



Willow Brook News

10th February 2023

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We come to the end of the half term feeling wonderfully worn out and full of the many adventures that have filled the diary over the past six weeks.

Mastermind

Since I last wrote, our learning has been geography-fuelled and the children have built on their knowledge of all things near and far! The culmination of the work will end in our Geography Mastermind competition this afternoon, where ten brave contestants have been nominated to sit in the black chair and play for the trophy. They are all on fine form and showing the wonderfully gentle confidence that you would expect of a Willow Brook child!



Superhero Graduation

Yesterday we welcomed our EYFS parents in to see their children graduate from the Superhero Academy! In their half term's learning, they have met fictitious caped crusaders, met the police and the fire brigade and come to the conclusion that a real hero is someone who has the power to make a difference when someone else needs help. Year R showed us that they knew just what to do in an emergency!

Our outdoor area has been in full swing over the last few weeks. The Big Garden Bird Watch was a great success, with children spotting kestrels and gold crests alongside the usual blue tits and robins! Year 2 have also been out and about collecting and identifying insects. They were equally delighted with their finds!





Football

Mr. Clarke has been 'on the ball' with tournaments and matches this half term. He regularly updates the website with his reports and photos but I have to give a mention to the girls' football team and their 12 – 2 victory over Lantern Lane! They have always been a force to be reckoned with, and we look forward to seeing how their season pans out.

A small request from Mr. Clarke for any child who has represented the school over recent weeks – please could you double check that you have returned your clean kit. There are a few shirts missing! Also, if you happen to own any shin pads that you no longer need, we would be more than happy to give them a good home.



Young Voices

Willow Brook was once again delighted to attend Young Voices at the Birmingham Arena at the end of January. Singing alongside 5,000 other children in a packed venue is a joy and the volume and vibe makes it an incredible experience.

Connections

The next six weeks are equally as charged and ready to go! Our whole school theme is 'Connections'. As well as many links with science, we will be looking at how we connect with our own surroundings to promote our wellbeing and progress; how we connect with our school to create a sense of community and how we connect with the world to build a strong future. Within the theme we will celebrate National Science Week as well as International Women's Day, Red Nose Day and National Poetry Day. Our focus for World Book Day this year will be the perfect combination of books and relaxation before bed. The effect of getting rid of the stress and 'mental chatter' of the day by getting lost in a good story rather than an online scroll is worth exploring. We will be having a 'wear your pyjamas/onesie to school' day on March 2nd just to strengthen the connection!

Whatever your half term week brings, I hope that you have a chance to enjoy some time with your children. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 21st February.

With kind regards,

Louise Ballard

Dates for the next half term	
Monday 20 th February	INSET day
Wednesday 22 nd / 23 rd February	Year 3 and 4 Residential
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day
Tuesday and Wednesday 7 th and 8 th March	Parents Evenings
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day and School Disco