



The

Willand



Learning for Life

22nd October 2025 Issue 08



**Congratulations to
this weeks winner -**

Dorset with 169 points

Running total for the term:

Devon	Dorset	Somerset	Cornwall
1132	1172	1178	1092

Keep up the great work everyone!

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

Friday 31st October 2025 is the deadline, for Year 6 secondary school transfer in September 2026 applications. If you have not already submitted, it's really important you complete an application using the following link: [Apply online through the Citizen Portal](#). Late applicants will be considered but may be at a disadvantage.

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



Harvest

Tomorrow we are celebrating Harvest at school and would like to thank those of you who

have sent in Harvest gifts of tinned vegetables, pasta sauces and jam. For those of you who would like to donate and have not yet done so, children are able to bring in gifts tomorrow morning. Our Harvest offerings will be donated to the Willand Pantry as we are aware that many families are struggling within our own community.

School Photographs

Have you ordered your child's portrait school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Sunday 26th October 2025**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Yr 6 Dartmoor Residential Parent Information Evening

Just a reminder that there is Yr 6 parent information meeting in the school hall at 5pm today. All Year 6 parents welcome!

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, 17th October 2025.

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	85.81	3	96.40
1	94.23	4	94.52
2	90.34	5	92.90
		6	94.06

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

Willand Cross Country Teams

Wow, what an afternoon of amazing racing! Mrs Wright took 32 children to Killerton to take part in the first round of the CVSA Cross Country event, and they truly did Willand proud. It was wet, it was muddy, and it was chilly but that did not deter them, and they all performed brilliantly in their races. A special well done to Toby and Grace who both took 1st place their race, Tilly and Sonny who both came in 2nd and Elliot and Elsie who both came 3rd. We now look forward to the second round in spring...hopefully with some sunnier weather.

School Tours for Reception Intake 2026

Our first school tour for parents of children due to start school in September 2026 is on

Wednesday 5th November @ 9:30am.

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!

Scholastic Book Fair

Many thanks to all who supported the Scholastic Book Fair -Families purchased nearly £500 worth of books. Due to this brilliant uptake, Scholastic have donated £200 worth of books



*Thank you for your
continued support
Naomi Tottle
Headteacher*

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

Online Safety –

'Wake Up Wednesday'

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



'Horror Films and Age Ratings'

Ofcom's latest Media Use and Attitudes Report states that most children can watch streamed films on a mobile device both in and out of the home, with 80% of UK children watching films on phones, tablets or laptops

That's a lot of youngsters who might be using their own gadgets to watch something suitably spooky this Halloween season ☹️ or perhaps, something a little too frightening.

With older children in particular, it can be difficult knowing how to manage their increasing interest in more mature content – including horror films, in many cases – let alone knowing how best to safeguard them from inappropriate material. Our free guide offers expert advice not only on the risks of exposure to horror films and other potentially upsetting content, but also on preventing young viewers from seeing this material or protecting them from being too deeply affected by it if they do.

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

PE Timetable for this Term

Please see below the PE Days from November. These are the days that children should come to school in their PE kit.

The first swimming session for Y4H will be on Friday 7th November

Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception		X			X
Y1G	X		X		
Y1HP	X			X	
Y2			X	X	
Y3P	X				X
Y3WL	X			X	
Y4MC	X	X			
Y4H		X			X (swimming)
Y5				X	X
Y6			X		X

National Child Measurement Programme

Later today, parents of children in Reception and Year 6 will receive an email regarding the above programme.

If you do not want your child to take part, please complete the opt out form by Friday 19th December.

SEND Information

Do you have a child or young person with special educational needs or a disability (SEND)?

DiAS
Devon Information
Advice and Support
for Special Educational Needs and Disability

DiAS is a service for children and young people aged up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities, and their parents or carers. We give information, advice and support around SEND at every stage of a child's education, including into further education and adulthood.

We can help with:

- understanding SEN support and developing good relationships with professionals
- preparing for meetings
- talking about your options

- knowing how to do practical tasks, such as collecting and sharing your child's views
- understanding legal processes, such as Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan processes
- finding or using other services and support and much more...



01392 38 30 80
www.devonias.org.uk
f
DevonInformationAdviceSupport



Impartial | Confidential | Free



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

From Monday 3rd November, Poppies will be available to purchase in class for a small donation.

There is also a selection of appeal goods - wristbands, reflector key rings and metal badges available from the school office.

Children in Need

- Friday 14th November

At their recent meeting, the School Council have planned to fundraise for this year's 'Children in Need'. Children will be asked to wear their favourite colour or something with a splash of it as this will be a non-school uniform day - if you would like to donate, it will be most welcome on the day.

This a date for your diary as there are more plans to follow!



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PTFA NEWS....

MEET YOUR NEW PTFA TEAM

We're excited to introduce the new PTFA team for this school year.

Chair - Kate Roach
Vice Chair - Andy Taylor
Secretary - Sarah Stone
Treasurer - Mitch Pemberton
Communications Officer - Charlie Pemberton

The PTFA plays a vital role in strengthening the school community, organising events, raising funds, and supporting the school in providing the best possible experience for your children. We're already planning activities and events, and are looking forward to sharing them with you as soon as possible.

Our aim is to make the PTFA a friendly and inclusive group and we'd love your support - whether that's volunteering your time or simply coming along and joining in! You can email us at: willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

MEET OUR TEAM



KATE ROACH - CHAIR



ANDY TAYLOR - VICE CHAIR



SARAH STONE - SECRETARY



MITCH PEMBERTON - TREASURER



CHARLIE PEMBERTON - COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

Please can we remind you that the deadline for ordering Year 6 Leavers Hoodies is **Tuesday 28th October**. Please complete the PTFA order form by using the following link

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCfxBgigkSqS4pmTfRLfF-2CN5NVVZibocfjYAbC5DtoMZrw/viewform?usp=header> and make the £11 bank transfer using your child's name as a reference.

Many thanks

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 3rd November

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pepperoni pizza	Italian Bolognaise	Roast Turkey with sage and onion stuffing	Sausage Rolls	Fish Fingers
Cheese pizza	Quorn chicken noodles	Cheese & onion pasty	Cauliflower Cheese	Vegetarian Fingers
Potato Wedges/ Pasta Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Spaghetti Garlic bread Green beans Crisps Salad Bar	Roast/Mashed Potatoes Fresh Carrots Gravy Salad Bar	Pasta/mash Baked Beans/ Peas Salad Bar	Chips / Pasta Seasonal vegetables Tomato sauce Salad Bar
Meringue nests, peaches and cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Chocolate cake and chocolate sauce Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Cheese and crackers or Smoothie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Fruit Cocktail and Ice-cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Homemade Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Class Assembly

5C class are holding their class assembly on **Friday, 7th November** at 9.10 am. All parents of these children are welcome to come and watch. Entrance to the hall will be via the Foundation Stage doors.

DATES to remember...

Wednesday 22 nd October	Yr 6 Parent Dartmoor Residential Information Evening
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>

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Kids Holiday Heroes

Wrap around care at Willand School

We are open from 8-9am and from 3.30-5.30pm Mon-Thurs 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



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

DO! 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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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

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