



Congratulations to this weeks winner – Dorset with 235 points!

2nd Cornwall with 218, 3rd Somerset with 209 and 4th Devon with 193

Running total for the term: **Devon: 791** **Dorset: 891** **Somerset: 954** **Cornwall: 218**

Keep up the great work everyone!

Year 1 & 2 Play

– Wednesday, 10th December

Both children and staff have been working very hard to ensure they are ready to perform and entertain parents next week.

There will be 2 performances of ‘Inn-spectors’, 9:30am and 1:45pm for which there is a small admission charge of £2.00 for adults and £1.50 for children. Tickets are selling fast and can be purchased by returning the appropriate order form and fe1530e to school. Please note that due to high demand there will be a limit of 2 tickets per family, should you wish to order more we will put your name on a waiting list and notify you should the performance not sell out.

Please be reminded that complimentary tickets for the dress rehearsal, on Tuesday, 10th December at 1:45pm are available for the Over 60’s, upon request.

Parents driving to school for the play should be reminded not to park in the Village Hall Car Park as these spaces are reserved for the organisations who have a Village Hall booking.

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, 28th November 2025.

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	91.72	3	97.20
1	98.47	4	94.19
2	93.79	5	93.23
		6	94.38

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day

– Thursday, 11th December

We are asking children to join in with Christmas Jumper Day and would love to see everyone wearing a Christmas jumper along with non-school uniform on Thursday 11th December.

If you would like to donate towards this worthwhile charity, it will be most welcome on the day.

Also: Children can wear Christmas jumpers on Christmas dinner day (Wed 17th December) and the last day of term – Thursday, 18th December.



Photos and Videos

Please may we remind you, that we do have children who need their identities protected and ask you **not to upload online any videos, photographs, or items such as performance programmes, listing children’s names from school events.** Please be mindful of this when attending the KS1 Nativity and Reception Celebration; whilst we are happy for you to take photos and videos these should only be kept by you privately.



School Drop Off and Pick Up

A couple of parents have asked me to put something on the Willand Word regarding people waiting and blocking the paths on the park. The drive gates are closed each morning and afternoon therefore parents can come down on the drive to wait with their children to drop off and pick up. This should reduce the number of people blocking the paths. Please remember we do not allow dogs or smoking on the school site, this includes the school drive. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Lost Property

We will be attempting to clear all lost property before the end of term, the tubs of lost property will be brought out to the front of school over the next few days; look out for the large red boxes!

School Term Reminders

Friday, 19th December school will be closed to children for staff training and, also the following 2 weeks for Christmas holiday. School will re-open on Monday, 5th January.

*Thank you for your continued support
Naomi Tottle
Headteacher*

Online Safety –

'Wake Up Wednesday'

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

'Tracking Devices'

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's Smart Tags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

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



National Child Measurement Programme

Earlier this year, parents of children in Reception and Year 6 will have received an email regarding the above national child measurement programme.

We would like to remind those parents to complete the opt out form by Friday 19th December if you do not want your child to take part.

Class 4H Swimming

Thank you to all parents who have already made a voluntary contribution towards this ongoing activity. If you have overlooked this, contributions can still be accepted online at www.schoolgateway.com or cash / cheque payments can be made via the school office. The total cost is £15.00 for all sessions (£2.50 per session). Cheques to be made payable to Devon County Council. Please help us to provide this activity by continuing to support the school.



Choir Performance

Towards the end of our final choir session this week, we would like to invite parents in to watch a performance of the songs that we have been learning as well as some of the warm-up songs that the children have enjoyed. This will start at 4pm. Please enter the school via the main office.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Reception Wishlist

To enrich the learning experiences we offer, we are looking for the following items:
Puppets, Hats, Reading glasses, Office equipment such as keyboards, mice, screens-Magnetic tiles, Children's building blocks, Diaries, notebooks, calendars (unused), Sieves-Cushions, Baking trays, Rolling pins, Wooden chopping boards, Photo frames.
If you have any of these items in good condition and are willing to donate them to us, please drop them in to the school office or give them to one of the reception teachers on the gate. Thank you.

SEND Information

For healthy happy early years
Support from trusted NHS professionals

Health for Under 5s
www.healthforunder5s.co.uk/devon

Health for Kids!
www.healthforkids.co.uk/devon WWW.HE



This week, Comic Drawing Club has been bursting with creativity! The children have been designing their very own storyboards, bringing epic characters and wild adventures to life panel by panel. The room has been buzzing with ideas, laughter, and brilliant artwork. We can't wait to see these comics leap off the page!

Joe in Year 3 created a football hero with serious skills!

Sasha's (Year 4) stellar space setting takes her cartoon to another galaxy!

Macie in Year 4 created a happy girl with a great outfit and big personality!

A cosy, charming comic world—designed by Alecia in Year 3!

Milo in Year 3 created a brilliant storyboard—his Rocket Boots are adorable!

Sorcha in Year 4 created a colourful, detailed storyboard—oh dear, the robber has emptied the bank!

A thrilling storyboard from Imogen in Year 3... thank goodness her hero swoops in and saves the day!

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

PTFA NEWS

As well as our fabulous raffle, today we also launch our new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/shares/17ieMu8Aim/?mibextid=wwXlf>

Follow us to see all our latest news and updates!



