



WILLOW LANE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



March 2016

Dates for your diaries

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We hope that you've all had an enjoyable long weekend and aren't too thrown by not having our holidays around the Easter Weekend.

It was great to see so many of you at Parents' Evening and to hear how positive you are about the school. Despite changes to the curriculum expectations, teachers continue to make learning enjoyable and fulfil our ethos of 'teach to the heart'. If children enjoy what they learn they will do better and are more likely to become lifelong learners. It was also wonderful to hear how many of you enjoy the website and the blog in particular. It had over 800 views last month!



Many of you will be aware of potential national changes to education. There are many messages flying around but rest assured at this stage we are listening, not rushing in to anything and will make any decisions we reach in the interest of the children and community we serve.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mr MacKinnon

PTFA HELPING THE SCHOOL

The PTFA would like to thank you for all your support including a huge turnout for the Valentine's Disco, children and parents all eagerly running around the fields on the Easter Egg Hunt and the money raised through easyfundraising.org.uk

This couldn't be easier as all you have to do is logon to their website, link your details (not bank or money) to the Willow Lane PTFA cause and then every time you buy through sites such as Amazon, Tesco and Argos a small amount is given by the firm to the cause. This all adds up and the PTFA recently got a cheque for £40.36 and are expecting another for £125.34. This will be added to the £226 recently raised and each class will be asked for a wish list of things for wet plays and in their classrooms. The PTFA are also saving up for a new larger greenhouse for all your children's planting and growing.



Tuesday 29th March:
Children back to school.

**Monday 4th April: Online
Safety Training at 3:30.**

Wednesday 6th April:
**PTFA Bingo Evening at
3:30.**

**Friday 8th April: School
closes at 1:30pm for
Easter break. No WOOSH/
After School Clubs.**

Monday 25th April:
**Children back to school
for Summer Term.**

**Monday 2nd May: May
Bank Holiday.**

**Monday 9th to Thursday
12th May: Year 6 SATs—
Good Luck to you all!**

**Monday 30th May to
Friday June 3rd: Half
Term.**

Monday 6th June:
Children back to school.

**Thursday 7th July to
Friday 8th July: Y6
London Trip.**

Thursday 14th July:
**Sports Day. KS2 9:30am
and KS1 1:30pm.**

Saturday 16th July:
**Summer Fair. 11:00 to
1:00.**

Thursday 26th July:
**Leavers' Assembly and
School closes at 1:30pm
for Summer break. No
WOOSH/ After School
Clubs.**

CREATIVE HOMEWORK

Thank you to all of you for helping with Creative Homework. Not only is this a great way to spend time with your child and hear about what they are learning at school but it also embeds their learning through hands on and fun activities. The children are rightly proud of their creations when up in assembly or sharing to the class.

Every topic—from our creative curriculum— has a list of suggestions sent home for Creative Homework. At our last assembly, nearly the whole school were up and sharing and you can see images on the blog entries to give yourself ideas too.



WILLOW LANE CURRICULUM

I am sometimes asked what a 'creative cross curricular' approach to learning is. In answer to this, it is what we do at Willow Lane and is when all lessons and subjects are around a common theme. It makes learning more meaningful to children and stay with them for longer because it is fun and fits together. For example, when Green Class' topic was 'Rock and Roll' they learnt about Stone Age Man in History, learnt about Rock Formation and Properties in Science, went on a Geography Trip to Ingleborough Caves, drew Cave Paintings in Art and read Stig of the Dump in English to write about their own versions of Stone Age life.

All our topics are taught in this cross-curricular approach (as seen in the displays many of you commented on at Parents' Evening). The topics not only incorporate all subjects but are also supported with great trips and experiences.

STAY SAFE ONLINE

Remember to put Monday 4th April (3:30 to 5:00) in your diaries. We will be having a workshop on how to keep children safe online and on social media. This is such an important issue for all young children in the technological world they live. We will have a crèche to help with child care as well as hot drinks and biscuits.



SCHOOL UNIFORM in SUMMER

As the weather gets warmer and drier (fingers crossed) children's uniform still needs to follow our dress code. Many girls like Summer checked dresses and these are great but need to be blue or yellow to fit with our uniform colours. Some children want to wear shorts and these are great too but need a proper tailored short in dark colours. Many children want to wear trainers and these too are great but need to be black and black all over. Thank you for your support.



*You can keep up-to-date with dates, day to day learning and curriculum letters on our website:
www.willow.lancs.sch.uk*