

The Willows News – 24.03.17



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Dear Parents/Carers

One of my highlights this week was proudly watching our dancers perform at the Victoria Hall as part of Dance 2017: they were phenomenal!! I know that our parents would agree—we simply 'stole the show' and that was due to the fantastic choreography (thanks Mrs Durkin), hard work and practice, high expectations and talent of our pupils. It was a truly memorable event.

Sadly we have got to say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Bethel as she has been very clever and secured a new position as a science teacher at Thistley Hough Academy. Mrs Bethel has contributed to many aspects of school life: not only has she superbly supported Mrs Everard and Mrs Stevens this year, she has secured funding from the PTFA so she can buy musical instruments for our children and teach them to play the ukulele and trombone. She has also built and helped maintain our school's website. Mrs Bethel you'll be dearly missed but we'd like to wish you good luck in your new job.

Mrs S Thursfield
Headteacher



Attendance

Whole school - 96.7% Good attendance!



Reception

RAF - 96.1%
RSC - 96.5%
RJT - 97.4%

KS1

1LP - 98% 2SS - 96%
1SR - 94.7% 2TC - 95%
1ES - 99% 2AJ - 98.7%

KS2

3A - 94% 4LD - 97.2%
3B - 96.3% 5HR - 100%
3C - 95% 5TH - 99.3%
4KA - 95.3% 6HP - 94%
4PB - 94.7% 6JH - 98.7%



Buddy Bus Stop

Well done to Luke Glover (4KA) whose design has been made ready for our Buddy Bus Stops on the playgrounds. Our Peer Mediators will be able to help children waiting on the benches by these signs and make their playtimes more enjoyable.

Reading Champions



KS1 - 1ES & 2TC
KS2 - 6JH & 6HP

Please encourage your child to read at least 5 times a week and ensure that diaries are signed.



Wear a hat day!



On Friday 31st the School Council would like all children to come in non-uniform and wear a hat!

All money raised will be donated to our local charity Lucas' Legacy.

We really appreciate your support with this fundraiser





Stars of the Week



Well done to the following children who have been chosen by staff this week!

Nursery: Well done to all of the children for their super Mother's Day Assembly!

Reception:

RAF: Hattie-Jay Clews

RSC: Zachary Johnson

RJT: Jessica Jones

KS1:

1LP: Harry Tilstone-Shaw

1SR: Grace Tams

1ES: Shane Harrod

2SS: Aleesa Said

2TC: Grace Hawthorne

2AJ: Evan Connolly

Behaviour Shield awarded to: Ella Dempsey (2SS)

KS2:

3A: Sam Stubbs

3B: Oliver Campbell

3C: Logan Thorpe

4KA: Finley Smith

4PB: Blake Bould

4LD: Audrey Toft

5HR: Lucas Turner

5TH: Damon Bryant

6HP: Courtney Thrasher-Spooner

6JH: Leon French

North Staffs Young Carers Association

Jayne Hodges from the Young Carers Association led a KS2 assembly this week to explain to the children about young carers and the support that is available to them.

'A Young Carer is someone under 18, who looks after or shares the responsibility for the care of someone at home with an illness or disability. This could be a parent, sibling or grandparent. We work with the family to put into place positive actions and interventions to minimise the impact of caring. The Musketeer Project offers 1:1 support or group counselling service and a selection of activities to Young Carers to provide them with a break from caring and time to socialise with others in a similar situation.'

Jayne will be available to provide advice and signpost you to support on Thursday 6th April between 2-5pm in our main entrance area during parents consultations.



Junior Chef of the year 2017



Well done to Jessica

Ackroyd (5HR) who represented the school at a 'Cook Off' for the Junior Chef of the year competition. She had to prepare a meal for 4 people with only £3.00 to spend on ingredients. Mrs Capper was very proud of how Jessica prepared for the competition and how confidently she cooked. Jessica's sweet potato oatcake recipe is attached to this newsletter for you to try!

