

Willow Brook News

October 7th 2019

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn seems to have well and truly settled in and umbrellas and wellingtons replaced summer dresses and playtimes on the field almost overnight. As Reception get ready for their traditional walk across the fields of Stanton next Monday, it wouldn't be right if they didn't have mud and puddles to add to the experience!

As we head towards the first half term of the school year, we are looking forward to meeting you all at Parents Evening this week. We hope that you'll enjoy talking about how your child has settled in to their new classrooms and hearing about the term ahead. Please remember that teacher led clubs do not run at all during this week. As all rooms in the building are occupied during Parents Evening, French will not be taught on Wednesday evening. If in doubt, please get in touch.

I hope that you keep an eye on the school website. If you do, you will have seen our early sporting triumphs so far this term. Saturday football tournaments saw both our boys and girls battling with great team spirit! Our cross country runners were truly brilliant last Thursday and coming 4th in Rushcliffe was quite a triumph for the girls' squad! Yesterday the Crossdale Fun Run had our toughest runners overcoming drizzle and slippery hills. They were very proud of their medals in assembly this morning! Whilst I thank you so much for supporting and transporting your children so that they can experience these events, I also want to thank Mr Jones for giving up his precious weekends to get Willow Brook involved and motivated. Miss Phillips also made sure that the Year 3 and 4 boys had their first experience of tag rugby last week. If nothing else, their excitement and verve would be enough to impress Eddie Jones!

Well done, Willow Brook... what a great start to the sporting calendar!

The Friends of Willow Brook launched their fundraising season last Friday with the first school disco. Nearly every child in the school danced the night away which meant record takings as well as a great party atmosphere! The existing Friends committee will be holding their AGM next Monday (14th October) at 7pm. Please support Nicola Razzell and her team and give some thought to how you could support any aspect of their year, however small. They are currently thinking ahead to the Winter Fair at the end of November.

I know that I have already thanked you by Parentmail, but I'd just like to underline how bowled over we were with your support for the MacMillan Cake Breakfast! I can confirm that last week we sent off a cheque for £606. That's quite staggering. This Friday morning we have our Harvest Thanksgiving assembly and would be so pleased to pass on contributions of food to The Friary drop-in centre in West Bridgford. However small your donation, together we can make a big difference.

Next Thursday afternoon the children will be joining invited former members of staff to cut Willow Brook's 50th birthday cake. I would like to extend my invitation to any parents and carers who were once pupils with us – it would be very special to capture two generations in one primary school. Let us know if this applies to you and we will add your name to the guest list. We showed the children some magnificent photographs of classes from the 80's last week and some of them

were delighted to see familiar family faces in the pictures. They were also rather bemused to see the children holding peacocks, geese, cats, chickens and guinea pigs (dangerously in the same photo, I might add!) We hope to make a gallery of photos old and new for you to see before the end of half term and display them all alongside the work the classes have been doing on the history of the school.

I will leave you with a few pictures of Sunday's run and look forward to seeing you later this week.

With very kind regards,

Louise Ballard

