

Class Assembly

6G class are holding their class assembly on **Friday, 23 January at 2:45pm**. All parents of these children are welcome to come and watch. Entrance to the hall will be via the Foundation Stage doors.

Emails

We wanted to take a moment to remind you of the best ways to communicate with us to ensure your messages reach the right people quickly and efficiently. As first point of contact with specific questions or queries regarding your child(ren), please use the year group email addresses below:

- yearr@willand.devon.sch.uk
- year1@willand.devon.sch.uk
- year2@willand.devon.sch.uk
- year3@willand.devon.sch.uk
- year4@willand.devon.sch.uk
- year5@willand.devon.sch.uk
- year6@willand.devon.sch.uk

Please avoid sending emails from 7 pm on Fridays to 7am on Mondays, use a schedule send if the weekend is your only opportunity to write the email.

For reporting absences:

Please use our **dedicated absences email address** absences@willand.devon.sch.uk to notify us if your child will be absent from school

For requesting lunches:

Please use our dedicated lunches email address lunches@willand.devon.sch.uk

To support the smooth running of our school and ensure that all pupils and staff are safe and focused on learning, we kindly ask that parents and carers avoid arriving at school wanting to have a meeting with staff immediately without booking an appointment.

Using these correct channels helps us ensure that important information doesn't get missed and that we can respond to you as quickly as possible.

If you're unsure which email address to use, please contact the school office office@willand.devon.sch.uk and

we'll be happy to direct you.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain clear and effective communication.

Teaching Assistant Vacancies

We are looking to recruit a number of Teaching Assistants vacancies on Devon Jobs website <https://www.devonjobs.gov.uk/>

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 January 2026.

| Year Group | %Attendance | Year Group | %Attendance |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Reception | 97.59 | 3 | 93.29 |
| 1 | 90.82 | 4 | 94.19 |
| 2 | 95.41 | 5 | 93.87 |
| | | 6 | 94.69 |

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

Sporting Success for Willand School ...

On Tuesday 13th January the Year 6 Basketball and Hi Five netball team went to Uffculme Secondary school to play in a tournament against other primary schools.

The Basketball team played 6 games and won every match. This meant that they won the whole tournament! First place! What an amazing achievement!

Everyone played brilliantly and showed great team spirit.

A big thank you to Mrs White for helping to coach the team. She was particularly impressed with the high standard of play and the way in which the team never gave up.



The Hi Five netball team played 5 games . They won 3 games and lost 2. The whole team worked extremely hard on a rotation basis meaning that everyone had to play in a range of positions. Willand came 2nd overall out of 6 schools. What a fantastic result!

Mrs Bosworth was particularly impressed with the high level of sportsmanship and unrelenting team work.

Well done Team Willand!



*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
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Online Safety – 'Wake Up Wednesday'



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

'Sharing Photos Online'

School is often a time full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world in today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks. At the end of this newsletter a guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

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

URGENT – September 2026 Admission to School

If you have a child who you wish to start at our school in September 2026 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 **15th January 2026**.

Parent/Governor Vacancy

Please look out for an email regarding the vacant parent/governor post and information on who to contact for further details.

Healthy Snacks at Breaktime

Please encourage your child to bring a healthy snack to school for break time. Below is a list of examples:

- Fruit
- Dried fruit (eg raisins)
- Vegetables (eg carrot sticks)
- Rice cakes
- Yogurt pouch/tube

There will of course be many other examples of healthy snacks not listed here that you may provide your child with and so this should serve as a general guide. The school staff will use their discretion at break-time but will certainly be asking pupils to save crisps, chocolate bars, biscuits and cakes etc for lunchtime!

We would like to remind families, that children in Reception and KS1 have free fruit provided each day for them at breaktime.

We hope this provides some clarification for everyone. Thank you for working with us to ensure all our children receive a healthy start to life.

Please remember we are a NUT FREE school as we have children with potentially fatal allergies.



