

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, 9th February 2024.

Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	89.81
1	94.88
2	92.22
3	95.28
4	91.85
5	93.55
6	94.04

The Current National figure for comparison is 94.7%

Recruitment

Before half term I wrote to you informing you that Miss Davies will be leaving us at the end of this term (Easter). Following a long and very thorough recruitment process we have recruited a fantastic new member of staff to fill Miss Davies' position: Mr V MacLeod will be joining us after the Easter break.

We were particularly impressed with Mr Macleod's vision for the future of the EYFS at Willand School. He comes to us with many years' experience teaching reception children in Bristol and most recently lecturing in Early Years, training EYFS staff, at a prestigious college in Bath.

Year 6 and Year 1 Visits

The children are very much looking forward to the following visits over the next few weeks:

Year 6 - Coldharbour Mill on Thursday, 29th February

Year 1 – Tiverton Museum on Friday, 1st March

We would like to thank those parents who have already shown their support, and the PTFA for agreeing to give a contribution. If you have overlooked this, please make a voluntary contribution of **£8.50 (Year 6)** / **£6.78 (Year 1)** payment online at www.schoolgateway.com or via the school office where we can accept a cash payment by the 22nd February.

Y6 KS2 SATs Information Session

There will be an information session at 5pm on Wednesday 28th February for all parents of children in Y6. The aim of the session is to explain the format of the tests, run through the timetable for SATs and show examples of the types of questions the children may be asked. There will also be the opportunity for parents to ask questions. The meeting is expected to last for around 45 minutes.

If you would like to attend, please sign up on the Parents Evening Booking system at <https://willandschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>



Online Safety – 'Wake Up Wednesday'

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

'What Parents Need to Know about Monkey'

Online video calling with random strangers (18) (21) It's hardly a new internet phenomenon – but the recent demise of Omegle has prompted the creation of several similar platforms bidding to fill the vacuum. One such contender is Monkey – a service that randomly connects its users for video calls, using their mobile numbers and Snapchat account details (18) (21). Monkey . has surged in popularity since Omegle's shutdown in November 2023: visits to the site more than doubled within a month and have been climbing steadily ever since. Regrettably, it also seems that Monkey suffers from many of the same pitfalls as its notorious predecessor – our #WakeUpWednesday guide highlights these possible risks to young people in more detail.

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

*Thank you for your
continued support.*

Naomi Tottle

Headteacher

Willand Sports News

Swimming Gala Success!

Huge congratulations to the swimming gala team who competed at the Culm Valley Schools Swimming Gala just before half term and won it for the sixth year in a row! The children were impeccably behaved and supported each other superbly. We are so proud of them!

A big thank you to Mrs Goff, Mrs Shearer, Mrs Harvey and Miss Shapcott who support the children with their swimming each week, to Mr Watts who supported the team and to Mrs Burman who helped with the scoring at the event.

Recent Results..

The Year 6 Football team took part in a Football tournament on 31st January at Cullompton Community College. They played 6 games and won all of their games meaning that they go through to the CVSA finals after half term. Well done Willand!

On Monday 9th February, 2 teams played football at Uffculme – Year 4 boys with a result of Willand 1 - 6 Uffculme and Girls mixed team of years 4,5 and 6 who won by 8 goals to 5.

Year 6 Football Report

On the 31st of January 2024, the Year 6 Willand football team took part in a football tournament at Cullompton Community College. The games were 8 minutes long straight-through, with no offsides, kick ins, no slide tackles and no headers.

We played five games in all, so as you can imagine it was an intense evening with back-to-back games. We were however up for the challenge with some encouraging team talks from our captain, Elliott and some strong team spirit.

Game 1 - In game one, we won 3-0 against Willowbank Storm in a hard-fought match where they had their chances, but they couldn't take them and we did which is why we won the game.

Game 2 – In game two, it was a very intense and nerve-racking game against Plymtree where we won 2-1, after they scored a late goal and started to put on the pressure.

Game 3 – Our third game was against St Andrews and we won 3-0 with some amazing passing, movement and communication from all of us, which helped us win the game.

