



Learning for Life
29th April 2026 Issue 29

**Congratulations to this weeks winner –
Cornwall with 233 points**



Running total for the term:

Devon 229	Dorset 232	Somerset 219	Cornwall 233
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Keep up the great work everyone!

Congratulations Mr Silk!



On Sunday, Mr Silk took on and completed the 2026 London Marathon in 3 hours 58 mins and 2 seconds. (That makes him half as fast as the new World Record holder Sebastian Sawe.) Mr Silk would like to pass on his thanks to everyone at the school who wished him well before, tracked him on the day and congratulated him on returning to school on Tuesday. He is delighted to have raised over £1,700 for his chosen charity, JENGA!

School Lunch Payments

Please can we ask Year 3-6 parents, to check their MCAS account and clear all school lunch balances as soon as possible. We would also like to remind you that school meals should be paid for in advance.

Many thanks for your support.

Cycling/Scooter to School

With the fine weather, it's been lovely to see more children choosing to ride the bikes and scooters to school, however we would like to remind children of the following:



- All bicycles must be roadworthy
- Cyclist should ride sensibly and follow the Highway Code
- Bicycles/scooters need to be locked securely in the approved cycle parking area
- Children must not ride their bicycles and scooters on the school site, including the school driveway.

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, 24th April 2026

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	96.90	3	93.65
1	96.55	4	94.92
2	95.74	5	93.28
		6	97.30

The Current National figure for comparison is 94.88%

Class Assembly

Class 4H are holding their class assembly on **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.

*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 ...

'Apps and Play Stores'

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use an attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the age of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. Today's guide at the end of this edition of the Willand Word, will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

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

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SEND Information

MHST Parent and Carer Summer Term Workshops

Wednesday 29/04/2026 6-7pm

- Lumi Nova Digital Therapy for Ages 7-12

Join us on Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 399 221 272 523 28
Passcode: pX3ve2bn

Wednesday 24/06/2026 6-7pm

- Supporting a Successful Transition to Secondary School

Join us on Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 319 109 280 827 09
Passcode: Be77Zx35

Wednesday 15/07/2026 6-7pm

- Supporting the Use of Devices

Join us on Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 345 784 004 151 21
Passcode: hM3gu2oa

PTFA NEWS

We are holding our next meeting on 13th May at 6:30pm 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

Kids Holiday Heroes

Wrap around care at Willand School

We are open from 8-9am and from 3.30-6.00pm 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

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Tuesday, 5th May

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Bank Holiday	Italian Bolognaise	Roast Turkey with sage and onion stuffing	Sausage Rolls	Fish Fingers
	Quorn chicken noodles	Cheese & onion pasta	Cauliflower Cheese	Vegetarian Fingers
	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
	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...

Fri 1st May	Class 4H Assembly
Mon 4th May	May Bank Holiday
Mon 11th – Thurs 14th May	Year 6 KS2 SATS
Fri 15th May	Class RMB Assembly
Mon 25th – Fri 30th May	Half Term
W/C Monday 1st June	Multiplication Check
Friday 5th June	Class RT Assembly
W/C Monday 8th June	Phonics Check
Wednesday 10th June	Willand Welcome
Friday 12th June	Class 1G Assembly
Friday 19th June	Class 1HP - Assembly
Tuesday 23rd June	Sports Day
Thursday 25th June	Class & Sports Photographs
Friday 26th June	Reserve Sports Day
Tuesday 30th June	Year 6 Transition Days for CCC & Uffculme School
Tues 7th July	UKS2 Play – Dress rehearsal(pm)
Wed 8th July	UKS2 Play – Performance 1(pm)
Thurs 9th July	UKS2 Play – Performance 2(pm) UKS2 Play – Performance 3 (eve)
Friday 10th July	Pupil reports out
Monday 13th July	Teachers available for parents
Monday 20th July	Leavers Party
Tuesday 21st July	Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 22nd July	End of Summer Term

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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

Andy's Man Club Tiverton

No judgement, no fees and no pressure to talk. Just a brew, a biscuit and a safe space to chat.

They now have over 350 groups running across the UK and online, every Monday 7-9pm (excluding bank holidays) for any man 18+.

Visit their website to find your nearest group or drop them an email to info@andysmanclub.co.uk to join their online groups.



CULLOMPTON CRICKET CLUB JUNIOR TRAINING



WHEN & WHERE

Fridays 18:30-20:00
Landspeed Meadow, EX15 1DW

AGE GROUPS

U10s | U11s | U12s | U13s

Contact Hayley Hawkins on 07800 504771 for more information

MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP SportyStars
MAY HALF TERM

26th - 29th MAY

Multi-Activity holiday camp providing active, engaging and memorable experiences during the school holidays
4 days, 6 activities every day, indoors and outdoors

**WELLINGTON SCHOOL,
SOMERSET** | **08:15 - 17:15
AGES 5 - 12**

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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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APP & PLAY STORES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE

Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS

Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES

App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN

Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

SIDLOADED BANNED APPS

'Sideloading' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS

Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

DO YOUR RESEARCH

If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS

App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.04.2025

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