

Willow Brook News

September 25th 2017



Willow Brook, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5BB. Telephone: 01159149889. office@willowbrook.notts.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an incredibly busy start to the term we have had – it is hard to believe that this is only the start of the third week! Classes have started to settle in to their new routines and there is a wonderfully calm but busy feeling around school and plenty of exciting topics and events filling the days!

We have had a very sporty start to the year and our Bench of Glory today celebrated the wealth of individual talent and team spirit we have in school! Miss Johnston and Mr Jones have already had enthusiastic teams at local events and I was lucky enough to spend my Saturday morning in the company of a fabulous girls' football team who certainly brightened the weekend! I know that Mr Jones was equally impressed with the boys' efforts last weekend. The Crossdale 10K and Fun Run last Sunday was dominated with green Willow Brook shirts and we were very proud of each and every runner – they looked fabulous in their medals. Lewis Neill in Year 6 won the award for being the fastest primary aged competitor and we finished in a very well-deserved second place.



Our Potted Sports afternoon on Wednesday was another brilliant example of team spirit, community and care. Our mixed aged groups played a series of events and thoroughly enjoyed working together and competing with big smiles! Thank you to everyone who responded to Miss Johnston's plea for being an event organiser. Your help was very much appreciated.



Our lesson coaching sessions have now double to two afternoons per week and Drumba has certainly been a hit (in more ways than one!) with Years 5 and 6. It's a high energy, high volume

afternoon where rhythm and pace is at its best and even the teachers who join in feel the challenge! There's also lots of laughing coming from the hall...

Friends of Willow Brook

In other news, I would like to remind you that this Friday is our McMillan coffee morning, which is held in the school from 8am to 9.30am. Mrs Smithies and her team would welcome any donations of cakes for the event and, of course, you are extremely welcome to come and eat them at the café in the school hall.

Our Friends of Willow Brook group are busily organising a 'Fright Night Film Night' for the children on Friday 13th October from 6.30pm to 9pm. More details and tickets will be available from the school office as soon as they have been received from the Friends committee.

School Photos

Next Monday Andrew Hallsworth will be coming into school to take individual and family photos. For those of you who wish to include younger or older sibling in your pictures, he will be available from 8am in the school hall to accommodate you. Individual photos and photos with siblings in school (including pre-school) will be organised by staff and taken during the morning.

Parents Evenings

This term's Parents Evenings will take place during the week beginning October 9th. You should receive a form at the end of this week to book an appointment with your child's teacher. Should this not arrive, a printable form will be sent by Parent Mail on Friday. This is an important time for both parents and teachers to communicate how each child has settled in to their new class as well as us giving you information and a sense of what can be expected over the course of their academic year. We try to keep to time so that people are not kept waiting unduly, so if you feel you have issues to discuss that may take longer than your appointment slot, please speak to your child's teacher and we may be able to accommodate a longer discussion at a different time.

Parking

I will continue to ask that you take our pleas to keep the clearly marked zone outside of the school gates CLEAR of cars during the times stated on the signs seriously. For very obvious reasons this needs to be a safe space where young children and those accompanying them to school have the necessary vision to enable them to cross with confidence. I would like to inform new parents who may not realise that, whilst the yellow zigzag lines are only painted on one side of the road, BOTH SIDES need to be car free to make this visibility possible. Our school council will be mounting a campaign of their own in a few weeks' time and I know that some of the children feel as passionate as staff do about their road safety. Many people understand our concerns but still stop and drop off in this area and offer many plausible reasons for doing so. If you have problems parking further from the school for whatever reason, please get in touch with us and we will help. I understand that a parent was issued a fine last term having been photographed parking in the crossing zone. This aside, my concern is more for our pupils. Please share our responsibility to keep each and every one of them safe.

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

Have a good week,

Louise Ballard