The Willand Word

Learning for Life

21st October 2026 Issue 07



The house points for the half term have been totalled, the results will be announced in tomorrow's end of half term assembly, where the winning house captains will be able to spin our reward wheel to determine what reward the winning house will receive after half term.

Good bye and good luck to Miss Whitrow who is ending her time as a teaching assistant at the school. We wish her all the very best of luck in her new ventures.



Parent Consultation Evenings

Thank you to everyone who attended the parent consultations over the last week, we truly value working together with you to help support the growth and progress of your child. If you missed attending and would still like to discuss your child's progress, please email their year group email to contact the teacher to arrange a convenient time.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

Friday 31st October 2026 is the deadline, for Year 6 secondary school transfer in September 2027 applications. If you have not already submitted, it's really important you complete an application using the following link: Apply online through the Citizen Portal**.** Late applicants will be considered but may be at a disadvantage.

If you cannot apply online, please contact the Education helpline on 0345 155 1019 and ask for a paper copy of the form to be sent to you, although the admissions team will need to have received the completed form by the above closing date.



Scholastic Book Fair

A huge thank you to all who came to the Scholastic Book Fair. You spent a whopping £1123.63 on books and consequently **raised £561.82** for the school to spend on books! Thank you for your support.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



Poppies are available to purchase alongside1 a selection of appeal goods - wristbands, reflector and key rings available from the school office.

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 16th October

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	92.94	3	95.45
1	94.41	4	98.30
2	92.00	5	94.69
		6	96.29

The Current National figure for comparison is 96.27%

Joffre White, Author Visiting Willand School

We are delighted to announce that Joffre White will visit our school on ***Wednesday 4th November***. Joffre White is an independent, professional author, who has published five books to date. He enjoys travelling around the UK, visiting schools and events to promote the importance of reading and school libraries. He hopes to inspire young reluctant readers to go and find that comic, that magazine, that book, that will change their lives.

Joffre will be work with Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and then will be available for book sales and signing in the library after school. Please bring cash or pay via bank transfer on the day. Further details can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Foundation Fun – *'Blending with Fred'*



We would like to remind parents of Reception children that our first Foundation Fun session is on **Wednesday, 4th November from 9:15am–10:15am**.

'Blending with Fred'; a short workshop focusing on how we teach oral blending and how you can support this at home. Following this, you will have the opportunity to share and read stories with your child.

REMINDER –

Non-Pupil Day – Friday, 23rd October
School re-opens for children – Monday, 2nd November.

We wish everyone a happy and safe half term break

Naomi Tottle

Headteacher

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

PE Timetable – Autumn 2

Please find below the PE timetable for the second half of the autumn term. Y4MC have now had their last session of swimming. After half term, Y4W will start swimming so please find below PE days for all classes for next half-term.

Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
RMB		X			X
RT		X		X	
Y1G	X				X
Y1HP	X		X		
Year 2			X	X	
Y3P	X				X
Y3WL	X		X		
Y4MC		X		X	
Y4W		X			swimming
Y5C				X	X
Y5S		X			X
Year 6			X		X

School Lunch Payments

We would appreciate parents clearing all school lunch balances. Can we also remind you; meals should be paid for in advance. Many thanks.

School Photograph Reminder



Have you ordered your school **Individual** photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school Is **Thursday 29th October. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link that was emailed to you, or if you have received paper order forms visit** www.tempest-orders.co.uk If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest at customerservice@htempest.co.uk

Nasal Flu Vaccination – Thursday, 19th November

We would like to remind parents that this in an **opt-in programme** and you should sign up using the following link: Flu Vaccination Consent Form

Class 4W 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 £22.62 for all sessions (£3.77 per session). Cheques to be made payable to Devon County Council. Please help us to provide this activity by continuing to support the school.

Vision screening for 4-5 Year Olds



We would like to remind parents that the vision screening for children in Reception will take place on **Friday, 20th November**.

This screening applies to all children in Year R and should you not wish your child to take part, please complete the **opt out** form sent out to you last week and return before the above date.

Collecting Children and Parking



We have received reports that both parents and children are being disrespectful to our neighbours by either blocking, standing in front of or running around on residents' driveways.

Please can we remind both parents and children to think of others and be respectful during school 'drop off' and 'pick up'.

Coats and Uniform



As much as possible we will continue to send pupils outside for break and lunch. As the weather gets colder, please ensure they have coats to be able to do this.

Teaching Assistant Vacancies

At a time when lots of schools are making difficult decisions regarding staffing, we are in the fortunate position to be recruiting more teaching assistants to strengthen our support for pupils. We currently have 3 vacancies advertised https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/jobs/sen-teaching-assistants-3-roles

Message for Year R, 1 & Parents



Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey to help us understand how we can best support you and your child with reading at home.

The Year of Reading – Fill in form

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
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SEND Information –
Parent Workshop on Tuesday, 17th November @ 3:30pm

Parents are invited to a Lumi Nova workshop. Lumi Nova is a fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety; a therapeutic game that helps children aged 7-12 years self-manage worries and build resilience.

The session will be run by Kirsty and Lou from the Mental Health in Schools team. They will explain the benefits of using the app and how to get the best from it.







