

# Willow Brook News

April 27<sup>th</sup> 2018



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Dear Parents and Carers,

There's been a great deal of good fortune over the past week when it's come to dodging the rainclouds! Whilst the field is still fairly waterlogged and awaiting its first proper cut, we have picked some bright days to venture out and about and the summer term is well under way!

Reception and Year 1 had a wonderfully exciting day at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Wednesday. They held snakes and insects, marvelled at the roars of lions and tigers, wondered what the 'hills' on the camels' backs were all about and all looked smiley, worn out and ready for bed when they returned! Thank you to every parent who kindly lent a hand (quite literally!) You helped to make sure a first experience of a school trip for Class R was a safe and happy one. I'm sure there'll be more photos on the website in due course, but these may give you a flavour of the day...



It's Year 2s turn next...I hope the East Coast is ready for them!

Back at school, we have officially opened our new learning space in the quad. Whilst it still remains nameless, the chalet has become home to group work, music lessons, interventions and meetings and definitely has a thumbs up from its new residents! Whilst I'm missing the electric guitar and drum lessons on a Thursday morning, I know that Danny has made himself at home in the space and daylight! The children are in the midst of choosing a name... although I'm not sure that Shedly-McShed-Face will make the final cut...



Our next project is to look at our outdoor space and be a little creative with improving fitness, play and a more formal sheltered area on the field for learning and al fresco dining. Whilst a great deal of funding for projects such as these comes from our main budget, we are also fortunate to have an input from the Friends of Willow Brook fundraising committee. Over the past year, they have provided interactive screens for our classrooms as well as helping us to furnish our computer suite to a much appreciated high standard. Your support for the events

they organise is invaluable. As well as tonight's school quiz, they are busily putting together the Spring Fair and Plant Sale which takes place on May 12th. Can I add to the newsletter they sent out last week by reminding you to donate any pre-loved toys, labelled plants, cakes or raffle prizes to fill their stalls? As the children know, any donations they bring in are always rewarded with a merit! Next Friday, (May 4<sup>th</sup>) will also be a 'wear your own clothes day' in return for a bottle or some chocolate for the May event.

For those who have not experienced a summer term at Willow Brook before, could I politely take this opportunity to remind you about footwear. For health and safety reasons children should not wear open toed sandals and, if this is unavoidable, should always wear socks. I also appreciate that shoes start to wear out and feet begin to outgrow last September's purchases, but would remind you that trainers are not a part of our uniform and we would only expect them to be worn (with our knowledge) until shoes can be replaced. Thank you to the many parents who have let us know that this is the case.

New clubs and extra-curricular events have got into full swing this week... the choir sounded rather marvellous...the Coding Club members were raring to go...there was tennis, art and reading, rowing and sewing and last night Miss Phillips took her young dance club to an evening showcase to share their talents in front of a live audience! Our chess and bridge players are going from strength to strength and the basketball team was in fine form on



Wednesday. And whilst Mr Jones contemplated taking the boys to a football match on Saturday morning, I'm sure you'll understand why we encouraged him to be on time for his wedding instead..! We enjoyed sharing the event with him and know you will also join us in congratulating Mr and Mrs Jones and wishing them both nothing but the best.

*Louise Ballard*

| Summer Term 2018   |  |
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| <b>Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup></b>                          | Year 2 Trip to the seaside                         |
| <b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>                          | Spring Fair and Trail Run                          |
| <b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>                            | Key Stage 2 SATs week                              |
| <b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>                            | Break up for half term                             |
| <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>                            | School closed – Inset Day                          |
| <b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>                          | Year 6 DARE Graduation 9.30 am                     |
| <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June</b>                           | School Disco                                       |
| <b>Thursday Friday 28<sup>th</sup> /29<sup>th</sup> June</b> | Year 1 and 2 'Wildthings' overnight camp at school |
| <b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>                            | School closed – Inset Day                          |
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>                         | Whole school Sports Day – 1.20pm                   |
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>                         | End of year reports out                            |
| <b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>                          | Open Afternoon 2.30pm to 4.30pm                    |
| <b>Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>                    | Year 6 Bikeability Course – levels 1 and 2         |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>                         | Music Concert – 6.30pm                             |
| <b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Wed 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>     | Year 5 / 6 Residential trip to Whitby              |
| <b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>                        | 'On the Stage' club end of term performance        |
| <b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July</b>                        | Last day of term                                   |