

# Willow Brook News

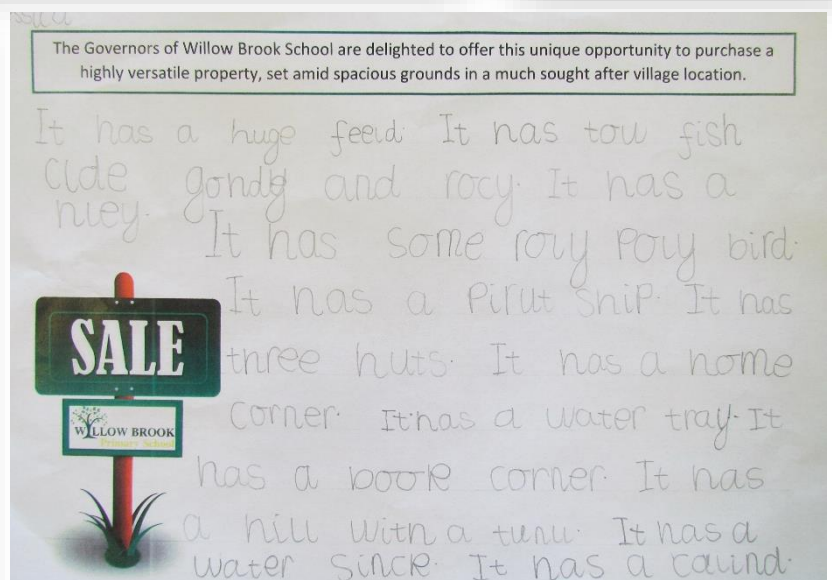
May 25<sup>th</sup> 2017



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Dear Parents and Carers,

There was certainly a stir in the playground this morning at the thought of Willow Brook being up for sale and it sparked both the conversation and curiosity to introduce our half term's Exciting Writing! The morning was filled with a school full of enthusiastic budding estate agents and clip boards, who were zipping around and using their powers of persuasive language to write the sales particulars for Winkworths! Of course, there is no way we'd sell our precious school but the quality of writing that emerged from the pretence was quite powerful! There was one young boy who couldn't wait to show his work to the visiting Chair of Governors... and that's no surprise when you can write like that and you're only five!





Thanks to the weather, there has been plenty of learning outside this week and, as many children wrote in their sales particulars this morning, there's no better place than Willow Brook's great outdoors! The infants have been out birdwatching for their science topic (and are still waiting for that golden eagle to appear on top court!) Miss Johnston's class have also been leaping into the record books and putting their advanced measuring skills to the test and, after a full on half term, Year 6 were allowed a moment to enjoy the new benches that have arrived for their outdoor area.



### **D.A.R.E.**

Congratulations to our Year 6 children who celebrated their DARE graduation in style last Thursday! Their assembly showed just how mature and knowledgeable they are fast becoming and, thanks to Mr Oakes and ten weeks of hard work, they sang, danced and performed to show us all what they had learned. We are all incredibly proud of you, Year 6. Well done.



### **Plant Sale**

I would like to extend a massive thanks to the Friends of Willow Brook who, yet again, organised a magnificent fund raising event. The Plant Sale raised £1,700! Their efforts and your support will enable us to restore the trim trail to its former glory, finish kitting out the classrooms with interactive learning screens and help us to install a brand new computer suite. Sarah Smithies and her team were magnificent last Saturday – thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy.

## Forest School

Since the launch of their Forest School earlier this term, our pre-school children have learned to love getting their wellies on and wheeling their tools round to the woods next door! They have climbed and swung in the trees, built see-saws and dens and are learning all about outdoor adventure and working as a team. We look forward to getting more children in key stage 1 involved in similar ventures in the autumn.



## The Land of Neverbelieve

Our final whole school topic of the year is going to take us all on a six week journey... A trip of a lifetime half a world away and across the seven seas to the undiscovered Land of Neverbelieve. In a mix of geography, science, practical problem solving, story, creativity and technology, we are going to blend fact and fiction and make it a summer adventure never to be forgotten! Our planning is inspired by the Land of Neverbelieve book by Norman Messenger. If you have never had the absolute pleasure to browse his work, take a moment to explore Neverbelieve yourself.



## Inset Days

Now that they have been approved by the Governing Board, I can confirm the inset training days now in the diary for next year.

Tuesday **5<sup>th</sup> September** is a school administration day and our first inset day will be on Wednesday **6<sup>th</sup> September**. The children will, therefore, start the autumn term on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September. The other three inset days are: **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**, **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June** and **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**.

I hope that you have a lovely half term break. May I remind you that Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June is an inset day, so we will see you bright and early on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>.

I leave you with a reminder of our key events for the final seven weeks of the academic year. It's going to be busy!

Best wishes,

*Louise Ballard*



## Summer Term Dates in the Diary

(with a short note of explanation for those of you who have never experienced a Willow Brook summer term before!)

June 5 <sup>th</sup>	School closed for Inset day
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Class photographs</b> Wrates will be in school during the morning session to take whole class pictures.
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mad Science Club starts</b> Applications to be a part of Mad Science are made directly to the company.
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	School Disco
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>6pm Meeting re Year 5/6 Residential</b> Information and kit lists for parents. These will be sent to you after the meeting if you are unable to attend.
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>7pm Friends' meeting</b> Please feel free to get involved with our busy Friends Group. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested in offering any time and energy, however small, to support the school.
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	School closed for Inset day
July 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Year 6 visits to South Wolds</b> More information will be sent to you directly from South Wolds
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	School reports out
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Open afternoon</b> School and pre-school will be open for you to visit between 2pm and 5pm. As well as seeing your child's current teacher and work, it also gives you an opportunity to meet with the members of staff who will be working with the class in September.
July 10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 residential trip
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Summer Social</b> An evening organised by our Friends Association to share time and food with other Willow Brook families. Tickets will be on sale nearer the time.
July 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Sports Day*</b> A traditional whole school sports event. Please note, in the event of rain, this will be moved to Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July.
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6.30pm Music Concert</b> An evening where we celebrate the talents of our young musicians
July 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Last day of term</b> Year 6's leavers' assembly will take place at 10am. Parents of Year 6 children are, of course, invited. (Usually not a dry eye in the house!)

\*Please note that we will be holding our Potted Sports afternoon in early September so that our new Reception children and parents can join us.