Diary dates

- Tuesday 28th March - 1LP class assembly at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 29th March - 1SR class assembly at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 29th March - Victoria Hall Recorder Festival at 12.30pm
- Thursday 30th March - 1ES class assembly at 2.30pm
- Thursday 30th March - KS2 Choir Concert at the Victoria Hall at 6.45pm
- Friday 31st March - Wear a hat day!
- Monday 3rd April - Y4 visit to Chester Zoo
- Wednesday 5th April - 9.30am Nursery Easter bonnet parade
- Thursday 6th April - Parent consultation meetings 1-8pm (except Y2 classes, 4KA & Y6 classes)
- Monday 24th April - School opens for children
- Monday 1st May - BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
- Tuesday 2nd May - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHILDREN
- Wednesday 3rd May - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHILDREN
- Monday 8th May - Y6 SATs week
- Monday 8th May - RAF Dance Day with performance at 2.30pm
- Tuesday 9th May - RJT Dance Day with performance at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 10th May - RSC Dance Day with performance at 2.30pm
- Monday 15th May - Holland meeting in 6JH at 5pm

Good Luck Message



Good luck to Maddie Warrilow (6JH) who is taking part in The British Schools' Modern Biathlon Championships at Crystal Palace this weekend! It comprises a separate run and swim and is the culmination of a series of preliminary competitions organised throughout the country from 1st October to the 1st December.

Maddie will be representing The Willows and wearing The Willows running kit.

Smoky Sweet Potato and Bean Cakes on Oatcakes with Citrus Salad.

200g sweet potato
1 tin of Red Kidney Beans
3 spring onions
1 bunch of coriander
Chipotle paste
Black pepper
1 egg
Plain flour – about 1 tablespoon
Mayonnaise
1 lime
1 carrot
Salad leaves
Oil for frying
Oatcakes to serve

MAKE THE MIXTURE

Peel the sweet potato

Cut it into chunks and put into a bowl.

Cover it with clingfilm. Pierce the film 3 times.

Put it in the microwave for 8 minutes.

While it is cooking, take the lid off the beans.

Tip the beans into a sieve and rinse them under cold water.

Shake them dry and tip them into a large bowl.

Mash them a bit.

Peel a layer off the spring onions.

Use scissors to snip them into small pieces straight into the beans.

Use the scissors to snip in the coriander. (SAVE A BIT FOR THE END)

Measure in 2 teaspoons of chipotle paste.

Grind in some black pepper.

Break the egg into a bowl and whisk it with a fork.

Add it to the mixture.

Get the sweet potato out of the microwave – use oven gloves as the bowl will be very hot.

Tip the potato into the bowl and get mashing.

You will probably also need to use a spoon to stir it.

AT THIS POINT ADD SOME FLOUR – you might need 2 tablespoons to make it sticky enough, but you can always add a bit more.

That's the mixture made. Put it to one side while you make the salad dressing and the salad.

MAKE THE SALAD DRESSING AND SALAD

Put 2 tablespoons (2 large squirts or dollops) of mayonnaise into a bowl.

Grate the zest of the lime into the bowl.

Cut the lime in half.

Squeeze out the juice and tip it into the bowl.

Grind on some pepper.

Mix it all round really well.

Add in the lettuce leaves.

Peel off long strips of carrot.

Toss it all around in the dressing.

FRY THE CAKES

Put the frying pan onto the heat. You will need a medium ish heat. If the scale goes up to 9, I would choose 5.

Pour in half a tablespoon of oil.

Let it get hot for a minute and get ready to fry the cakes.

You will need 4 cakes so divide the mixture roughly with a spoon.

Put a large spoonful of the mixture into the pan. You should be able to fit in 2 or 3 at once.

Flatten them slightly but leave them alone for 3 or 4 minutes.

Flip them with the fish slice and leave them to finish cooking for 3 minutes.

Put a piece of kitchen towel onto a plate, take the cakes out of the pan and put them on the plate.

Cover the plate with foil to keep them warm.

Repeat until you have made 4 cakes.

ASSEMBLE AND SERVE

In the frying pan, heat one oatcake at a time for 1 minute.

Lay out 4 plates.

Put an oatcake on the plate.

Put on salad.

