



WILLOW LANE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



May 2016

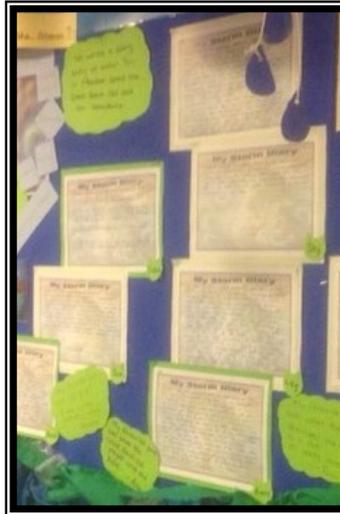
Dates for your diaries

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

As we approach the final half term of the year, school is a busy place thinking about how well your children have done this year.

Teachers are writing reports and these will be coming out after half term. In light of the new national assessment, including the raised expectations for each year group, our reports have been updated. Have a look overleaf so you understand the wording involved.

As always, you will have time to talk to teachers having received reports. It is especially important to ask about anything you can do at home to help with learning. Time and again the evidence shows that out of all the things parents do, making sure their child reads regularly at home has the most impact.



Plans are already being made for 2016 to 2017 and as well as fine tuning the curriculum, we are going to be bringing in some changes linked to healthy living. We will be reminding you about these closer to the time but wanted to let you know in advance—especially about our exciting 'Run A Mile' scheme.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr MacKinnon

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

**Monday 6th June:
Children back to school.**

**Thursday 16th June:
Build a Den Day**

**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. 11:00am
to 1:00pm. All welcome.**

**Thursday 21st July: Year
6 Show at 1:45pm.**

**Tuesday 26th July: Year
6 Leavers' Assembly
9:30am.**

**Tuesday 26th July:
School closes at 1:30pm
for Summer break. No
WOOSH/ After School
Clubs.**

CAR PARK

There have been a number of incidents involving vehicles in Lancashire school car parks and sadly one incident resulted in a fatality. Therefore LCC have asked all schools to look at risk assessments regarding closing car park gates at the start and end of the day.

Please can I remind all parents that the car park is for **staff and visitor use only** and is not to be used as a drop off and pick up zone for children.

To ensure our children's safety, the main gates will be closed between 8:30am to 9:05am and between 2:45pm and 3:45pm.



'RUN A MILE'

Many of you will have heard about the school in Stirling where all children walk/jog/run a 'daily mile'. Over the Summer we are building a track around the field to start our own daily 'Run a Mile'. The benefits of this daily session (15 min) will include:

- Improved health and fitness
- Improved focus in lessons
- Improved behaviour at playtimes
- Reinforces our ethos of Teach to the Heart
 - Better sleeping at home

The track, which will be built with Sports Premium funding, will be all weather and therefore extend our playground area. It will also be used for bicycle training and during PE lessons.



BLACK TRAINERS/SHOES

Black shoes—not boots—continue to be our school uniform. Some children are wearing black trainers and these are great as long as they are **completely black**.

In fact black trainers can be better for playtimes and lunchtimes and will be more comfortable for children on their 'Run a Mile'. When children complete their daily distance, they will do so in school uniform with trainers/pumps on. If your child wears black trainers there will be no need to change their shoes.

With this in mind, we recommend black trainers/ trainer style shoes when you next need to buy your child shoes for school.

PE T-SHIRTS

The children enjoy being in teams and we are bringing this in to our PE lessons. From September, school will be selling PE t-shirts in team colours. As your children outgrow their current tops, the expectation is that they get one in house colours. These will also be used for Sports Day and other sports events.



SANDWICHES

Having adapted and tweaked our school dinner menu over the last term, we are going to be moving away from offering sandwiches as an option at school dinner. The children will have three options—meat, vegetarian or jacket potato—and these offer a more healthy and filling meal than a sandwich. From September, there will only be the three choices as well as special dishes for those with dietary requirements.

REPORTS

School Reports are an important document which tell you how well your child is doing at school, how much effort they are putting in to their learning, about their attitude towards school and how much they are enjoying school. With changes to the curriculum and the assessment we will be using the following wording related to Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

... is working **above** the expectation for their age.

... is working **at** the expectation for their age.

... is working **towards** the expectation for their age. (1 to 3 terms behind the age expectation).

... is working **below** the expectation for their age. (over a year behind the new expectation).

Children working towards and below the expectation will be those receiving additional support and target groups. Through school and home working together, we aim to help these children progress as much as possible towards achieving the new age expectations.

Every child learns at a different rate and has different strengths and struggles. Whilst some children may continually be below the age expectation, this does not mean they are doing badly at school. It is the progress they make which is more important. These children will be receiving additional support and we will continue to work together to help them make progress at their own pace.

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