

# The Willand Word

Learning for Life  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Issue 13

## Goodbye and Good Luck

Goodbye to Mrs Hope, we sincerely thank her for all her hard work over the last 20 years and wish her all the very best of luck as she moves to a new school.

## Class Assembly

**4WL class** are holding their class assembly on **Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January** 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.



## Year 1 & 2 Christmas Production and Reception Christmas Performance

Congratulations and well done to all of the children who took part in the KS1 Nativity and Reception Christmas Celebration.

Also 'thank you' to all the staff for their hard work to ensure the success of these Christmas events.

## Games on Friday

Children are welcome to bring games in on Friday to play with their friends. Please do not bring in electronic games, precious items or games that have too many loose pieces which could get lost.



## PE Timetable for this Term

Please see below the PE Days from **6<sup>th</sup> January**. These are the days that children should come to school in their PE kit.

Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception		X			
Year 1	X			X	
Year 2				X	X
Y3W			X (swimming)		X
Y3P	X				X (swimming)
Y4MA	X		X		
Y4WL		X	X		
Year 5				X	X
Year 6		X	X		

## 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, 13<sup>th</sup> December.

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	93.46	3	95.69
1	88.52	4	92.41
2	95.74	5	95.08
		6	96.77

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

## Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for supporting Save the Children Christmas Jumper day, we raised **£95.95**.



## School Lunches

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.

**Please see end of the Willand Word for important information regarding ALL YEAR GROUPS (including Reception, Yr 1 and Yr 2) and Free School Meals**

## URGENT – September 2025 Admission to School

If you have a child who you wish to start at our school in September 2025 and have not already completed an application, it's really important you submit this using the following link: [Apply online through the Citizen Portal](#) by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**.

**Miss Tottle will be offering a school tour on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> January @ 2pm for anyone who missed last term's Open Afternoon. Please contact the school office to book a place – Tel No 01884 820367.**

*Wishing everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas and new year, we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025*  
*Naomi Tottle*  
*Headteacher*

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)  
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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'



### 'Top Tips for Christmas Devices'

With Christmas approaching, it may be that your child is getting their first phone (or perhaps a new one). There are some important things to think about and some great advice here with how to set it up as safely as possible for your child to use. <https://eephonesmart.co.uk/online-safety-tips/buy-childs-first-smartphone/>

Many other devices that your child may be getting for Christmas also have access to the internet. A new device is a great time to set new ground rules for their use.

The organisation 'Internet Matters' has produced a really useful checklist to work through when setting up new devices for your child [Internet Matters e-safety checklist for new devices](#)



#### [Set up devices e-safety checklist - Internet Matters](#)

Use the device settings so you can only download age appropriate apps and games. Disable location services so

your child doesn't unintentionally share their location with others.; Set up devices with password control, or disable in-app purchasing so big bills don't run up accidentally. [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org).

**We want everyone to get the most out of tech and enjoy happy and safe digital lives. With regularly updated articles and expert advice, by using the link below you'll find plenty of resources and support - helping you make the right digital choices for your family**  
<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscentre/smart-living/digital-parenting/>

Best wishes for a lovely winter break.  
Mrs Maynard (Online safety Lead)

## Safeguarding Information – Christmas Holidays

If you are worried about the safety of a child in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child worried about your own safety, please contact **Devon Children's Front Door team**  
**Tel No 0345 155 1071**

### SEND Information

We would like to introduce you to the Lumi Nova app, a fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety.



Lumi Nova is a therapeutic game that helps children aged 7-12 years self-manage worries and build resilience.

#### Who is Lumi Nova for?

Lumi Nova is for 7-12 year olds facing difficulties with anxiety, including:

- **Phobias** eg Being afraid of spiders or insects, heights, being near dogs or the dark.
- **Social anxiety** eg Feeling worried about making new friends, going to social events.
- **Separation anxiety** eg Unable to sleep alone, worried about being away from parents, going to school.

### THE ZONES OF REGULATION

In school, we use The Zones of Regulation to help all children understand their emotions and develop their ability to self-

regulate. Children learn to identify emotions, categorise these emotions into 'zones', recognise events that might make them move to a different zone and use tools they have learnt to help them regulate how they are feeling.

#### What are the different Zones?

**Blue Zone:** low level of arousal, not ready to learn, feels sad, sick, tired, bored.

**Green Zone:** calm state of alertness, optimal level to learn, feels happy, calm, focused.

**Yellow Zone:** heightened state of alertness, feels frustrated, worried, silly/wiggly, excited, annoyed.

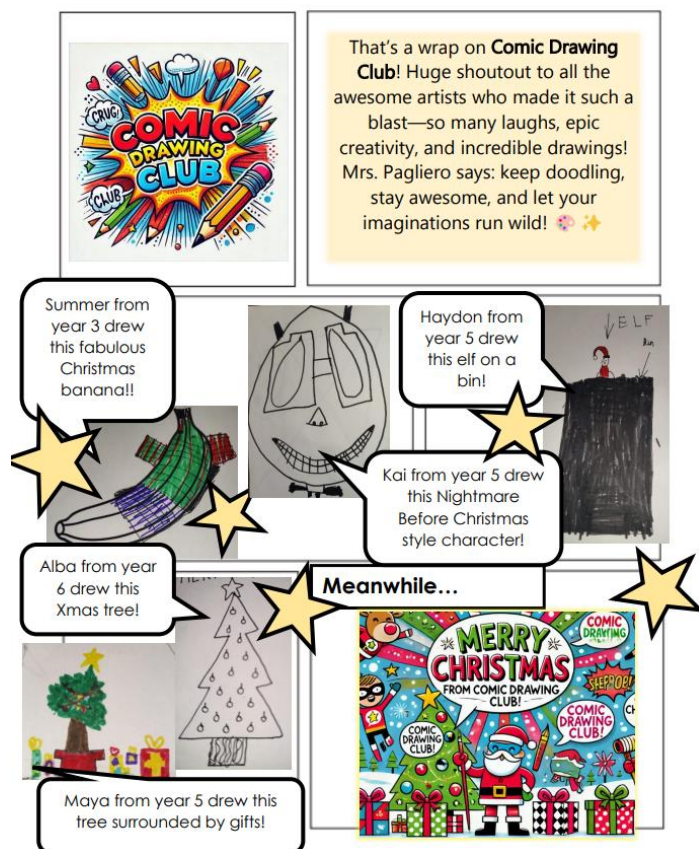
**Red Zone:** heightened state of alertness and intense emotions, not an optimal level for learning, out of control, feels mad/angry, terrified, yelling/hitting, elated.

