

Message from Miss Hawkins ...

I feel a little emotional as I complete this final entry for the Willand Word. The last few weeks have flown by so quickly. I have now seen my last school play, listened to the children rehearse their songs for Christmas and today delivered the last Christmas lunch.

Over the years so much has changed: the curriculum, the building, the staff and the village but the children have been a constant; always a friendly, exuberant, talented bunch. It was joyous to sing and dance with them during their outdoor party yesterday afternoon.

There are so many people to thank for their continuous support during my time as headteacher:

The Mealtime assistants who look after the children at lunchtimes and encourage them to eat their lunch and play well together;

The talented team in the kitchen Kat Kramarz, Sarah Clode and Tina Coles for working so hard to produce nutritional meals for us all - especially the chicken curry!

The lovely ladies in the office Caroline Powell, Wendy Goff, Christine Parr and Jane Howard for all their administrative help and endless cups of tea to keep me going;

The valiant and dedicated team of teachers and teaching assistants both past and present who have worked so hard and delivered so much for your children;

The Governors for their continual support since being appointed Deputy Head and Headteacher;

The senior management team of Sarah Nisbet, Caroline Godfrey and Kelly Wright for their unstinting drive and focus;

But most particularly my heartfelt thanks to Leah Shapcott, Hannah Telling, Lynette Owen, Angela Hills and Amy Leather, for their unwavering support, challenge, forethought and wisdom and especially patience when I struggled with the technology or remembering the precise details of the multitude of decisions we had made. I could not have survived without them!

I wish Naomi Tottle all the best as she gets to know our children, staff, families and village and am so grateful to be passing the school into such safe and experienced hands in January.

Until then, may I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.



BBC Children in Need

The School Council would like to say **'Thank you!'** for all of your support to help raise a grand total of **£414.71** towards this year's appeal. Well done everyone!

P.E Timetable for Next Term

Please check the table below for your child's PE sessions after Christmas.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception		x			
Y1	x				x
Y2			x	x	
Y3P		x			x (swimming)
Y3WA			x (swimming)	x	
Y4C		x			x
Y4W	x	x			
Y5ML	x			x	
Y5T				x	x
Y6			x		x

School Lunch Payments

We would appreciate parents clearing all school lunch balances by the end of this term. Can we also remind you; meals should be paid for in advance. Many thanks.

SEND Information...

Festive Top Tips – We appreciate how tricky it can be for families to navigate the festive season when caring for a neurodivergent child and/or child with SEN needs. We would like to share the link below, which will take you to some short videos and useful tips, including language, sensory dysregulation, and social withdrawal/overwhelm.



[Seasonal Support Pack - Witherslack Group](#)

'Autism & Us' Parent Programme – Please find in this edition of the Willand Word (just before 'Diary Dates'), a message from the Communication and Interaction Team giving details of the Spring 'Autism & Us' Parent Programme.

Contact us: Telephone: 01884 820367 / 829463 **Website:** www.willand.devon.sch.uk **Email:** office@willand.devon.sch.uk
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Christmas Online Safety Update



Christmas can be a wonderful time; excited children and time to relax with family and friends. And of course, there are new toys to play with. With a huge increase in sales of devices (around 13

million people receive smartphones for Christmas each year) it is ever more difficult to ensure that you and your children are safe when playing with new kit. To help, I've had a look for some of the available advice.

Attached are the '12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas' from the National College of Online Safety. They make a really good place to start. It mentions limiting 'in-app' purchases. Many devices have the option to disable this altogether so check on your individual devices for this.

Tablets are really popular with younger children, and the market has several which are geared towards child friendly content. The advice from the UK Safer Internet Centre is: *When it comes to using them, start slowly; only download games and apps you have checked out carefully (sites such as www.net-aware.org.uk, or www.common sense media.org provide useful advice!) and steer them towards age targeted content such as www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids or YouTube Kids.*

Finally, a word about **games**. There are so many exciting games and consoles around, there is a good chance you might have one in your house. Consider whether your child is mature enough to join an online community, and whether the games they are playing are appropriate. For more advice on this visit www.pegi.info or www.askaboutgames.com. These will give more detail about the reasons for age ratings to help you make informed decisions for your children. The Safer Internet Centre's blog, '[The real cost of online gaming](#)' also gives an insight into the type of things to be aware of when it comes to gaming.