Game 4 – In game 4 we cruised through the match winning 5-0 against Willowbank Thunder. For this game our main goal-keeper swapped with our defender but that still didn't let them score.

Game 5 – In game 5, our determination secured a 5-1 win against Willowbank Lightening. The encouragement was extreme from all of the players.

In the end we were unbeatable meaning that we won the whole tournament putting us through to the finals at Uffculme School.

- *Elliott, Jenson, Jakub, Jacob, Lewis, Sam, Keelan (the team)*

Freestyle Football Workshop

Willand School are excited to welcome Jamie Knight for a freestyle football workshop day on 28th February.

Jamie is a top 10 world freestyler with multiple Guinness World Records who has worked and performed in over 30 countries at some of the world's most prominent and watched events. He has worked with several top footballers, starred on Irelands Got Talent and performed at some of the biggest football stadiums in the world. Most recently, he performed on the pitch at the 2017 Champions League final in front of 80,000 and he was also the official Global Mascot for UEFA Euro 2020!

All children across the whole school will have the opportunity to watch Jamie performing some of his amazing skills and to have a go themselves.

All KS2 children will enjoy a session with Jamie during the day as well as KS1 joining in with the whole school assembly.

Jamie has a workshop after school which is an optional extra. Places are limited and requires a cost of £10 per child. If you would like your child to attend, please complete the parental consent form on the attached flyer and return to school along with the £10 – Places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Marathon Madness....

Mr Watts and Mrs Hamblett are preparing to take on the challenge of a lifetime this April and run a full marathon! Mr Watts will be running the Southampton Marathon on 7th April and is raising money for Alzheimer's Society. Mrs Hamblett will be taking on the London Marathon on 21st April and is fundraising for a charity called MACS, which supports children born without eyes. They would be grateful for any kind donations. Please click on the links to find out more about their causes. We wish them well with the rest of their training.



Help Matthew Watts raise money to support Alzheimer's Society
[Team Stuckey fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society](#)



Help Tanya Hamblett raise money to support Microphthalmia, Anophthalmia & Coloboma Support (MACS) [Marathon](#)

Online Payments: <https://login.schoolgateway.com> PTFA: willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

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

PTFA News...

Hi Everyone!

We are looking forward to a couple of **PTFA events this week...** Firstly, one for the children on Friday after school with our monthly tuck shop and the second for the adults! Our first pub quiz will be held at Willand Rovers Football Club on Saturday night. We are excited to not only hopefully meet some new parents but also members of our community who have an interest in helping raise money for our school.

We recently put out a job advert for a new co-treasurer since our current treasurer is stepping down from the role. We are also still looking for a social media and promotions volunteer. If you are interested in either of these roles or wish to be a volunteer for the PTFA please join us for our EGM at Willand Football Club on Friday 8th March at 730pm.

This week your child will be coming home with an entry sheet for our World Book Day competition... please read this sheet carefully as there's also information about World Book Day costume donation and donations for our used book sale.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Your PTFA Team

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 26th February

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, cheese, beans or tuna 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

Arts & Crafts Fair, Sunday 3rd March, 12noon-4pm – British Legion, Riverside Club, Tiverton. Local artisan vendors, unique one-of-a-kind gifts in time for Mother's Day and Easter. Enquiries please call Keke on 0795 8570 458

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.

FRIDAY 23RD AFTER SCHOOL IN THE PARK



Willand School PTFA Tuck Shop

£1.50 Mixed Treat Bags	50p Mini Cheddars Crisps
£1 Mixed Treat Bags	Rainbow Pencils Popping Candy Biscuits
Ring Pops	2 For 50p Refresher Bar
Zed Sour Candy Lick	Haribo
Rainbow Wheel	Fruit Snacks
Lollipop	Freddo
CandyFloss	

DONT FORGET WE ARE ALSO HOPING TO HAVE A COSTUME RAIL FOR WORLD BOOK DAY OUTFITS! WE CAN ALSO COLLECT ANY USED BOOKS FOR OUR BOOK DAY SALE.

Diary

SPRING TERM 2024	
Friday 23 rd February	After-school Tuck Shop
Saturday 24 th February	PTFA Pub Quiz
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

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

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