★ FANTASTIC PRIZES ★

CREALY TICKETS, SEATON TRAMWAY TICKETS, FOOD ITEMS AND MORE...

£1 PER TICKET | £5 PER BOOK
CASH ONLY

COME AND FIND US AT THE WILLAND SCHOOL DRIVE GATES FROM 3:15PM ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

4TH, 8TH, 9TH, 10TH, 11TH & 16TH DECEMBER

WE WILL ALSO BE SELLING TICKETS AT THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES.

DRAW TAKES PLACE 18TH DECEMBER



★ AMAZING PRIZES UP FOR GRABS ★

- ★ FAMILY TICKET - CREALY THEME PARK
- ★ BOX OF CHOCOLATES - FOREST PRODUCE
- ★ PANETTONE - FOREST PRODUCE
- ★ £10 BUTCHER VOUCHER - FORDMORE
- ★ £60 CAKE VOUCHER - SWEET SENSATIONS BY SONIA
- ★ COFFEE GIFT SET - LITTLES COFFEE
- ★ VALETING KIT - PRESSURE WASHERS SOUTH WEST
- ★ TWO RETURN TICKETS - SEATON TRAMWAY
- ★ CREAM TEA VOUCHER FOR 2 - THE STEAMER
- ★ DOUBLE RACE SESSION - APEX RACE CENTRE
- ★ FAMILY SWIM - ACTIVE MID DEVON
- ★ CARVERY FOR 2 - THE WEARY TRAVELLER
- ★ VALET - HYLAND CAR SALES
- ★ WINDOW CLEAN VOUCHER - LUSH WINDOWS

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 8th December

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 or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Diary Dates to remember...

Tuesday 9 th December	Y1 & 2 Play Dress Rehearsal @ 1:45pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Y1 & 2 Play @ 9:30am & 1.45ppm
Thursday 11 th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12 th December	Reception Classes Christmas Celebration @ 9:15am
Monday 15 th December	Reception & KS1 Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 th December	KS2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 19 th December	Non pupil Day
Monday 22 nd December	Start of Christmas Holiday
Monday 5 th January	Start of Spring term
For full calendar of events, please click below – https://willand.devon.sch.uk/Calendarofevents.pdf	

Academic Year 2026/27

Monday 7 th September	Start of Autumn Term 2026
Friday 23 rd October	Non-pupil Day
Mon 26 th – Fri 30 th October	Half Term
Friday 18 th December	End of Autumn Term 2026
Mon 21 st – Fri 31 st December	Christmas Holidays
Monday 4 th January	Non-pupil Day
Tuesday 6 th January	Start of Spring Term 2027
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th February	Half Term
Fri 26 th & Mon 29 th March	Easter Bank Holidays
Tuesday 30 th March – Friday 9 th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 20 th April	Start of Summer Term 2027
Monday 3 rd May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 31 st May	Whitsun Bank Holiday
Tuesday 1 st – Friday 4 th June	Half Term
Thursday 22 nd July	End of Summer Term 2027

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

EVENTS

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



Intergenerational Carols and Cake Service

Carols, simple songs, interactive storytelling and an opportunity to celebrate together

**Tuesday 23rd Dec 10am
at St Mary's Church Uffculme**

**All welcome
babies-100yrs+**

THE ANIMALS' CHRISTMAS

A WALKING TRAIL THROUGH THE CHRISTMAS STORY

This December we have created a trail of large wooden characters around the village of Kentisbeare each helps to tell part of the Christmas story. You can follow the trail in one go or do it over different days, the choice is yours. Please be kind to our characters, they love being part of selfies!

Have you spotted them all?

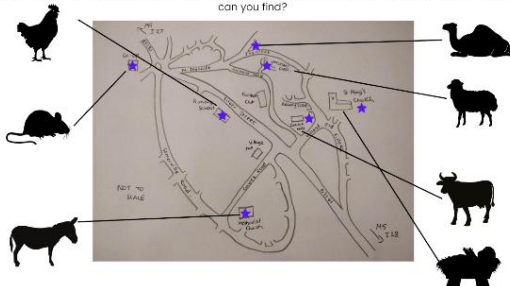
The trail runs til 22nd Dec



THE ANIMALS' CHRISTMAS

A WALKING TRAIL THROUGH THE CHRISTMAS STORY

This December we will be creating a trail of large wooden animals around the village, each animal helps to tell part of the Christmas story. You can follow the trail in one go or do it over different days, the choice is yours. How many animals can you find?



Find us on facebook @stmarysWilland

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'" Luke 2:10

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.

Kids Holiday Heroes

Wrap around care at Willand School

We are open from 8-9am and from 3.30-6pm Mon-Thurs and 3.30-5.30pm 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



KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES

Run by teachers



WILLAND WRAP AROUND CARE AT WILLAND SCHOOL



Kids Holiday Heroes offer wrap around care for children from year 2 to year 6

**Breakfast Club
8.00am - 9.00am**

**After School Club
3.30pm - 6.00pm***

Monday - Friday,
during school term time
*until 5.30pm on Fridays.

At Willand School



BOOK ONLINE

Choose times that suit you.
Our online booking system is always open. Please book in advance as places are limited



Email: bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk

FOLLOW US

 [kidsholidayheroes](https://www.instagram.com/kidsholidayheroes)  Kids Holiday Heroes

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces – like home – that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location – whether in person or hinted at online – it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it – this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.



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