



Dear Willow Bank Families,

We are delighted to share some fantastic news with you all.

EdTech Innovator of the Year Award



Back in September, the Woodland Academy Trust was shortlisted for The National Schools Awards 2025 – EdTech Innovator of the Year Award. Last night, at the awards ceremony held at the House of Lords, we were incredibly proud to be named the winners of this prestigious category!

This award is a celebration of the ambition, innovation and collaboration across Woodland Academy Trust. It recognises the significant progress we have made in introducing and embedding effective educational technology to benefit pupils, staff, and the wider efficiency of our schools. Receiving this national recognition is a huge honour, and it reflects the dedication, creativity, and commitment shown across every school in our Trust. We are extremely proud to be part of this exciting journey.

Year 3 Visit Erith Fire Station

This week has also been filled with more exciting learning experiences.

Year 3 visited Erith Fire Station as part of their Big Question: *What makes someone a hero in our community?*

The children learned about the vital role of firefighters, explored the equipment they use, and even had the chance to try out the hoses! A highlight of the day was discovering what it feels like to sit inside a real fire engine. The children returned full of enthusiasm and new knowledge about the everyday heroes who keep our community safe.



❄️ WBP Winter Wonderland – Thursday 11th December from 3:45-5:00pm

We are very much looking forward to our third annual Winter Wonderland, taking place next Thursday 11th December in the school hall.



- Please do join us to:
- Meet Santa
- Enjoy face painting
- Share festive refreshments
- Celebrate the start of the festive season

Raffle tickets are on sale every day after school, and we have some fantastic prizes this year – including £150 for first prize!



Thank you for Your Feedback



Thank you to all parents and carers who recently shared feedback with us. Your views are very important, and we are continuously reviewing how we communicate with families, support children with additional needs, and provide enrichment opportunities across the school. We are exploring ways to strengthen communication, enhance support for parents of children with SEN, and offer a range of after-school activities. We appreciate your ongoing partnership as we work together to provide the best learning environment for all our children.

Key Dates

- Week beginning 8th December – Year 6 Bikeability Week
- Thursday 11th December – Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day / WBP Winter Wonderland
- Wednesday 17th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity to parents at 2:30pm
- Thursday 18th December – KS2 Christmas Songs Performance to parents at 3:00pm
- Friday 19th December – Last Day of Term
- Monday 5th January – First Day of Spring Term



Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Warm regards,

Mrs Oldfield and the WBP Team



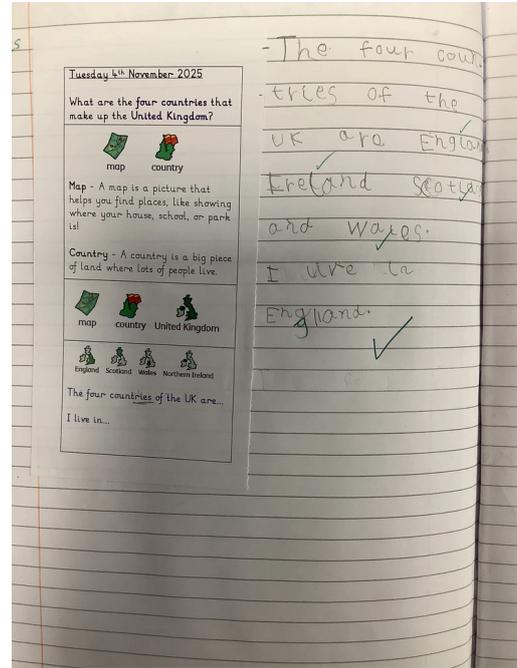
Magnolia

This week in Reception Magnolia Class, we explored Understanding the World through our very own **Kindness Garden**. The children learned that just like plants need sun, water, and care to grow, kindness also needs nurturing. Together, we talked about small acts of kindness—helping a friend, using gentle hands, sharing, and saying kind words—and how these can help our classroom “garden” flourish. The children then added their own “kindness seeds” to the garden by drawing or writing something kind they had done or planned to do. It was wonderful to see them reflect on how their actions can make others feel happy, safe, and valued, and the Kindness Garden has already begun to bloom with their thoughtful ideas.



Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about the 4 countries of the UK, we have found them on maps and labelled them: England, Northern Oreland, Scotland and Wales!



Year 2

Year 2 have been developing their geographical knowledge by learning about the four countries of the United Kingdom: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The children have explored each country's capital city, key landmarks and special features. Alongside this, the class have been investigating the difference between rural and urban environments.



