



The Winning House  
this week with 200  
house points was  
**Cornwall.**

**Running total for the term:**

<u>Devon</u>	<u>Dorset</u>	<u>Somerset</u>	<u>Cornwall</u>
402	357	376	424

Keep up the great work everyone!

**Willand Sports News ...**

**Netball**

On Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> September the Hi Five netball team went to Uffculme School. Our first match against Uffculme Lightning and we won 2-0.

Our second match against Kentisbeare Stars, sadly we lost 0-3. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> match was against Uffculme Dragons and we won 1-0. Our 4<sup>th</sup> match was against Kentisbeare Pulse and we drew 0-0.

The team got better and better each game. Mrs Bosworth was very proud!

**Our MVP of the day was Henry** for his consistent effort in all positions that he played.

**Basketball**

On Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> September, Year 6 played in a basketball tournament.

Our first game was against Kentisbeare, where we won 2-1.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> game, we won 2-1 against Plymtree. In our third game we won 2-1 against Upplowman.

Game 4, Poppy scored 4 amazing baskets and Amalie scored 2 amazing baskets. In our 5<sup>th</sup> game we won 4-0 against Plymtree Panthers.

In our 6<sup>th</sup> game we won 8-0 to us against Kentisbeare Hurricanes. What a team only losing 1 game. We went from strength to strength. Mr Silk was very proud of us.

**Our MVP was Poppy** – Well done!

**Attendance**

As part of Devon County Council's drive to improve school attendance, we will be sharing our attendance statistics with you for the week ending Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	97.19	3	98.40
1	98.65	4	97.90
2	92.41	5	94.52
		6	93.12

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

**Polite reminder ...**

We would like to remind parents that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds. Many thanks for your support.



The Poetry Day 2025, with the theme 'Play', will take place on Thursday, October 2, 2025. Organised by the [Forward Arts Foundation](https://forwardartsfoundation.org/), the event encourages everyone to explore, create, and share poetry through fun, imaginative

activities in schools, libraries, and communities to foster a greater appreciation for the art form. We will be celebrating the day in school, but you are encouraged to take part at home too. There are lots of poems to read aloud at <https://forwardartsfoundation.org/national-poetry-day/poems-and-resources/> and on the BBC website <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/articles/zr6yd6f>

*Thank you for your  
continued support  
Naomi Tottle  
Headteacher*

## Online Safety – 'Wake Up Wednesday'



Attached are the latest top tips from the National College.  
This week's theme is ...

### 'Group Chats'

*Group Chats* chats are an increasingly common way for children to stay connected with their friends, often forming the backbone of their social lives online. While these digital spaces can be fun and inclusive, they can also become sources of stress, confusion or even harm. From being deliberately left out of a chat to witnessing or being targeted by unkind comments, the emotional effects of group dynamics online can mirror – and sometimes magnify – those experienced in the real world.

*This week's WakeUpWednesday guide focuses on the potential pitfalls children might encounter in group chats, such as peer pressure, inappropriate content and privacy concerns. With practical suggestions for setting healthy boundaries, managing notifications and encouraging safe sharing habits, this free guide is a useful tool for parents and educators who want to empower children to navigate online chats with kindness, confidence and caution.*

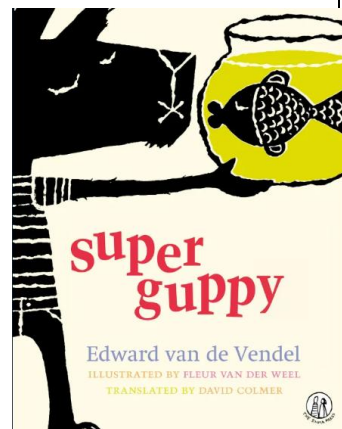
As always, if you have any questions relating to online safety, please contact Mrs Maynard (Online safety Lead)

## Puddle by Edward van de Vendel

Whassat?  
Whose two mucky feet  
Are planted in a puddle?

Whassat?  
Who's started jumping up  
So that the mud'll splatter  
On his socks and shorts  
and shirt  
As if a bit of dirt  
Just doesn't matter.

Whatssat?  
Says my father,  
Looking at my clothes.  
Whatssat? Says my father,  
Holding his nose.  
Dad, I say,  
It wasn't me,  
It was the puddle.  
It loved me so much,  
It gave me a cuddle.



## SEND Information

### Meet the Mental Health Support Team for Parents

Date: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September

Time: 15:30-16:00

Location: School

Come and meet the Mental Health  
Support Team and find out how we can  
support you and your children in school.

Please direct any  
questions to:  
Hannah Telling  
(Designated Mental  
Health Lead)

Contact us: Telephone: 01884 820367 / 829463 Website: [www.willand.devon.sch.uk](http://www.willand.devon.sch.uk) Email: [office@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:office@willand.devon.sch.uk)  
[governors@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:governors@willand.devon.sch.uk) [lunches@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:lunches@willand.devon.sch.uk) [absence@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:absence@willand.devon.sch.uk)  
Online Payments: <https://login.schoolgateway.com> PTFA: [willandschoolptfa@gmail.com](mailto:willandschoolptfa@gmail.com)

## PTFA

### Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> October

@ 6:30pm

Willand School Hall

Everyone Welcome!

