



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a truly joyful and memorable week it has been here at Willow Bank! We have had a series of wonderful celebrations that brought together children, staff, and families to reflect on achievements, showcase talents, and look forward to the new academic year ahead.



Children's University Graduation 🎓👏

We were incredibly proud to celebrate a record-breaking year for Willow Bank, with 35 children graduating from the Children's University – our highest number ever! These pupils have worked so hard, gaining passport stamps through their participation in clubs, trips, and other extra-curricular activities throughout the year. Their commitment, curiosity, and enthusiasm are truly commendable – well done, everyone!

EYFS Graduation and Celebration 📍

Our Reception children marked the end of their first year in school with a joyful and heartwarming **EYFS Graduation Ceremony**. Families joined us to look back on a fantastic year of learning, growth, and play. The children performed songs with the support of their siblings, before celebrating with certificates, proud smiles, and a party to end the afternoon. It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers – thank you for joining us!



Year 6 Production – A Showstopper! 🎭💜

Our talented Year 6 pupils wowed a full house this week with their end-of-year production. The show featured a fabulous medley of songs from well-known musicals, and the children truly sang their hearts out. There was toe-tapping throughout the audience and more than a few proud tears! A huge well done to the cast and staff team – what a brilliant send-off.

Looking Ahead – The Final Week of Term 📅

We may be approaching the end of the school year, but there's no slowing down! Please take note of the events planned for our final week:

Monday 21st July

- **Class Parties** – Children may wear their own clothes, but please ensure they are wearing suitable footwear for school (no clogs, heels, open-toed sandals, or flip-flops).
- **Year 6 Leavers' Disco** – 5:00–6:30pm. **All children must be collected by an adult from school.**

Tuesday 22nd July

- **Year 6 Leavers' Assembly** – 2:00pm, for the whole school and Year 6 parents.
- School finishes at **3:20pm**

Reminder: Please book parent/teacher meeting on 4th/5th September

A reminder that **parent/teacher meetings** should be booked via Arbor for **Thursday 4th or Friday 5th September** and home learning will be available on these days via the Showbie platform – more information will be shared next week.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for being part of such a fantastic school community. Wishing you a sunny and relaxing weekend! Warm wishes,
Mrs Oldfield and The Willow Bank Team



Magnolia

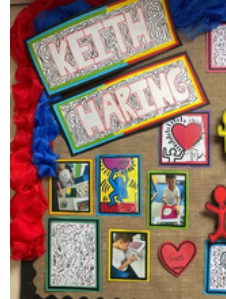
During Art and Diversity Fortnight, we explored the vibrant culture of the 1990s and learned about the work of contemporary British artist Damien Hirst. Known for his bold and often thought-provoking pieces, Hirst is a leading figure in the Young British Artists (YBAs) movement and is famous for using unusual materials to challenge ideas about life and death.

Inspired by his use of colour and pattern, we created our own Damien Hirst-style artwork using spiral art techniques. We also experimented with digital creativity by designing original pieces on iPads, combining traditional and modern approaches to art-making.



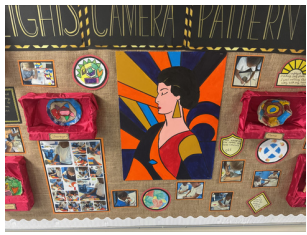
Year 1

In Year 1, we explored the bold, colourful art of Keith Haring. Inspired by his dancing figures and playful designs we created our own artworks to celebrate movement and joy.



Year 2

Year 2 were transported back to the 1920s, where they explored the era by creating their own silent movie and imaginative clay models, designing, drawing and then creating."



Year 3

During Art and Performance Fortnight, children explored the bold animal artworks of Jean-Michel Basquiat. Inspired by his expressive style, they created their own vibrant canvases using colour, texture, and symbolism. Their imaginative pieces reflect Basquiat's influence and celebrate each child's unique creativity.





Year 4

This year, Almond Class explored the bold, colourful world of Pop Art through Roy Lichtenstein's style. They created digital self-portraits using Ben-Day dots, comic-inspired lines, and dramatic words in speech bubbles. Stepping back into the 1960s, they also discovered vibrant fashion, learnt lively swing dance moves and performed Aretha Franklin's iconic song Respect, celebrating her powerful legacy and message of empowerment.