Year 3

This term, Year 3 have been exploring the amazing real-life superheroes who support and protect our community. The children have learned about their history, how their roles have changed over time, and the many ways they help people every day. A highlight of the term was welcoming PC Rosaleen Ryan, our Bexley DWO-CYP officer, who shared her experiences and inspired the children with her kindness and stories. Year 3 also loved their visit to Erith Fire Station, where they met firefighters, explored the station, and discovered the teamwork and bravery behind their work.





Year 4

This week in History, children explored Ancient Egypt, learning about its culture, treasures, and remarkable achievements. They especially enjoyed discovering how Howard Carter uncovered Tutankhamun's tomb, sparking curiosity and excitement about archaeology and the mysteries of the ancient world today.



Year 5

This term, Year 5 have been exploring the fascinating Polar Regions. We learned about their extreme climates and even created our own Arctic weather forecasts using a green screen. The children showed fantastic confidence, creativity, and scientific understanding throughout the project.

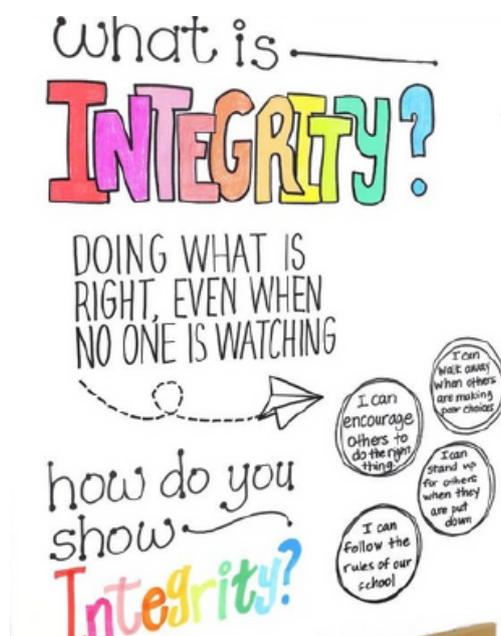


Year 6

To support their core text, The Soup Movement, year 6 have been researching charities and identifying what their main drivers are and how they support people. Children researched a charity of their choice and created presentation based upon the things they discovered.



OUR CORE VALUE FOR AUTUMN TERM 1 IS INTEGRITY





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 - 92%	Yew - 88%
Hornbeam - 98% ★	Redwood - 99% ★
Almond- 97% ★	Hazel-92%
Larch- 93%	
	

School Reminder

Children should not arrive earlier than 8.20am for Breakfast club, this runs 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>



Please order The Christmas Lunch via Pantry so that your child does not miss out.

TERMER DAYS — Christmas Lunch

AT THE PANTRY — Thursday December 11th

ROAST TURKEY OR BEETROOT & SQUASH WELLINGTON

with

ROAST POTATOES, YORKSHIRE PUDDING, CARROTS AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES

and for dessert

GINGERBREAD COOKIE



Upcoming Events



Autumn 2

PLEASE SEE YOUR CHILD'S YEAR GROUP OVERVIEW FOR TRIPS AND OTHER DATES

DEC 11	Christmas Jumper Day Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform and have the option of Christmas dinner at lunchtime.	
DEC 11	WBP Winter Wonderland Join us for face painting, Christmas crafts, meet Santa and lots more!	
DEC 17	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Join us to watch the show at 14:30pm	
DEC 18	KS2 Christmas Songs Come and watch KS2 sing their Christmas songs on the playground at the end of the school day.	
DEC 19	Last day of term	



MHST's next webinar on Boundaries, Routines and Sleep Hygiene will run next Wednesday the 10th December at 6pm. Please see the link below for more information:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1976641057613?aff=oddtcreator>

Oxleas Urgent Advice Line: 0800 330 8590, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 CAMHS SLP Crisis Line: 020 3228 5980 (available Mon - Sun- Bank Holidays 9am-11pm)

we're **kind** we're **fair** we **listen** we **care**

MET ENGAGE

Community crime-fighting

MET ENGAGE is a new online service introduced to the MET so you can have your local Safer Neighbourhood Team at the tip of your fingers.

It is a way for you to keep up to date with what is going on and tell your Safer Neighbourhood Team what issues you are facing.

All messages sent to your safer Neighbourhood Team via this are all private and confidential therefore allowing you to tell us the issue you are facing without the fear of being seen with police at your door

Want to find out more? Talk to a member of your Safer Neighbourhood team today or SIGN UP NOW using the QR code.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**



SCAN ME

MET ENGAGE

- Scan the QR code
- Register your account (it is free to do and hassle free)
- Stay in touch with your Safer Neighbourhood Team.