



Fantastic start to this half-term!
The winner this week is Cornwall

Totals for each house:

Devon	Dorset	Somerset	Cornwall
206	235	224	273

Remembrance 2 Minute Silence

Thank you to Poppy and Charlotte, our school Council Chair and Vice Chair for leading this year's 2 minute silence.



Children in Need - Friday 14th November



The school council would like to remind children to wear their favourite colour or something with a splash of it, this Friday for Children in Need Day (this will be a non-school uniform day).

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

Supporting Our Children's Aspirations – We Need You!

As part of our ongoing commitment to inspiring and supporting the aspirations of our children, we would love to invite members of our school community to share their career journeys and experiences.

Children gain so much from hearing about the wide variety of jobs and roles that exist in the world around them. Whether you're a nurse, builder, artist, engineer, chef or anything in between, your story could spark curiosity and ambition in our young learners.

If you're willing to come in and talk to the children (it could be a year group or a few year groups; it doesn't have to be the whole school!) about what you do, how you got there and what your job involves, we'd be thrilled to hear from you. These conversations help children to dream big and understand the many possibilities their futures can hold.



Please contact the school office if you're interested in taking part—we'd love to work with you to arrange a suitable time.

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, 7th November 2025.

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	97.89	3	97.80
1	95.77	4	97.62
2	93.13	5	93.87
		6	95.06

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.44%

Class Assembly

5S class are holding their class assembly this **Friday** 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.

School Choir Reminder

Reminder for parents of children who attend the after-school choir club: Please return completed consent forms for the Carol Concert on Sunday, 7th December @ 6:15pm in the Village Hall by this coming Friday, 14th November. Many thanks

School Tours for Reception Intake 2026

Our final school tour dates for parents of children due to start school in September 2026 are on

Tuesday 18th November @ 9:30am and 1:30pm

Friday 21st November @ 9:30am and 1:30pm

If you are interested in viewing the school, please email office@willand.devon.sch.uk or telephone 01884 820367 to book a tour date; we look forward to seeing you!

Christmas Lunch Order

Yesterday, parents will have received a letter regarding Christmas Lunch. This asks them to return a slip whether or not their child requires a Christmas meal (Wednesday, 17th December).

It is important that you complete the form in all cases by Tuesday, 25th November 2025.



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 ...

'Fortnite'

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people.

Today's guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

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

Road Safety Awareness

As the days are now shorter and often darker, we'd like to share the photos below to provide an important reminder for both children, parents and motorists to not only make themselves as visible as possible, but also about being extra vigilant.



The two daytime images above are of the same child standing in the same place, the difference is that in the bottom photo they are wearing a brightly coloured jacket.

SEND Information

We have recently been made aware of the website Autism Central

<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/>

Autism Central offer online events for families of autistic people to reflect and work together, sharing knowledge and skills, including drop-ins, education family guide sessions and reflective sessions.

All sessions are free NHS England commissioned sessions delivered by Anna Freud and are peer-led and co-produced, grounded in lived experience and research.

They also have an extensive resources section, signposting to information on a wide range of topics such as diagnosis, sleep, eating, toileting, healthcare and Christmas.



PTFA NEWS....

We are thrilled to announce that your child's fantastic Christmas artwork has been submitted this week to our chosen supplier 'My Child's Art'.



The artwork is part of our annual fundraiser, where you can order beautiful and unique products featuring your child's original design.

A portion of every sale goes directly to the PTFA.

Your child will bring home a leaflet next week detailing how you can place your order. We are thrilled to announce that your child's fantastic Christmas artwork has been submitted

Many thanks

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

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 17th November

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 to remember...

Thursday 13 th November	Flu immunisations
Friday 14 th November	BBC Children in Need Day
Friday 14th November	Class 5S Assembly
Tuesday 18 th November	Parent Tour for Reception '26 @ 9:30am & 1:30pm
Friday 21 st November	Parent Tour for Reception '26 @ 9:30am & 1:30pm
Friday 28th November	Class 3P Assembly
Tuesday 9 th December	Y1 & 2 Play Dress Rehearsal @ 1:45pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Y1 & 2 Play @ 9:30am & 1.30 pm
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


For full calendar of events, please click below –

<https://willand.devon.sch.uk/Calendarofevents.pdf>


EVENTS

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


Please see details below QR code for Premier Education's Winter Holiday Clubs bookings:



Book today
premier-education.com



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.



HOLIDAY CLUBS

PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

more fun, more friendships, more smiles during the winter Holidays!

- ★ Pinhoe Primary School, Exeter, EX4 8PE
- ★ St Michael's Church of England Primary Academy, Exeter, EX1 2SN**
- ★ St Thomas Primary School, Exeter, EX2 9BB
- ★ Cranbrook Education Campus, Cranbrook, EX5 7EE
- ★ Whipton Barton Federation, Exeter, EX1 3JP*
- ★ Wilcombe Primary School, Tiverton, EX16 4AL*
- ★ St Johns Catholic Primary School, Tiverton, EX16 5LA*
- ★ Willowbank Primary School, Cullompton, EX15 1E2*

* Multi Activity camps available

★ Running 22nd, 23rd, 29th, & 30th December

★ Running 9am - 3:30pm & *9am - 1pm
**Extended day option 8am - 5pm including breakfast & afternoon snack

★ £24.99 / *£15.99 per child, per day
**£44.99 per child, per day
(30% discount until Monday 10th November!)

★ Available to children aged 4 - 11

★ Book at www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps
★ Contact dcrysell@premier-education.com for queries

please bring
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

Our 5* Holiday Clubs are the perfect place to keep your kids entertained over the winter holidays.

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

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

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like *The Witcher* and *Halo*.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like *Power Rangers* and *Avatar: The Last Airbender*, to comic book characters including *Batman*. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including iGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.