Year 5

In year 5 we looked at the 1950s nun-turned-artist Sister Corita Kent. In a time still reeling from the after-effects of the Second World War, her message was one of hope and unity, showed by her bold, bright and engaging paintings. We focussed on the area of typography, which is different styles of using lettering to create an effect.

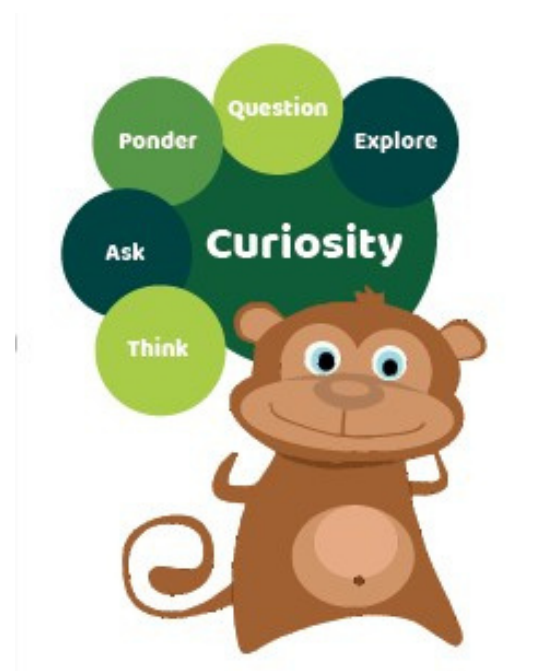


Year 6

Year 6 have been learning about the exciting world of contemporary artist Shantell Martin. She is known for her bold monochrome line drawings and creates large scale art works with hidden messages and faces to reflect her thoughts and emotions. Year 6 were inspired to create their own individual pieces in the same style, which were then patched together to create a large group outcome which we are very proud of!



OUR CORE VALUE FOR SUMMER TERM 2 IS CURIOSITY





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.



	Our target is over 96%
 Magnolia - 97 %	 Yew - 98%
Hornbeam - 94%	Redwood - 97%
	Almond - 92%
Hazel - 99%	Walnut - 97%
Larch -94%	Sycamore - 93%
	

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>





WILDCATS
GIRLS' FOOTBALL

JUNIOR REDS FOOTBALL CLUB



FOUNDED 2001



Play Football

Have Fun!

The perfect way for girls aged 5-11 to get involved with football

Junior Reds Wildcats runs each Saturday morning from 10.00am until 11.15am

Bexleyheath Academy (Lift), Woolwich Rd, Bexleyheath DA6 7DA

Clive Chivers - 07504264157 email: Clive@juniorredsfcc.co.uk

Our Wildcats sessions are FREE of charge!

To book a FREE session scan the code below or head to: <https://tinyurl.com/JRWildcats>



ACCREDITED CLUB ★★
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

www.juniorredsfcc.co.uk



SUMMER FAMILY FUN DAY



A FUN FILLED DAY FOR THE FAMILY TO EXPERIENCE THE HUB!

THURSDAY 7TH AUGUST

11AM - 3PM

Admission FREE

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Activities

- ✓ Storytelling
- ✓ Arts & Craft
- ✓ Darts for Dads
- ✓ Face Painting
- ✓ Pottery
- ✓ Tell Us What You Think

West Street Erith Family Hub

105 West Street
Erith. DA8 1AW

Light Refreshments available

BOOK YOUR FAMILY'S PLACE www.bexley.gov.uk/funday 

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1. STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond safely to emergencies and provide first aid when needed.

2. LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new swimming pool, it's important to research the local area and make yourself aware of safety signs before entering the water. If visiting the beach, make sure children are properly supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, as they are a key indicator of when and where they can safely swim.

3. STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards there might be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as: 'Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects? Have any children before me to enter water from a height, as wet surfaces could cause serious injuries.'

4. CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be dangerously cold. If children are going to swim, make sure they are properly supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, as they are a key indicator of when and where they can safely swim.

5. INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatable toys seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further away from shore and into deep water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in areas like supervised swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.

