe in	30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS **Happier · Kinder · Together**

MATHS & ENGLISH WORKSHOP

JOIN US AT THE THAMESMERE LEISURE CENTRE LIBRARY
DROP IN ANY TIME!

7-8TH, 10-11TH MARCH 2025
10am-1pm

FREE Spring Break activity

KUMON CONNECT



Photos of children may be taken for promotional purposes, if you do not give consent to this please state when booking.



FREE*
places available on
Little Achiever's
Holidays Activities
and Food (HAF)
programme



Easter Holiday

FOOTBALL COURSE

BOYS AND GIRLS
4-14 years
All abilities

£45 per week
or £15 a day

- Woodland Academy Trust Discount
- Sibling discount (non trust members)

Friday Funday!

7-11 April | 10am-3pm

Please Bring: Packed Lunch, Drinks, Trainers & Shinpads.
Rewards include: Certificates, Medals & Trophies.
Coach Qualifications: UEFA and FA Qualified Coaches;
FA Child Protection; Safeguarding & First Aid Training.

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littleachievers1

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*Free for those in receipt of benefits related free school meals



www.bexley.gov.uk/holiday-activities-food-programme

#BexleyHAF

Turn over for more Easter fun