

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. It has been another busy week of exciting learning experiences for the children at WBP:

Year 5 Trip to Greenwich Mosque: On Wednesday, our Year 5 children visited Greenwich Mosque as part of their Religious Education curriculum, focusing on Islam. The children were warmly welcomed and had the opportunity to learn about the practices of prayer in the mosque, gaining valuable insights into the Islamic faith. We appreciate the mosque's hospitality and the opportunity it provided for our children to broaden their cultural understanding.





Young Voices 2024 at the O2 Arena: A special congratulations to our school choir for their outstanding performance at the Young Voices 2024 event held at the iconic O2 Arena in Greenwich. The 7,900 strong choir, which included our talented students, sang their hearts out alongside guest artists and performers, such as MC Grammar and the street dance group Urban Strides. It was truly an unforgettable experience for everyone involved. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Mashedar for her dedication in leading the choir rehearsals throughout the year. The hard work and commitment certainly paid off!

National Storytelling Week: Next week, we will be celebrating National Storytelling Week and have an exciting line-up of events planned to inspire every child to develop a love for reading and writing stories. Please refer to the letter sent home this week for details on the various activities and how you can get involved in fostering a passion for storytelling in your child. In particular, children are invited to wear their pyjamas to school on Monday for our Bedtime Story Day and all parents are invited to join us for our whole school parent reading morning on Thursday from 8:40-9:10am!



We appreciate your ongoing support. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or the school office.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Oldfield and the WBP Team



At Willow Bank, maths plays an important part of the curriculum. Using concrete maths resources helps children to visualise and understand the maths which allows them to make sense of what is happening. This supports them in seeing why and how the procedure has worked. Continue reading to find out how maths resources support the learning across the school.



In Magnolia, we have been representing 6, 7, and 8 using our fingers and tens frames. We have been using our subsidising skills to identify and build these numbers quickly! When talking with Adam in our Maths area he was asked:

'What number have you made?' 'Seven!' 'How can I tell?' 'This is seven because it is 5 and 2 more.'

In Year 1, the children have been exploring number lines. Here, the children counted from 0 to 20 forwards and backwards whilst labelling and creating their own number line. The children also progressed their skills and began counting in twos when identifying a number line. Pearl stated "Cubes helps me see the numbers get bigger each time and helps me draw my number line when counting in 2's."





In Year 2 we have been learning about money. We have been identifying coins and notes, making a given amount in different ways and identifying a total amount of coins and notes. We have enjoyed using money in our lessons to help us to work out the answers.

"I know what the coins are called now." – Layla "It helps me to count the money and find the total." – Bobby "Using money in the lessons helps me to make an amount in different ways easier, as I can move the coins around" – Tiwalade.









In Year 3, we have been learning about multiplication and division. We have been using manipulatives to allow us to visually create the number of groups we need to make. We have enjoyed using manipulatives to help us create our equal groups.

'Using resources allows me to create 4 equal groups of 4 in front of me.' – Maddison 'The ten's let me divide my hundreds into smaller groups' – Emmanuel. 'When flexibly partitioning, I have been able to exchange tens into ones to let me complete my partwhole model' – Larissa.



This term children in Year 5 are learning how to divide and multiply large numbers. With the use of manipulatives and active engagement, the students developed a strong grasp of these important concepts. They showed an enthusiasm for learning and creative methods to problem-solving.











In Year 4, our children are diving into division using hands-on manipulatives. They are exploring the world of dividing three-digit numbers by one-digit, making math an interactive adventure!

"The concrete resources helped me to partition the 3digit number into equal groups and if we had remainders, it tells us that we can't divide it into anymore equal groups." Veron & Jaidon

"The resources helped me to be more precise when dividing by a one-digit number." Raghavi





Children in Year 6 have been using concrete resources to cement their knowledge of the four operations. This week, they used unifix cubes to translate abstract mathematical questions into objects they can manipulate. They identified the maths with word problems and then used the manipulatives to help solve the question.

"Using the unifix helps me with my division. I can group sets of four together and then work out how many times it fits into a bigger number."





EYFS and 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 EYFS, KS1 and KS2 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 to:	Our target is over 96%
Magnolia - 86%	Yew - 93%
Hornbeam - 89%	Redwood - 95%
Laburnum - 96%	Almond - 99%
Hazel - 97%	Walnut - 93%
Larch - 92%	Sycamore - 95%
	DONE

Key Dates

Next week:

Monday 29/01/2024: - Bedtime Story Day - Pyjama Day.

Wednesday 31/01/24: - Y4 Laburnum trip to British Museum.

Thursday 01/02/24: 08:40am - 9:10am we welcome parents to join us for our Whole School Parent Reading morning.

Friday 02/02/24: Masked Reader Poetry Quiz & Class Storytelling Assembly

Forthcoming date: Thursday 08/02/24: - Y6 Sycamore class Sharing Assembly. Last day of term

<u>A reminder that we have our Chance To</u> <u>Chat.</u>

All our children are able to write a slip and post it thought the box, which is checked by the well-being team.

Each child is given a certain amount of time to talk to a member of wellbeing. In this time children are free to talk about what ever they wish.



This gives each and every child to get that 1:1 time.

Free School Meals for All Primary Aged Children Until 2025

We are delighted to share the news that free school meals are now available to all primary-aged children until 2025. This announcement from the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, brings great relief to many families. A letter has been sent home with more details, so please look out for it.











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