

15th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term seems to have moved on with quite a pace – it's hard to believe that we are about to start the final week!

The past fortnight has been a hectic one. Whilst classes have been wonderfully immersed in science and exploring the great outdoors, Year 6 have been focused and completing their SATs. As Willow Brook staff, we take a very carefully considered approach to these assessments so that Willow Brook children feel confident that their final term at primary school is memorable for all the right reasons. As ever, the children took each day in their stride and had such a positive attitude – I honestly don't think I've ever felt so proud of a truly super group of young people. There was a marvellous moment of spontaneous applause after we sealed the final test papers... the kind of relief you feel when the aircraft has landed!

As has become the tradition, the class were officially awarded their Leavers' Hoodies after their work was done – the first sign that they are secondary ready. The Friends of Willow Brook fund these precious jumpers, so thank you to them from 30 very happy children! Add an ice-cream and a long playtime, and the thought of maths and grammar were long forgotten. I think they are set to enjoy their final few weeks of primary school life.



Activities in other classrooms have been just as industrious. Seeds have been planted, mini greenhouses have been constructed, outer space has been boldly explored, quick cricket and netball have been mastered and there's a fine gallery of Botticelli paintings about to be framed.

Mr. Clarke has been thrilled with his boys' football team over the past fortnight. They are teetering on edge of a premier league victory... which would secure his 'Manager of the Year' award! He is also plotting a Willow Brook World Cup Tournament with Mr. Devenney that will rival the real event in logistics alone!



Thank you so much for taking part in World Book Night last month. With over 140 photos of happy children getting ready for bed and enjoying a good book, there was a super sense of community connection. If you sent a picture to your teacher, know that you made their day!

The observant amongst you may have also noticed that Mrs. Humphrey is expecting her second child. She is already blooming! Her baby is not due until October, so she will be back with us for a short time in the new academic year.

In other staff news, Miss Carpenter, who works for two days as a TA in key stage 1, will be leaving us after half term. Having just returned from her second maternity leave, she now has two little members of the family who are looking forward to her full attention. Louise has been a faithful member of the Willow Brook team for nearly 5 years now - we will miss her very much.

The final half term of the year is set and ready. The journey to school on Tuesday 2nd June (Monday 1st is an inset day) will be via Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$... but the rest of the whole-school topic remains under wraps until then!

Whatever the weekend brings, I hope it is a happy one.

Louise Ballard

Date	Event	Details
20 th May	EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 visit Conkers	
22 nd May	Break up for half term week	
1 st June	School closed for INSET training day	
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	
Wednesday 1 st July	Whole School Sports Afternoon	
Wednesday 8 th July	Willow Brook Open Afternoon 2.30 to 4.30pm	
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	