# Diary

to remember...

## Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Westcountry beef burger in a plain bap	Chicken Fajitas	Roast beef	Chicken curry Naan bread and rice	Harry Ramsden's Fish
Vegetarian burger in a plain bap	Quorn Fajitas	Quorn sausage	Macaroni cheese	Homemade Cheese Wheel
Potato wedges/ pasta Baked beans/ peas Salad Bar	Rice/pasta Mixed vegetables Salad Bar	Roast/mashed Potatoes Yorkshire pudding Fresh Carrots Gravy Salad Bar	Green Beans Salad Bar Crisps	Chips / Pasta Seasonal vegetables Tomato Sauce Salad Bar
Ice cream and peaches Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Syrup sponge and custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	American Pancake and cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Strawberry jelly and fruit cocktail Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Iced Sponge Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Cullompton CC Open Evening for Yr5/6 parents – 4pm-7pm
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Uffculme School Open Eve for Yr5/6 parents – 6pm-8pm
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Consultations
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 6 Dawlish Warren Visit
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Schoolastic Book Fayre
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Family & Individual Photos
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Consultations
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harvest Festival
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Non-Pupil Day
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term

## Kids Holiday Heroes

### Wrap around care at Willand School

We are open from 8-9am and from 3.30-6pm each school day. Ther service will be available for all children from Year 2 to Year 6.

The cost of wrap around care will be £5.80 per hour.

During our breakfast club from 8am to 9am we provide your child with a healthy breakfast. A healthy snack and drink will be available during the after-school club.

For Bookings or any further questions, please email [bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk](mailto:bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk)

Contact us: Telephone: 01884 820367 / 829463 Website: [www.willand.devon.sch.uk](http://www.willand.devon.sch.uk) Email: [office@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:office@willand.devon.sch.uk)  
[governors@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:governors@willand.devon.sch.uk) [lunches@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:lunches@willand.devon.sch.uk) [absence@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:absence@willand.devon.sch.uk)  
Online Payments: <https://login.schoolgateway.com> PTFA: [willandschoolptfa@gmail.com](mailto:willandschoolptfa@gmail.com)

Safeguarding - From time to time the school may need to make referrals to Children and Young People's Services



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are one of the most popular ways that children connect. Group chats allow messages, images and videos to be shared in one place and help friendships flourish; however, they also come with a number of risks.

### TEASING AND BULLYING

Children of all ages are keen to fit in socially, and group chats can sometimes complicate that process. While group chats can foster connection, they can also give way to mean comments or jokes at someone's expense, especially when others join in for laughs. When bullying happens publicly, in front of friends and classmates, it can intensify the emotional impact – adding to embarrassment, anxiety and feelings of isolation for the child being targeted.

### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Children often can't control who is added to a group, which can lead to privacy concerns. Sharing personal details in group chats can be dangerous, and children have no control over what others do with the material they send. Some members of the chat might even decide to use such information maliciously.

### PEER PRESSURE

Children may feel they have to constantly stay engaged just to be included and keep up with the conversation. In some cases, they might partake in inappropriate behaviours – like sharing explicit photos, jokes or teasing – just to fit in. Group settings can also encourage children to act in ways they normally wouldn't, or stay silent when they know something is wrong, out of fear of being excluded. Some children may find it difficult to leave toxic group chats.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some group chats may include inappropriate language or imagery. Even if a child isn't actively participating in the conversation, they may still be exposed to this content simply by being part of the group. Some apps have disappearing messaging features, where content is only available once or for a few seconds, which makes it harder for children to report something they've seen.

### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

Exclusion in group chats is common and can take several forms. Sometimes a new group is created specifically to leave one child out on purpose. In other cases, the chat may happen on an app that a child doesn't have access to, making it impossible for them to join in. This can cause feelings of being left out – even unintentionally.

### VIDEO AND LIVE CHATS

Many popular apps allow children to engage in live streaming with interactive chats or have group video chats. Anyone can be added to these streams, and often children tag peers in the comments and have conversations which are unmoderated. There's a risk of being exposed to inappropriate or violent content and offensive language, either in the group videos or via the group chats.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for children to compete for social status. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave unkindly. If a child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### SET SOME GROUP CHAT RULES

Discuss safe group chat practices, such as asking a peer for consent before adding them to a group chat, or leaving a group chat if a stranger is added. Tell children that if they're added to a group they didn't agree to beforehand, it's OK for them to leave immediately.

### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child encounters inappropriate content or feels uncomfortable in a group chat, encourage them to block and report the sender and leave the group. Make sure children know it's OK to leave a group chat if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

### SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being bullied.

### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

It's vital for children to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure they understand the importance of not revealing personal details – like their address, their school, or photos they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up or how it might be used.

### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Being bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of a group chat while disabling notifications. In fact, it would be healthier for them to do so, helping them avoid the pressure to respond immediately.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government, comparing the internet use and online behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday®

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