



Congratulations to

this weeks winner – Somerset with 254 points

Running total for the term:

Devon	Dorset	Somerset	Cornwall
968	1003	1020	988

Keep up the great work everyone!

Thank you to everyone who attended the parent consultations over the last week, it was wonderful to see so many parents here. We hope you had the opportunity to see some of the brilliant work the children have produced.

Harvest

We are celebrating Harvest at school on Thursday, 23rd October and we would welcome Harvest gifts from the children. Once again, we will be supporting Willand Pantry with our Harvest offerings as we are aware that many families are struggling within our own community. We would be particularly grateful for tinned vegetables, pasta sauce and jam. Children can bring their gifts into school on Wednesday and Thursday of next week.



Year 6 Secondary School Applications

With the deadline creeping up (**Friday 31st October 2025**), please could we remind parents of Year 6 pupils that applications for secondary school transfer in September 2026 should be made using the following link: [Apply online through the Citizen Portal](#). Late applications will be considered but may be at a disadvantage.

If you cannot apply online, please contact the Admissions helpline on 0345 155 1019 and ask for a paper copy of the form to be sent to you, although the team will need to have received the completed form by the above closing date.

Choir Club

Reminder that after-school choir club starts tomorrow, Thursday 16th October. Children who are attending this club should be collected from the school drive gate at 4:15pm.

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, 10th October 2025

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	91.55	3	88.40
1	95.77	4	94.52
2	92.07	5	96.61
		6	93.39

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

School Term Reminders

Friday, 24th October school will be closed to children for staff training and, also the following week for Half Term break. School will re-open on Monday, 3rd November.

School Tours for Reception Intake 2026

We are offering parents of children due to start school in September 2026, the opportunity to join us after the half term break for a tour of the school. Dates and times available:

- Wednesday 5th November @ 9:30am
- Monday 10th November @ 9:30am & 1:30pm
- Tuesday 18th November @ 9:30am & 1:30pm
- Friday 21st November @ 9:30am & 1:30pm

If you are interested in viewing the school, please email office@willand.devon.sch.uk or telephone 01884 820367 to book a tour date; we look forward to seeing you!

*Thank you for your
continued support
Naomi Tottle
Headteacher*

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

Online Safety – 'Wake Up Wednesday'



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

'MEMES'

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79% YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

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



'10 a day' choices towards balancing our mental health

- 1  Talk about your feelings
- 2  Do something you enjoy and are good at
- 3  Keep yourself hydrated
- 4  Eat well
- 5  Keep active in mind and body
- 6  Take a break
- 7  Stay connected to those you care about
- 8  Ask for help
- 9  Be proud of your very being
- 10  Actively care for others

SEND Information



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

**Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing
Monday, 20th October**

Monday, 20 October				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Westcountry beef burger in a plain bap	Chicken Fajitas	Roast beef	Chicken curry Naan bread and rice	Non-Pupil Day
<i>Vegetarian burger in a plain bap</i>	<i>Quorn Fajitas</i>	<i>Quorn sausage</i>	<i>Macaroni cheese</i>	
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	
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	
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Kids Holiday Heroes

Wrap around care at Willand School

We are open from 8-9am and from 3.30-5.30pm Mon-Thursday and 3.30-5pm Friday. The 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

D *Diary* **E S** *to remember...*

Friday 17 th October	Yr 6 Dawlish visit
Thursday 23 rd October	Harvest Festival
Friday 24 th October	Non-Pupil Day
Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st October	Half Term
Wednesday 5 th November	Parent Tour for Reception '26 @ 9:30am
Friday 7 th November	Class 5C Assembly

For full calendar of events, please click below –

<https://willand.devon.sch.uk/Calendarofevents.pdf>

FRIENDS OF WILLAND PRESCHOOL

HALLOWEEN DISCO PARTY

SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2025
2PM - 4PM
WILLAND VILLAGE HALL
GABLES ROAD, WILLAND, EX15 2PL

AIMED AT KEY STAGE 1 AND UNDER
CHILDREN'S TICKETS INCLUDE

DISCO • HALLOWEEN TRAIL • CRAFTS
PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES • WELCOME GIFT

NAME THE TEDDY, RAFFLE, SPOOKY
BAKE SALE AND REFRESHMENTS
ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE DAY

DON YOUR BEST FANCY DRESS COSTUMES!

CHILD - £5 ADULT - £2 UNDER 1 - FREE

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE, LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE
PLEASE VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO BOOK

FOWP
Friends of Willand Preschool

Fundraising event in aid of Willand Preschool and Gables Nursery.
All proceeds will go towards new play equipment.

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EVENTS

Please see the noticeboard outside the school office for the following events



Libraries Unlimited

MEET CLAIRE BARKER –
Author of the Knitbone Pepper books
Sat 22nd November 25

10–11am & 11.30am–12.15pm
Workshop tickets..£2.50




HOLIDAY CLUBS

PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

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Book today
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Premier Education

Excellent
★★★★★
Trustpilot



JOIN US! Whether you're completely new or looking for a fun, non-contact option, we play a mix of tag and touch rugby to suit all experience levels in a friendly and welcoming environment.

ALL WELCOME

- 12 Years & over
- No experience needed
- Female only
- Non contact

DETAILS

- Monday night
- 7pm - 8pm
- Cullompton RFC, Knowle Lane, EX15 1PZ

Message our Facebook with any queries  [Facebook.com/CullomptonLadiesRFC](https://www.facebook.com/CullomptonLadiesRFC)

Please note that we are unable to check on the validity of the companies or the people running the schemes, and if those working with children have the correct police checks.

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College®