



Friday 20th December 2024

Dear Families,

We have had another successful term at WPS. I would like to end 2024 by sharing a huge heartfelt thank you on behalf of all our staff and children for your continuing support, kind words and care. Working in partnership with parents is the foundation of success for our children and we really do appreciate all that you do to support the school. We have had multiple successful fundraising events this year; we now have a school wildlife area with a pond; lunchtimes are joyous (if a little muddy at the moment!); the children are making good progress in their learning and learning behaviours are improving. The whole school trip to the pantomime was a great success and the children (and adults!) thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. Thank you also to the Friends of Willington for supporting with the cost of the coaches. Thank you for supporting the children at the Christmas Carol event; it's always great to bring the whole school community together. Thank you also for the kind donations to 'Hannah's Hope'... a total of £347 was raised for the charity - which is incredible. I know that Hannah's family are very grateful for your generosity and the warm welcome that they received.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Term: Lucas, Paisely, Grace, Florence and Fraser.

Congratulations to the Stars of the Week and our High Five Champions this week: Lucas, Ollie, Neave, Kai, Florence, Olivia, Grayson, Olivia, Lenny, Seth, Henry and Louie.

Attendance figures for this half term: 95.7% - Well done

Thank you for your continued support in encouraging full attendance this term.

Start of the day arrangements – parent voice outcome

Thank you to those of you who have shared your preference with regards to the start of the day arrangements. The huge majority of parents would prefer the children to come straight into school once through the school gates. The staff and I believe that this will be beneficial to the children; being ready to start learning on time. The arrangements from Monday 6th January 2025 will be as follows:

- Gates open at **8.45am**
- Gates close at **8.55am** – If children arrive after 8.55am they need to go to the main office and will be recorded as 'late' on the register.
- Children walk straight into classrooms from the playground – staff will be available to supervise.
- There will also be school staff on the playground to support the children coming in to school.

Willington Primary School
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Governor News

This week, we said 'Farewell' to Mrs Rachel Titley, who served as a governor and the Chair of Governors for many years at Willington Primary School. After joining the governing board over 15 years ago when her children attended the school, she has made the decision to relinquish the role. The staff and I would like to thank Rachel for her support over the years and the commitment that she has given to the school and the children during her time as a school governor. She will be missed on the governing board, but we wish her all the best for the next chapter.

Safeguarding

We all wish all of our families the most wonderful time over the festive period. At times, the Christmas period can bring various pressures to family life and it's important to look out for one another during what can be a difficult time for some. I know how special the Willington community is and how much you look after one another. Should you have any immediate concerns about the welfare of a child during the winter break, please call Starting Point on 01629 533190. If you would like to contact school over the festive period, regarding the safeguarding of a child, please do so via the safeguarding@willington.derbyshire.sch.uk email, which will be monitored periodically over the holiday. The Designated Safeguarding Leads in school are Mrs Spencer Lovesey, Mrs Brown and Miss Pritchard. The Governor responsible for safeguarding is Mrs Carol Large.

Diary Dates

Please see the table attached to keep you up to date with Spring/Summer Term diary dates. We still have some dates to be confirmed e.g transition days, additional school trips, Y6 performances etc. but hopefully this will be helpful for you to update your new calendars over the break!

Wishing you all a wonderful festive season making memories and I look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 6th January.

Kind regards

Mrs Spencer Lovesey

Spring/Summer Term Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 6 th January	Children return to school Learning Logs due in
Tuesday 21 st January	Year 3 Parents invited for lunch
Monday 3 rd February	Children's Mental Health Week 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 4 Parents invited for lunch
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day Theme: 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'
Friday 14 th February	Last Day of half term
Monday 24 th February	INSET DAY
Tuesday 25 th February	Children return to school Learning Logs due in
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Monday 10 th March	Assessment week
Friday 14 th March	OPAL – Big Build Day with Parents -p.m Are you free to help us build more for our pupils?! More info to follow!
Friday 28 th March	Rock Steady Concert
Tuesday 1 st April	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 2 nd April	Parent Consultations
Friday 4 th April	Last day of term- Easter Break
Tuesday 22 nd April	Back to school Learning Logs due in
Wednesday 23 rd April	Year 5 Parents invited for lunch
Thursday 1 st May	Y4 Camping Experience
Friday 2 nd May	Y4 Camping Experience
Wednesday 7 th May	OPAL Play Date – lunchtime experience for all parents!
Monday 12 th May	KS2 Statutory Assessments
Thursday 22 nd	Last day of term
Friday 23 rd May	INSET Day
Monday 2 nd June	Back to school Learning Logs due in
Tuesday 3 rd June	Year 6 Parents invited for lunch
Monday 16 th June	Y6 Bikeability
Tuesday 15 th July	Reception Parents invited for lunch
Wednesday 23 rd July	Last day of term
Thursday 24 th July	INSET Day

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