Most importantly, make sure you enjoy your tech together; it's the perfect time of year!

Best wishes for a lovely winter break,
Pauline Maynard (Online Safety Lead)

From everyone at the school, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year
Anne Hawkins
Headteacher

Willand School Lunch Menu Wednesday, 3rd January 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Bank Holiday	Non-pupil Day	Turkey Dinosaur	Sausages	Salmon Fingers
		Quorn Dippers	Quorn sausages	Vegetarian Pizza
		Pasta/waffles Sweetcorn Tomato sauce Salad Bar	Pasta or mash Baked beans/peas Salad Bar	Chips or Pasta Seasonal vegetables Tomato sauce Salad Bar
		Chocolate cracknel Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Sticky Toffee Pudding and caramel sauce. Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Homemade Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce, cheese, beans or tuna				
JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna				
WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

PTFA NEWS

Christmas Lights – We would like to thank everyone who came and supported us at the Christmas lights event on Saturday... **we raised £38** from our little stall and had lots

of cash donations to add to the justgiving fund! The Stoner Family made such an effort with the show and the children loved the snow machine... we would highly recommend seeing a show this weekend if you can!

Thank you everyone for all your fundraising efforts this year, we look forward to returning next year and continuing to not only fundraise, but to create fun experiences for the children.

Miss Hawkins – We can't let this week go by without wishing Anne Hawkins a happy retirement. With 27 years at the school, she certainly has played a massive part in not just supporting and guiding our children but also shaping the PTFA as we know it. Without her support the events that are run just simply would not have been possible and we cannot thank her enough. She will be greatly missed.

We hope everyone has an amazing Christmas!

Your PTFA Team



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

'Autism and Us' Parent Programme (Autumn Term 2023 and Spring Term 2024)

Sent on behalf of the Communication and Interaction Team: [Support from the Communication and Interaction Team - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](mailto:supportfromthecomcommunicationandinteractionteam@devon.gov.uk)

"Support for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary children who are either on the autism assessment waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism."

Our 'Autism & Us' programme delivered this academic year will once again be offered during the forthcoming Spring term of the 2023-24 academic year, for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post diagnosis.

We are delighted to announce that we are offering access for families of CYP (Children & Young People) who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of CYP who have received an autism diagnosis.

Attending the 'Autism & Us' parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs, whilst also connecting with other parents/carers. Full programme details and application process below:

Autism & Us programmes

4 weekly 'live online' sessions (approx. 2hrs each) related to the following topic/themes.

SPRING TERM 2024			
No.	Topic	Programme 1	Programme 2
1	Autism overview	Tues 16 January 2024, 10am to midday	Thurs 29 February 2024, 4.30pm to 6.30pm
2	Sensory	Tues 23 January 2024, 10am to midday	Thurs 7 March 2024, 4.30pm to 6.30pm
3	Communication	Tues 30 January 2024, 10am to midday	Thurs 14 March 2024, 4.30pm to 6.30pm
4	Understanding and supporting behaviour	Tues 6 February 2024, 10am to midday	Thurs 21 March 2024, 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk to secure a place on any of the above programmes or express your interest for forthcoming programmes. We will confirm your booking request and provide you with a direct link to the event. They will be delivered online 'live' via the Microsoft TEAMS platform.

Additionally, we will also be offering the following very popular themed/topic-based workshops, which lead on from the above programmes for themes/topics that may be a priority area for you against your child's presenting needs:

SPRING TERM 2024	
Topic	Date/Time
DIAS (Devon Information & Advice Service + PCFD (Parent Carer Forum Devon))	Mon 5 February 2024, 10am to midday
Autism and Girls	Wed 7 February 2024, 9.30am to midday
Autism – Communication (Speaking children – support strategies)	Mon 26 February 2024, 10am to midday
Autism – Demand avoidance + PDA	Wed 28 February 2024, 10am to midday
Autism – Communication (Non/Limited Speaking children – support strategies)	Tues 5 March 2024, 10am to midday
Autism – Vulnerability + online safety	Wed 13 March 2024, 10am to midday
Autism – Managing stress + anxiety	Mon 18 March 2024, 10am to midday
Autism – Sensory processing + integration	Tues 26 March 2024, 9.30am to midday

Apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk to secure a place on any of the above topic-based workshops. We will confirm your booking request and provide you with a direct link to the event. They will be delivered online 'live' via the Microsoft TEAMS platform.

