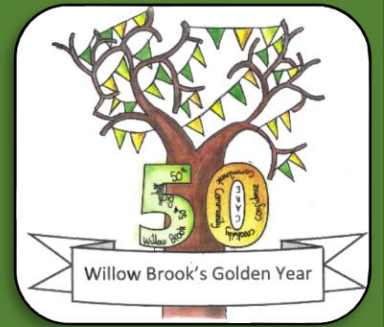


Willow Brook News

13th March 2020

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The Willow Brook diary has been full of 'community' since our half term break. Governor meetings, a school disco, shared assemblies, Parents Evenings, a cricket festival, cross country and a chess tournament have all been squeezed in alongside curriculum learning and special events.

World Book Day was, as ever, a delight! From the magic of seeing everyone dressed up in the playground and welcoming relatives in to share a story, to our Book Swap and '200 Million Minute' launch, we had an exhausting but happy day.



Thank you for your enthusiasm and for encouraging your children to join in. And how wonderful to hear that Ruari's space outfit, that brought Dara O'Brian's 'Beyond the Sky' book to life, was commented on by the author himself on Twitter!

Equally as brilliant as we immerse ourselves in the world of authors, is Miss Brearey's success in managing to get a Skype call for her class with Andy Shepherd – Class 3's chosen writer.

Whilst Mrs Bloomfield and Mrs Brown were out in the fields watching lambs being born with a group of children at Brackenhurst on Wednesday, Mr Jones and I were experiencing an afternoon with Nottingham's County Councillors, who invited our school ambassadors to share a buffet lunch and join them in a meeting in the chambers! As well as feeling quite at home in the civic suite, (as you can see in the photo below) we were able to ask questions and try on the chairman's chain of office. Councillor Cottee even came to pick us up in the city's new electric bus!



Class 2 delighted us all with their reading assembly this morning! Their volume and enthusiasm reflected their growing skills and knowledge when it comes to books and authors. We hope that our invited guests had a super time with us. Next week Class 1 will be hosting their parents and grandparents – add it to your calendars!

I am sure you are following the regular news bulletins on Coronavirus. We receive daily updates from the Department of Education and continue to respond to advice on teaching the children the importance of personal hygiene and regular handwashing. I am sure this is something you reinforce at home. If you haven't already seen the advertised strategy, you'll find it by following this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg> We will, of course, notify you immediately should the government strategy be updated and request that you inform the school promptly should you have any family health concerns or you fall within the risk categories following travel or contact and need to take action. Should we be instructed to close the school, staff will issue appropriate book-based/online tasks and maintain contact, where possible, via email.

And finally... Yesterday afternoon, Miss Phillips took our cross-country runners to Ruddington Park for the schools' spring term relay race. The sun shone (briefly!) and the Willow Brook team were brilliant and came back full of the joys! That leads me nicely on to reminding you that the Willow Brook Trail Run is fast approaching. The Children's Fun Run will be held on the same morning and we hope that you'll support the Friends' – they are working so hard to make the morning a success. I'll leave you with a message from the organising group.



Have a great weekend – let's hope the weather is kind and you can start your Fun Run training!

With very kind regards,

Louise Ballard

Calling all Students

Your school needs you!

The Keyworth Trail Run and Fun Run are taking place on Sunday 29th March.

The events start and finish at Willow Brook School and we would love as many of you as possible to get involved so you can showcase what the Willow Brook spirit is all about.

How can you help?

- Take part in the Fun Run – let's see if we can make this a Willow Brook Takeover!

All of you will be capable of running the course and it only costs £3.

You can enter on the day or at www.resultsbase.net

All you need to do is convince your parents to bring you to the school for around 9am on 29th in your PE kit or other running gear

- Make something for the refreshment stall:

Runners and supporters get hungry and they love homemade baked goodies. If you are a budding young baker, then we'd love you to make something (sweet or savoury) for the stall.