



Willow Brook News

4th September 2020

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Good afternoon!

Just a very quick newsletter to you on our first Friday night. This afternoon I was thinking... On one of my 'virtual assemblies' during lockdown, I sent a video of photos showing a rather quiet school... an empty playground and a silent hall... cordoned off gym equipment and bare cloakrooms. I have to say what a joy it has been today to be 'disturbed' in my office by the volume of a happy class of 30 children playing on bottom court... to see Year 6 pupils hard at work and laughing over a shared joke ... to read a story to our brand-new Reception class and to gradually feel the tensions of Thursday morning settle as we work out how to safely reinstate what I've missed so much since March.

I thought I'd simple share what made me happy today and give you a glimpse of classroom life.



Outside, Mr Boyd had his guitar and Year 1 were engrossed in an action-packed music and dance session.



Year 6 were being reminded of the non-negotiables when it comes to writing!



Year 2 were desperate to show me their new relaxation techniques (but just needed to finish their sentence!)



Year 3 were full of conversation and were by far the tidiest, proudest bunch!



Every time I've been into Year 4 this week, it's like they've won the lottery!



Year 5 are certainly starting to look (and work) like upper juniors.

And our visitors in Reception were happily exploring, playing, and finding new friends on the playground.

Thank you for your support this week and for responding to our long list of requests. We will continue to amend and adjust our day until it runs at its best. One issue staff still feel we could use your help with is children bringing large rucksacks. Sometimes these only contain smaller bags! Children need to bring their reading folders, lunch box and drinks bottle. These can easily be carried or put together in a small bag. We encourage children of any age to have a school book bag (these can be ordered by emailing the office or speaking to Mrs Roper) as these are a perfect size to store in a child's tray.



I have no doubt that we will all sleep well this weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week.

With my best wishes,

Louise Ballard

Walking to School

Willow Brook is a busy road. During staggered arrival and departure times it will be busier than usual.

For the safety of our children:



Please walk to school if you live near enough to do so



If you live too far to walk, **please** park your car **away** from Willow Brook and walk the final 5 minutes



If you need to drive on Willow Brook **do not** stop on the yellow zig zags OR AT THE BUS STOP. You will cause congestion and limit the vision of pedestrians.

Pedestrians should cross the road between the two marked bollards.

You will have noticed a County Council camera car patrolling Willow Brook this week. Fines will be issued for inconsiderate and unsafe parking.

Vision is limited at the bottom of the school drive and the junction at the top of the Fair Way makes it more difficult.

Do not cross between our cones.