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Diary

Willand School Menu for Spring Term

Week 1 - Weeks commencing 22 Jan, 19 Feb, 11 March

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pork meatballs <i>Vegan balls</i>	Turkey Dinosaur <i>Quorn Dippers</i>	Gammon and pineapple <i>Cheese & Broccoli bake</i>	Sausages <i>Quorn sausages</i>	Salmon Fingers <i>Vegetarian Pizza</i>
Spaghetti Green beans Crisps Salad Bar	Pasta/waffles Sweetcorn Tomato sauce Salad Bar	Roast/Mashed Potatoes Fresh Carrots Gravy Salad Bar	Pasta or mash Baked beans/peas Salad Bar	Chips or Pasta Seasonal vegetables Tomato Sauce Salad Bar
Jam sponge and custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Chocolate cracknel Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Orange Jelly and mandarins Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Sticky Toffee Pudding and caramel sauce. Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Homemade Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce, cheese, beans or tuna JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Week 2 - Weeks commencing 8 Jan, 29 Jan, 26 Feb, 18 March

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Westcountry beef burger in a plain bag	Chicken Fajitas	Roast beef	Chicken curry Naan bread and rice	Harry Ramsden's Fish
<i>Vegetarian burger in a plain bag</i>	<i>Quorn Fajitas</i>	<i>Quorn sausage</i>	<i>Macaroni cheese</i>	<i>Homemade Cheese Wheel</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	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, cheese, beans or tuna JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Week 3 - Weeks commencing 15 Jan, 5 Feb, 4 March, 25 March

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pepperoni pizza	Italian Bolognese	Roast Turkey with sage and onion stuffing	Sausage Rolls	Fish Fingers
<i>Cheese pizza</i>	<i>Quorn chicken noodles</i>	<i>Cheese wheel</i>	<i>Cauliflower Cheese</i>	<i>Vegetarian Fingers</i>
Potato Wedges/Pasta a 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	Lemon cake Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Cheese and crackers or Smoothie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Chocolate cake and chocolate sauce Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Homemade Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
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SPRING TERM 2024	
Tuesday 2 nd January	Non-pupil day
Wednesday 3 rd January	Start of Spring Term
W/C Monday 8 th January	Homework club starts
Friday 12 th January	6G Class Assembly
Friday 19 th January	6N Class Assembly
Thursday 1 st	Parent Consultations
Friday 2 nd February	5T Class Assembly
Tuesday 6 th February	Parent Consultations
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	Half Term
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
TBC	Arts week
Thursday 28 th March	2S Class Assembly
Thursday 28 th March	Homework club finishes End of Spring Term

SUMMER TERM 2024	
Monday 15 th April	Start of Summer Term Homework club starts
Friday 26 th April	3WA Assembly
Friday 3 rd May	3P Assembly
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th May	Year 6 KS2 SATS
Friday 17 th May	2R Assembly
Friday 24 th May	Non-pupil day
Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May	Half Term
Wednesday 12 th June	Willand Welcome
Friday 14 th June	Both Reception Classes
W/C Monday 17 th June	Dartmoor Residential week
Friday 21 st June	1HB Assembly
Tuesday 25 th June	Sports Day
Friday 28 th June	1MP Assembly
Friday 28 th June	Reserve Sports Day /Homework Club Finishes
Friday 12 th July	Reports out
Monday 15 th July	Teachers available for parents
Wednesday 17 th July	UKS2 Play Dress rehearsal
Thursday 18 th July	UKS2 Play
TBC	Certificate Assembly
Monday 22 nd July	Leaver's Party
Tuesday 23 rd July	Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 24 th July	End of Summer Term

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