Toys from Home and Gift for Friends



Staff have noticed that some children are bringing toys from home into school each day. Please could we ask that toys are not brought into school as we would like to avoid the children being upset, should the item become broken or lost.

While it is lovely that the children want to make and share gifts with their friends, this has been causing upset in classes for those who do not receive one. Please can we ask that any gifts are given after school so as not to disrupt the children's learning time in school.

PTFA NEWS

We would like to remind you of **our meeting @ 6:30pm today at Willand School**. We are a friendly team and would welcome anyone interested in supporting us, even if you can only give one hour a year - no long-term commitment is required. Come along to meet some new faces and hear about our exciting plans. See you there!

If you cannot make it on the above date but keen to know more then please contact us via willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 19th January

| 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 | | | | |

Diary To remember...

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Friday 23 rd January | Class 6G Assembly – 2:45pm |
| Thursday 5 th February | Parent Consultations |
| Friday 6 th February | Class 2R Assembly – 9:10am |
| Tuesday 10 th February | Parent Consultations |
| Tuesday 10 th February | Safer Internet Day |
| Mon 16 th -Fri 20 th February | Half Term |

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

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

Kids Holiday Heroes

Wrap around care at Willand School

Please find below our after-school club timetable for this half term. All clubs will run from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Our afterschool club provision will continue to run as usual alongside these activities.



👉 Bookings – www.kidsholidayheroes.co.uk

All personal items must be clearly labelled and will be stored safely in a designated box.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Devon Libraries

As you may have heard, Devon County Council have just launched a 12-week public consultation into the future of Devon's libraries.

Financial pressures, alongside the way people use Council services, are driving this consultation. Libraries Unlimited are commissioned to run the libraries by the council. We have been using our charitable reserves over the last few years to plug funding gaps, but we can no longer continue to do this. This consultation will help Devon County Council understand how people use library services and how they'd like to see things develop in future years.

The consultation documents are online and the survey can be completed by visiting <https://devon.cc/your-libraries>.

There is also a survey for children and young people to have their say here: [Have Your Say Today - Survey for young people - Shaping Devon's Library Service](#)

We're sure you'll agree that libraries are an essential community resource and are crucial for young people to have access to.

The consultation is open until 22nd February 2026. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Cullompton and Uffculme Libraries

www.librariesunlimited.org.uk

The Year of Reading Begins!

We are excited to share that this month marks the official launch of the **National Year of Reading 2026**, a new initiative from the UK government designed to spark a nationwide reading revolution. The campaign—led by the Department for Education in partnership with the National Literacy Trust—aims to reverse the long-term decline in reading for pleasure and inspire children, young people and families to rediscover the joy of books.

Throughout 2026, schools across the country will be supported with events, resources, professional development, and enrichment activities that place reading at the heart of learning. The theme for the year, "**Go All In**," encourages everyone to embrace reading in all its forms and to make it a regular part of daily life.

The government emphasises that reading for pleasure is linked to improved wellbeing, stronger academic outcomes, and better future life chances. With only one in three young people reporting in 2025 that they enjoyed reading in their free time, this initiative aims to help change that trend by bringing families, schools, libraries, and communities together to support literacy.

As the Year of Reading unfolds, we look forward to taking part in national activities, celebrating books, and helping every pupil discover something special to read. It's the perfect moment to pick up a book and *go all in!*

Parents, you will play a key role in the new National Year of Reading. The government is encouraging families to read together daily, even for ten minutes, and to swap some screen time for book time to help build positive reading habits.

The campaign also encourages families to engage more regularly with books, visit libraries, join local reading events, and choose reading materials linked to children's interests—all part of inspiring a love of reading throughout 2026.

You can browse the largest library of author videos in the world, get unlimited access to thousands of book extracts, resources and writing challenges, and connect with hundreds of children's authors and illustrators at the touch of a button – all free of charge! <https://authorfy.com/>

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INVASIONS OF PRIVACY

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up, just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

MISUSE OF IMAGES

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are "worth sharing". Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Carers

REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they do make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you really want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting: it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

Meet Our Expert

Daniella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 20 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.



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