6. SUPERVISION IS KEY

For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently. Therefore, constant watch is vital to ensure they get into difficulty.

7. DON'T GO TOO FAR

When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth, where adults with them can see and help them if they get into difficulty. When visiting the beach, it's important to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently. Therefore, constant watch is vital to ensure they get into difficulty.

8. KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED

For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor pools and bathtubs empty after playtime. This prevents them from being used as a play area and ensures they are not left unattended. If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should be able to call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should call for help or call 999 immediately, then should to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

9. FLOAT AND CALL 999

If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should be able to call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should call for help or call 999 immediately, then should to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10. TEACH WATER SAFETY

Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated to follow the Water Safety Code. This includes understanding the importance of staying within a safe depth, where adults with them can see and help them if they get into difficulty. When visiting the beach, it's important to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently. Therefore, constant watch is vital to ensure they get into difficulty.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water safely. Water safety education provided to schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



Wake Up Wednesday



The National College

 @wake_up_weds

 www.thenationalcollege

 @wake.up.wednesday

 @wake.up.weds

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BEXLEY MUSIC

SHOW CHOIR SUMMER COURSE

THURSDAY 28TH - FRIDAY 29TH AUGUST 2025

10AM - 2PM

Bexley Music invites musicians who are going into Years 4-9 this September, to come and make music and friends this Summer. This 2-day course is suitable for all students who love to sing, want to explore performing as a group together and have lots of fun!

Deadline to apply is Friday 22nd August and payments must be received by **Tuesday 26th August** 12pm to secure a place. Spaces are limited and expected to fill fast! Register interest to take part in this course via the QR code.

Please note: Course fees are non-refundable for non-attendance.



£30.00

Bexley Music

Belmont Academy

Belmont Road

DA8 1LE

For further information, please contact Bexley Music at info@bexley-music.co.uk or 01322 358824





CYGNET SQUARE MARKET

CARNIVAL

☆ MARKET DAY ☆

SAT 9TH AUGUST

CYGNET SQUARE | 12PM - 4PM

Join us for a Carnival-Themed Market Day filled with music, dance, family fun, market stalls, food & drink!

Discover a diverse range of local and national businesses showcasing unique products.



MARKET TRADERS

INTERNATIONAL FOOD COURT



Enjoy delicious Asian, African, Caribbean, and European dishes, plus sweet treats like ice cream, cakes, and slushies!

Steel pans, DJ sets, and dancing and singing on the square throughout the day.



LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FLIP OVER TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE EVENT AND HOW YOU CAN JOIN IN

CARNIVAL

☆ MARKET DAY ☆

Join us for a vibrant afternoon of Carnival-themed workshops filled with music, dance, and joyful movement for all ages! From steel pan rhythms and Caribbean beats with Pan Man Tony, to high-energy Afro-fitness with FlavRcise, and a fun dance-and-hula-hoop party with GDND Academy - there's something for everyone.

WHAT'S ON

CARNIVAL MUSIC & MOVEMENT WORKSHOP

12:30PM
TIL
1:30PM

This workshop is led by the amazing Pan Man Tony! Feel the beat of the Caribbean and join in with drums, dance & rhythm games. A fun, interactive workshop bringing energy, culture, and creativity to life through music & movement. No experience needed - all ages welcome!

FLAVRCISE FAMILY CARNIVAL WORKSHOP

1:45PM
TIL
2:45PM

Get ready to move, groove and have a blast with Uloma Dana Ogunro, founder of FlavRcise Fitness! This high-energy family workshop fuses African dance, fitness, and fun. Perfect for all ages and abilities.

GDND CARNIVAL-THEMED WORKSHOP

3:00PM
TIL
4:00PM

GDND Academy is excited to host a vibrant Carnival-themed workshop this summer! Join us for an infectious dance and hula-hoop party with a Caribbean twist, featuring interactive routines that'll get you moving and grooving. Fun for all ages!

FREE ENTRY

ALL AGES WELCOME




SCAN BELOW TO REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE



COME HUNGRY, COME CURIOUS, AND COME CELEBRATE CULTURE, CREATIVITY, AND CARNIVAL SPIRIT IN AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY OF FAMILY FUN!