



**Associate Head of Academy's Message**

**Whole School Attendance: 96%**

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week, our pupils have continued their learning journeys, EYFS have been learning about capacity using the water tray, Year 1 have been investigating their senses and how they can help identify objects. Year 2 have been learning to use adjectives and similes to describe characters, Year 3 had a fun filled afternoon investigating how to make shadows. Year 4 enjoyed learning to cut vegetables to make coleslaw, Year 5 have continued to develop their understanding of space and Year 6 have been developing their knowledge of World War 2. Alongside this, this week has been all about community at Willow Green Academy as we held two events to support our local area.

To kick off the week, our Year 6 pupils began helping to improve the parking situation outside our school. Many parents have expressed concerns about cars parking on the yellow lines around the school, making it difficult and unsafe to cross the road. To address this, our Year 6 pupils teamed up with our local PCSO and handed out leaflets to raise awareness. A big thank you to everyone who greeted them with a smile and accepted a leaflet! The pupils were delighted to hear that a parent noticed an improvement in the parking situation the very next morning. We'll be back out again this week to continue spreading this important message.

On Thursday, we invited our neighbours into school to enjoy Year 5's delicious baking and to hear our Young Voices choir. The children thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the community that live around our school and are eagerly planning the next event for our neighbours. Bingo anyone?

As we look forward to the rest of the half term, we are thrilled to announce that National Storytelling Week is just around the corner, taking place during the week commencing Monday 3 February. This is a special opportunity to celebrate the magic of stories and inspire our students to develop a lifelong love of reading. With the increasing use of technology in the world, it is more important than ever that we share our love of books with the children. Therefore, we would love for you to join us as guest readers! Whether you have a favourite story to share or would like to borrow one from our library, your involvement will help make this event truly memorable for our pupils. Available dates and times for each class will be posted on Class Dojo so please keep an eye out and get in touch to let us know if you'd like to take part.

Have a lovely week!

Miss Walker

**This Week's Number of Children with 100% is 174**

YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
183 DAYS 96%	183 DAYS 96%	183 DAYS 96%	179 DAYS 94%	175 DAYS 92%	183 DAYS 96%
Off to a flying start	Off to a flying start	Off to a flying start	Less chance of success	Harder to make progress	Off to a flying start
98%	96%	97%	94%	91%	98%

**Dates for your Diary**

**National Storytelling Week**  
1st - 9th February 2025

**NSPCC Number Day**  
Numbers Non-Uniform  
7th February 2025







## EYFS

**Weekly Attendance: 87%**

It has been a busy third week of term within EY. We have been busy in T4W innovating and applying their phonic knowledge to write some key vocabulary used in speech bubbles. We tried some new vegetables, cucumbers and avocados as part of our on going REC and even practiced using tools to prepare them. FS2 children were busy trying to save the gingerbread man and build him a sturdy raft whilst FS1 went on an electricity hunt. We talked about saving energy as part of the "Big Energy saving week" and have prepped the children for the big bird watch this weekend.

## Year 1

**Weekly Attendance: 98%**

In our writing lesson Year 1 have explored different writing skills and we are now starting to plan our own story using these skills. In maths we have finished our fractions topic all about halves and quarters. We are moving onto our multiplication and division topic starting with making equal groups. In science, we have explored our senses this week. We experimented with lots of different things and identified which sense we used. Why not ask your child what the 5 senses are? In history, we became palaeontologists. We looked at 2 fossils and predicted what the rest of the dinosaur might look like. We looked at the features of the velociraptor and what we thought they might look like.



## Year 2

**Weekly Attendance: 96%**

Another strong week for Year 2 this week! In writing, we have used lots of our descriptive writing skills such as similes and adjectives to describe different fantasy characters like The Tin Man and different fantasy settings. In maths, Year 2 have worked so hard to find and recognise halves, quarters and thirds. Not an easy thing to do! Finally, in history, we have looked at the building of Pontefract castle. We managed to work out that if we had family living in Pontefract when the castle was built, they would be our 23 x great grandparents!!!



## Year 3

**Weekly Attendance: 97%**

In reading, we have studied some non-fiction texts about elephants and pirates which feature in The Firework-Maker's Daughter. We've begun our innovated quest story in T4W and in maths, we've started learning about unit and non-unit fractions. It's been a fun week in other subjects too; making shadow puppets in science and learning about the jobs that Victorian children did in the mines. In computing, we have used Scratch to program sprites, making them move, draw and follow a cursor. If your child has their school Ipad this weekend, I'm sure they'll show you. Please ensure it comes back to school on Monday though!







## Year 4 Weekly Attendance: 94%

The highlight of our week has to be Classroom Kitchen! We made healthy coleslaw using our chopping and grating skills to add different vegetables to the mix. In maths, we completed our multiplication and division unit by having a go at some trickier word problems. In PE, we played some team games with Elite working around the theme of good sportsmanship.

## Year 5 Weekly Attendance: 91%

Its been a busy week in Year 5! We have completed several science experiments looking at what the Moon is like and how it travels around Earth. Out of all the experiments we did Year 5 definitely enjoyed replicating the moons surface using sand and rocks the most! In maths, we have continued to develop our understanding on fractions both improper and mixed, with great success. In writing, we have been playing lots of fun sentence games to help us remember punctuation rules, which has absolutely helped us remember how relative clauses work! The highlight of our week was our Classroom Kitchen where we made fairy cakes and hosted an afternoon tea for local residents which has helped us achieve a new Delta Star card!



## Year 6 Weekly Attendance: 98%

This week in maths, we consolidated our understanding of statistics by exploring various types of graphs and interpreting the data they display. In writing, we continued working on descriptive pieces, focusing on using emotive language to engage and entertain the reader. In science, we investigated electrical circuits, discussing the role of different components and identifying which is the most essential when constructing a functional circuit. Year 6 have also taken part in helping the community. They have looked at parking in front of school and handed leaflets out to promote safer parking.

Willow Green Academy considers the welfare of all our pupils to be of great importance and we hope that parents are confident about their children's health and safety whilst in our academy. We will always try to share any concerns we have with parents.

However, there are times when we are legally obliged to share our concerns with other agencies, without first speaking to parents, or without the consent of parents. The safety and protection of our pupils is our most important concern and we wish to reassure you that any sharing of information is done with the children's best interest at heart. If you have any concerns about the welfare or safety of any child in our school, the Designated Child Protection Officer is Miss L Walker. In her absence, you should contact Mrs Atkinson or Miss Rhodes. They can be contacted through the main office. The academy has a duty to inform parents that there is a prohibition on reporting or publishing details (including on social media) that could identify anyone who is subject to an allegation.

The Government have launched a new website aimed at parents, teachers and school leaders to give practical advice on protecting young people from extremism and radicalisation. This was launched by the Education Secretary and contains information which address many questions / issues faced by parents and children.