

Willow Brook News

October 16th 2017



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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderfully busy week at Willow Brook and a cracking end to a productive first half term!

The Doors...

If you were in the playground this week, you will have noticed the appearance of some unusual doors that rose from the ground during Wednesday night. Based on an old site map unearthed in an office desk, we discovered that this wasn't the first time that this had happened and children had been through the doors before to discover who or what lived beyond... This, of course, was the trigger for our Exciting Writing morning and there was nothing more magical than seeing the children explore the doors and dream up the worlds behind them. The best moment of all was walking round school after they had listened at locks, tried the handles and heard whispers and weird scraping sounds and seeing them put their stories on paper with enthusiastic silence! From year 1 to year 6 you could have heard a pin drop! Today we celebrated the children's writing success and seven budding authors took their well-deserved place on the Bench of Glory! I am hoping to publish some of the best pieces on the school's website over half term.

Other adventures...

With a determination to have a school year full of adventure, classes have already started to get out and about to reinforce their topic work and explore the community. Year 3 took a trip to the newly revamped library last week and came back laden with books! They are also looking forward to Mr and Mrs Harrison visiting them from the BGS tomorrow to finish their Stone Age topic with some artefacts and fossils! Year 5 were true Vikings and thoroughly enjoyed their day up in York at the Yorvik Centre. They are now busily building long ships to complete their history work. On Wednesday, Year 6 took their traditional trip to the battlefields at Bosworth to walk in the footsteps of the first Tudors and wield their weapons in the company of Captain Mortimer! It was very bracing on the top of Ambion Hill!

This week, the infants are looking forward to the fire department visiting with their engine! They have been learning all about the Great Fire of London and can't wait to see how technology has moved on! They are also busily planning and mapping their annual autumn walk for after half term.



Willow Brook's Charities...

Once again, the school is supporting a variety of charities this term and we are inviting you to participate and support as many ventures as you feel able. Our harvest assembly **this Wednesday** will focus on homelessness and we are asking for any donations of food to add to our gift to The Friary in West Bridgford – an organisation that works with people who are without the basics of a home or food. Please send any items in with the children...they do like to add their contributions to the box!

Whilst we have not officially organised a 'Love in a Box' day at school this year, you can still donate a filled shoe box for the charity and you should have already received an email from the office detailing how and what to donate. If you need any further details, speak to Mrs Roper or Mrs Phillips. Similarly, we have been approached by one of our parents to ask if we would again support the Faith in Families Christmas Appeal. This is another great cause and we would love to receive any toys you can give on their behalf.



Finally, 2017's Children in Need Day will be upon us after half term and we could not let **Friday 17th November** go by without supporting this national event. Our school Care Department will be organising the final details, but as it's a 'spot'acular theme, I'd get planning your outrageously dotty outfit!

And some important words of thanks...

Thank you to all the Friends who organised and swept up popcorn on Friday night for our first Film Night. The children were transported to 'Transylvania' and had a great time with hotdogs, sweets and plenty of Friday night chatter! (Remind me never to go to the cinema with them....!) Mrs Myring did a fabulous job of cinema host alongside a great team of Friends. Thank you to you all! Next term's disco is already in the diary...watch this space!

And a final word of thanks to Mrs Geeson, our lovely TA who works part time with class 1 and 2, who will be leaving us after half term. She has been an inspiration to us all over the past few years and we wish her health and happiness as she works closer to home.

As always, keep an eye on the website – as well as informing you of what is coming up, there are plenty of articles and photos of what we have been up to. www.willowbrook.notts.sch.uk
For now I will leave you with some pictures of some very focused Exciting Writers!

Have a very happy and restful autumn half term... you'll need all your energy for the weeks ahead!

Louise Ballard

