



WILLOW LANE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Dates for your diaries

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

On most days, it feels like Summer is well and truly here and the children are enjoying leading healthy lifestyles as much as possible. At Willow Lane, we know how important it is to lay the foundations of healthy eating, exercise and enjoying the outdoors and we want all children to enjoy these healthy pursuits too.



At playtimes, children are scattered around the field and games of cricket and rounders are proving popular. The running track is being used for practise races in advance of Sports' Day and the wildlife area is covered in foliage, and dens, tunnels and secret routes abound. It is wonderful to see children of all ages mixing and enjoying our superb outside space.

The allotment is full of budding fruit—the strawberries are proving a particular hit—and the new greenhouse (thank you PTFA) has tomato plants and green tomatoes. Salad from the allotment is used in children's cooking, being served at lunchtimes by our Year 5 helpers and sampled by more and more children.



Thank you for your continued support,

Mr MacKinnon

Wednesday 29th June:
10:30am to 11:30am New Red Class session.

Tuesday 5th July:
3:00pm PTFA meeting.

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.

Monday 18th July: 3:30 pm Optional Parents' Evening

Tuesday 19th July: Class Swap (Meet New Teacher).

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

WILLOW LANE PASSPORT

We have been personalising and adapting the curriculum to suit your children over the last year. Part of this is creating a Willow Lane Passport which we will be launching in September. With help from parents, governors and the children, we have chosen experiences which we think all children should have whilst at primary school. There are 80 experiences linked to the curriculum and values and they include such things as 'Hatch a chick', 'Explore Lancaster Castle', 'Judge Gymnastics', 'Re-enact a battle', 'Raise money for charity' and 'Visit London'. Many of these we do already and our mission is to make sure all children complete all of the experiences in their time with us.

Grow food in the allotment.	
Paint a self-portrait.	
Visit a church.	
Hatch a chick.	
Create a Willow Lane map.	
Meet a dinosaur.	
Record my future.	
Say hello three ways.	
Build an animal.	

SERVICES CONSULTATION

As part of the cost saving exercises which Lancashire and other local authorities are having to follow, the services they provides are being changed. Follow the link below to find out what is happening to children's centres and libraries and have your say!

<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/get-involved/consultations/changes-to-where-we-provide-services.aspx>



READING AT HOME

In Key Stage 2 we have a new reading system with colour coded books. This means that all children know which books are best for them and they can see the books they want to read when they get better at reading. What colour is your child on?

All adults in school encourage children to choose exciting books and to try different authors and genres. Helping your child read regularly at home and asking them some questions about it is the best way to encourage life long readers.



Who is picking up your child?

As part of our commitment to keeping all children safe in school, can I remind you about the expectation on other people picking up your child. Not only must we ensure all children are safe but it is also unsettling if plans change and someone else appears to collect at the end of the day.

If someone other than the usual person is to pick them up, please can you telephone the office. They will then inform the teacher and we will let the child know.

ATTENDANCE

As a school, we are currently at 95.9% and with your help we will reach the new national target of 96%. Being in school as often as possible—and ideally every day of every week—means the best education for your child. Research has shown that children with poor attendance don't do as well as their peers in particular at GCSE level.

If children's attendance becomes a concern then we will be in contact and work with you—for example through an attendance agreement or the PAST team—to improve it. If attendance (including lates as well as unauthorised days off) continues to be a worry then the school will follow our policy and LCC guidance regarding penalty fines. These can also be issued for holidays taken in term time which do not meet exceptional circumstances criteria.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

Parent View <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> is the online questionnaire used by parents to let Ofsted know what they feel about the school. There is a series of 12 questions to answer and not only does this let Ofsted know what you think but is also one way of telling us what we are doing well or need to improve.

We all tend to be good at getting in touch with people when things aren't going as well as we would like but less likely to give positive feedback. If you feel we are doing a good job then please do go online and complete the questions too. With Ofsted conducting shorter inspections, the use of online questionnaires is an important tool for informing them how well you feel we are doing.



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