



Newsletter

2nd June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final half term of the academic year! We are about to embark on all things magical with our last whole-school topic. This morning our junior classes were 'in the cupboard under the stairs' where they received an invitation to Hogwarts... whilst key stage 1 met Winnie the Witch and her cat Wilbur, who had just as much magic at the end of their wands! You'll see how the next eight weeks will unfold on the planning over the page.

Staff News

It is with a spirit of congratulations that I share the news that Mr. Litchfield has been successful in his application for a headteacher position at a school in the north of the county. It is with a spirit of sadness that he will be leaving Willow Brook in July to take up this post. Mr. Litchfield's teaching skills and whole-school presence are second to none and as a deputy head, he has been an outstanding right-hand man. I know that the journey to work has been a long one, and working closer to home will be much appreciated by his family!

Miss Watterson will also be leaving us in July. She has worked hard over the last few years to gain her final teaching qualification, which was awarded in March. She now aims to take a break from the profession and travel.

In the week before half term, we appointed new members of staff ready for September. The process of welcoming them to the team is underway and we'll share more details of who will be teaching in which year group when everything is finalised. There will be plenty of time for children to visit and meet new members of staff before the year ends and you'll see that our usual transition events are included in the calendar below.

With my best wishes,

Date	Event	Details
Week beginning 2 nd June	Year 4 Multiplication Test Check	
Week beginning 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	
12 th June pm	Year 3 trip to play with the Halle Orchestra	
24 th and 25 th June	Year 6 transition visits to South Wolds Academy. New class visits.	
Wednesday 1 st July	Whole School Sports Afternoon	
Wednesday 8 th July	Transition morning and Willow Brook Open Afternoon 2.30 to 4.30pm	
Thursday 9 th July 6.30pm	Music Concert	
15 th to 17 th July	Year 5 and 6 Residential	
Friday 24 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 10am	
Friday 24 th July	School breaks up at 3.30pm	

It's a Kind of Magic



In 1997 the world of children's books came alive with the introduction of Harry Potter and his experiences at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry! J.K. Rowling introduced characters and settings that made her books a triumph. Presenting essential childhood themes of loyalty, friendship and triumph over adversity, this tale of how a young orphan holds on to hope as he pursues his destiny is nothing short of magical. In a half term where our theme captures and concludes every curriculum area and draws the academic year to a memorable end, what more could we wish for than the wisdom of Dumbledore and a school full of imagination and inspiration. Grab your broomsticks and enjoy the ride!

As language specialists...

The first two books in the Harry Potter novels introduce a wonderfully rich world of wizardry and imagination! Children will immerse themselves in the settings and storylines that will inspire daily writing tasks and bring the Hogwarts experience to life. There's so much to be learned from chapters that are crafted with grammatical purpose and adventurous vocabulary. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them and The Wizarding Almanac will provide a framework for non-fiction work.

Arithmetic – The Magical Properties of Numbers

The summer term maths curriculum will be inspired by the challenges of Professor Septima Vector. Whilst she was renowned for being strict teacher of mathematics (and giving a lot of complicated homework), her problem-solving methods are second to none. Children will interact with lots of 'real world' mathematics, from managing the timetable for the Knight Bus and the Hogwarts Express, calculating the Quidditch scoreboard to shopping on Diagon Alley and working out exchange rates at Gringotts Bank. Lessons in potion making always require accurate measuring and an understanding of ratio, and there are more advanced recipes that are best managed with some simple algebra.

Across the curriculum

As Musicians

Music composed to stir magic and imagination is inspiring. From John Williams' score for Harry Potter to The Sorcerer's Apprentice – a symphonic poem by Paul Dukas – we will be listening, appreciating and responding through writing, dance and song.

As Fitness Experts

The summer term provides a wealth of opportunities for active learning both in and out of the classroom. Our focused Sport Week at the end of June will include a whole school sports day in the guise of the Triwizard Tournament. Back in the Muggle world, there will also be a nod to the football World Cup in a Willow Brook tournament. As well as athletics and team sports, each class will be working on a dance performance for our performance afternoon.

As Theologians and Thinkers

Year groups will continue to study their own curriculum in RE. The summer term leads classes to learn about inspiring people, sacred texts, symbols and a sense of belonging. Understanding different faiths builds knowledge and a sense of community. This term, this includes Hinduism, Judaism, Humanism and Christianity.

As Creative Artists

We will be using the illustrations of Jim Kay to appreciate how a graphic artist brings the words of an author to life. With the new Harry Potter series about to be launched on the BBC, we will also be working as costume designers.

As historians and Geographers, we will

be using maps from fantasy worlds (including the inventive concepts of the Marauders Map) to formally plot our own space and place. Using grid references and keys will explore and cement vocabulary and year group objectives. Looking at land use and comparing different aspects of physical and human geography of our two contrasting localities will see children absorbing subject-focused vocabulary with understanding.

As we look at the history of Hogwarts, the children will also be learning about Willow Brook's history and how both have changed over time. Plotting timelines and understanding progress through documents, photographs and written sources will weave a magical commentary.

Plants, herbology and Care of Magical Creatures

No Hogwarts curriculum would be complete without their unique approach to science. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them introduces the Magizoologist, Newt Scamander, who understands that magical beasts have 'beauty and powers that we are privileged to observe and understand'. We will be classifying and comparing, understanding life cycles and reproduction and investigating habitats using our grounds. Comparing and classifying similar beasts from a mythical world will teach us a lot about order in the living world.

Wellbeing and Wonder

The Hogwarts world offers an abundance of lessons around themes such as courage, resilience and friendship. The wisdom of Dumbledore is abundant, and we will be debating some of his finest quotes, starting with his premise that 'Our choices define us more than our abilities'.

Muggle Studies (Studies of nonmagical life – British Values and Philosophy)

There is a strong theme of acceptance in the policies and practices of Hogwarts School. From the treatment of Muggle born to the values of the four houses, our British Values permeate community life. We will continue to look at Protected Characteristics and use assemblies and My World sessions to explore these themes and ideas.