**If you would like to know more information, we have leaflets available at the School Office.**



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## Diary to remember...

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Autumn Term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Spring Term
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Tour for Reception '25 @ 2pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Class 4WL - Assembly</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Class 6N - Assembly</b>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Class 6G - Assembly</b>
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>Class 4MA - Assembly</b>
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Consultations
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Class 5T - Assembly</b>
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Consultations
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Non-pupil Day
17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half-term Break

For full calendar of events, please click below –  
<https://willand.devon.sch.uk/Calendarofevents.pdf>

### PTFA NEWS

*Hi Everyone!*

We are pleased to announce that the Winner, Winner Chicken Dinner Bingo raised **£1057.48**. This will help fund school trips, Christmas parties and the new playground.

Our next event is the Christmas tuck shop this coming Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. You will find us in the park after school selling lots of festive treats.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Your PTFA Team*

### Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pork meatballs Vegan balls	Turkey Dinosaur Quorn Dippers	Gammon and pineapple Cheese & Broccoli bake	Sausages Quorn sausages	Salmon Fingers Vegetarian Pizza
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
Arctic Roll 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 or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

### EVENTS

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

**Excelsior ADC Gymnastics Club** (licensed with British Gymnastics) is based in Willand Village Hall.

We are offering boys in school years 2-6 a FREE TRIAL on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

We offer tumbling, floor work and Freestyle (Parkour) classes for different age groups.

Please email head coach, James Marshall, on [excelsiorathletic@gmail.com](mailto:excelsiorathletic@gmail.com) to register your place.

*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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# Free School Meals

Are you entitled?

**Being entitled to Free School Meals, not only provides children with free school lunches**

**but also opens doors to several additional benefits such as:**

## **Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF):**

Free access to activities during school holidays. All children registered as entitled to Free School Meals receive a HAF code, this gives access to the [Holiday Activities and Food programme](#) during each school holiday.



## HAF Football Fun Day



New to football or an experienced player, this football fun day is inclusive and pressure free.

Join us for our **HAF Football Fun Day**  
All children attending receive a free lunch

Primary & Secondary aged children in Years 4-9

**MONDAY 23rd DECEMBER**

10.00am-2.00pm

EXE VALLEY LEISURE CENTRE (ASTRO)  
Tiverton, EX16 6SG

Suitable for children who are eligible for Free School Meals. Free to attend, Eligible families would have received a HAF reference code earlier in the year however if unsure, email [sportingsteps@gmail.com](mailto:sportingsteps@gmail.com)

**Places must be booked in advanced via Bookwhen**

[bookwhen.com/sportingsteps](https://bookwhen.com/sportingsteps)

[sportingsteps@gmail.com](mailto:sportingsteps@gmail.com) [@sporting\\_steps](https://www.instagram.com/sporting_steps) [@SportingSteps1](https://www.facebook.com/SportingSteps1)




**HAF XMAS Programme Details:**

**Location:** Culm Valley Sports Centre, Meadow Ln, Cullompton EX15 1LL

**Dates:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January & Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

**Time:** 9am - 1pm

**Booking Link:** <https://bookwhen.com/sportystars-haf>

Please note that a valid HAF code must be entered during booking. Spaces are limited and on a first come first serve basis.

**Programme Highlights:** This fun and action-packed holiday camp will feature a range of sports and activities including Sports, arts and crafts, nerf wars, glow sports and lots more. As part of the HAF programme, children will receive a free hot lunch.

*(full details of attached with this weeks Willand Word)*

## **School Holiday Food Vouchers:**

All families receive a supermarket voucher from the [Free School Meals Holiday Voucher Scheme](#), currently £15 per child per week during each school holiday. These can be used at Tesco, Aldi, Farmfoods, M&S + more



## **My child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 gets a Universal Infant free meal anyway, do I still need to apply?**

Even though all children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a Universal Infant Free Meal, this is not the same as being registered as eligible for Free School Meals. We strongly encourage all families that could be eligible, to complete the online application to secure their Free School Meal entitlement as it will be protected until the end of Year 6, it also entitles them to the benefits mentioned above.

## **Applying for Free School Meals is Easy!**

We encourage you to apply if you think your child might qualify as you may be entitled to £45 of food vouchers (£30 for Christmas and £15 for February half term). **The deadline for applications for the Christmas voucher is tomorrow (the 19<sup>th</sup> December) so please don't delay**

## **Here's how:**

**Online:** The quickest and easiest option for faster results.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals/>

**Phone:** Call the Education Helpline at 0345 155 1019.

**Important Note:** FSM Code. If you are awarded a Free School Meals (FSM) code, please update the school office [office@willand.devon.sch.uk](mailto:office@willand.devon.sch.uk).

We understand that financial situations can change, so please don't hesitate to apply even if you haven't qualified in the past.

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