



# Willow Wonders

## Weekly Updates, News and Information

FEBRUARY 2026

ISSUE 3

It's been another amazing month at Willow Park. Students have been out and about in the community and beyond, our new lunchtime routine is already seeing a positive impact and staff have seen some fantastic work being done in classrooms.



### Chocolate factory fun!

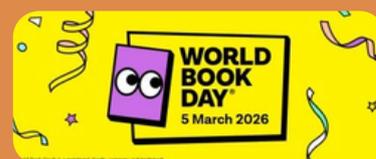
Pine Class had a great time at Cadbury World. We learned all about the history of chocolate and how Cadbury chocolate is made. We saw the different stages of the chocolate-making process, explored the factory displays, and found out where cocoa beans come from. One of the best parts was tasting the chocolate, as well as exploring the fun exhibits. Everyone had a great day and really enjoyed the trip.



### World Book Day 2026!

#### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

We can't wait to see everyone dressed up as their favourite characters and authors. Students will receive their £1 vouchers.



We have introduced our new core values. These values form the bedrock of our school.

#### Belong

We are a school where everyone feels welcome, safe and included. We care about each other because good relationships help us learn.



#### Commit

We try our best, come to school, and keep going even when work is hard. Teachers and pupils follow the plan and don't give up.

#### Achieve

We learn new things, look after our wellbeing, and build important life skills so everyone can grow and have a bright future.



Our Textiles group has had a great time making toy bunnies this month! We started by stitching together some trial versions to practise our skills and play around with fabrics and features. The final bunnies are looking brilliant, and everyone's really proud of their creations. We'll be showing off the finished collection in next month's newsletter, watch this space!



### EASTER HOLIDAY DATES

**BREAK UP: FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH (1PM)**

**BACK TO SCHOOL: MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**



- 1st prize of £500 book vouchers
- 2nd prize of £250 book vouchers
- 3rd prize of £100 book vouchers

**Well done to those who have already written their 100 word text. Closing date is 27<sup>th</sup> March!**

## Lunchtime changes

Students were asked to voice their opinions of our lunchtime routines and activities. They came up with excellent ideas. Following that, we have made lunchtime 10 minutes longer and added more activities to cater for all needs - from calm and quiet to energetic and busy! As the weather improves, many students also enjoy social time outside on the exercise equipment, the swing or the MUGA, as well as chatting in the gazebo.



**Science room**  
Quiet space, relax, read



**Inclusion room 1**  
Chill/ social space



**Inclusion room 2**  
Toys and games



**Chestnut**  
Quiet eating space



**Corridor**  
Booths and board games



**ICT**  
Games and computers

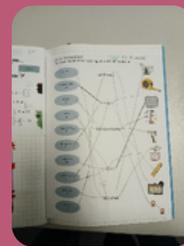


**Art/ library**  
Reading/ craft activities



**Hall**  
Lunch and TV

Progress has been brilliant in all lessons...



## Photograph permission

So we can share as many photos of our wonderful students as possible, please ask for details of our permission policy. Students aged 13+ will need to sign permission forms themselves. Thank you.



## Qualifications

Outcomes are a vital part of our vision at Willow Park. For students who are ready to access them, Functional Skills exams will be happening **before Easter, then before the May half term holiday and then in July.** Staff are working closely with those students to ensure they are confident with all that comes with the exam process.



All students are now able to start their first **AQA Unit Award** during Wednesday afternoons' 'Options' sessions. These certificates are widely recognised and accessible for all.



Please ask for details if needed.



## WHIPSNADE ZOO



**REDWOOD CLASS HAD AN WONDERFUL DAY OUT AT WHIPSNADE. DESPITE IT BEING A COLD DAY, THEY ALL ENJOYED SEEING A WIDE VARIETY OF ANIMALS. THE BABY RHINO WAS A FAVOURITE! WELL DONE REDWOOD STUDENTS, YOU ARE A CREDIT TO OUR SCHOOL.**



**This term, students are exploring the journey of food from farm to fork. We have begun using our school planters to develop our gardening skills, planting our own potatoes and onions as part of this hands-on learning experience. The students have been engaging incredibly well, and it has been a delight to see their enthusiasm as they discover where their food comes from and take pride in growing it themselves.**

## Parent/carer networking meeting

A big thank you to all parents/carers who attended the last meeting - a great way to keep up to date with Willow Park news and to let us know your ideas.

Next meeting: **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 11 am- 12pm. Pentecostal Church (across the road).** All welcome - just let Amy (SENCo) know!