Thank You!

We wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who made our event such a success:

- **Teaching Staff:** For volunteering to supervise and set up the rooms.
- **Cleaning Staff:** For helping us tidy up so quickly afterwards.
- **Parents & Families:** For supporting us and buying tickets.
- **Students:** For bringing so much energy, great dance moves, and awesome costumes!

We couldn't run these special events for Willand School without you. Thank you for all your support!

Willand School PTFA
willandschoolptfa@gmail.com



We are pleased to announce that we are using School Fundraising for this year's Christmas Campaign! You will be able to purchase Christmas cards and gifts featuring your child's artwork.

Products available this year include:

- Cards & Gift Tags
- Magnets & Mugs
- Coasters & Hanging Decorations
- Tea Towels

A leaflet is being sent home today with details on how to view your child's design and place an order. The online shop will remain open **until 17th November**.

Please note that any necessary amendments—such as correcting the spelling of your child's name or adjusting image orientation—can be made directly during the online checkout process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at Willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 2nd November

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Butchers oven baked Westcountry beef burger in a plain bap *GF/DF*	Chicken Fajitas *GF/DF*	Toad in the hole *GF/DF*	Homemade Chicken curry Naan bread and wholegrain rice *GF/DF*	Harry Ramsden`s Fish *GF/DF*
Oven baked Vegetarian burger in a plain bap *DF*	Quorn Fajitas *DF*	Vegetarian Toad in the hole *DF*	Macaroni cheese in homemade sauce	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	Carrot Cake 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 Autumn 2026 Menu Allergens List - updated 21 10 2026				

Diary dates to remember...

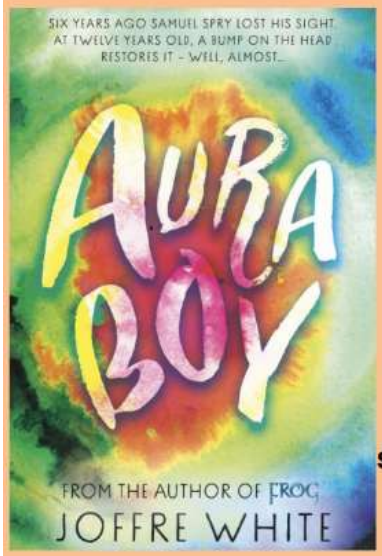
Friday 23rd October	Non-Pupil Day
Mon 26th – Fri 30th October	Half Term
Wednesday 4th November	Reception Parent Workshop – 'Blending with Fred' @ 9:15am
Wednesday 4th November	Joffre White, Visiting Author
Wednesday 11th November	Armistice Day
Friday 13th November	BBC Children in Need Day
Tuesday 17th November	Parent Workshop – Introduction to the Lumi Nova app @ 3:30pm
Thursday 19th November	Flu Immunisations
Friday 20th November	**Class 3P Assembly**
Tuesday 8th December	Yr 1 & 2 Play Dress Rehearsal @ 1:45pm
Wednesday 9th December	Yr 1 & 2 Play @ 9:30am and 1:45pm
For full calendar of events, please click below: calendar of events 2026-27 - updated 21 10 26 Term Dates 2026-27	





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Joffre White

Author,
and a UK Patron of Reading,

will be visiting

Willand Primary School

On

Wednesday 4th November 2026

If you would like to purchase personally signed copies of his latest thrilling adventure,

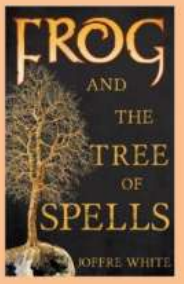
AURA BOY

£8.50 (rrp £8.99)



Patron of Reading

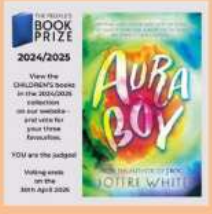




or any of the legendary FROG fantasy adventure series, they will be available on the day at discount prices.
'Frog', 'Frog and The Sandspiders', and 'Frog and the Tree of Spells'.
Paperbacks - £7.50 each (rrp. £8.99)
THE FROG TRILOGY - £22.00 (Three Books.)

(Cash or mobile direct bank transfer on the day.)

Children's Literature Book Awards 2024 Shortlisted FESTIVALS



"Joffre White is a master storyteller; his books leave you breathless." – Alexander Gordon Smith, UK Award-Winning Author & Film producer.

www.joffrewhite.com

Comic Club: Funny Faces and Extreme Expressions!

This week, we got creative by drawing our very own funny faces and extreme expressions. The children let their imaginations run wild, creating hilarious characters with enormous grins, surprised eyes, shocked expressions and wonderfully wacky features.We explored how changing the shape of our eyes, eyebrows and mouths could show different emotions and bring our characters to life. The children experimented with exaggerated features, playful details and expressive designs to make their drawings as funny and imaginative as possible.Another brilliant session full of creativity, laughter and some truly hilarious faces and extreme expressions!

Sam from Year 4 created this character! It raised a few eyebrows!!



Alecia from Year 4 created this character! She might be sad because she has lost a bow!



Channing from Year 4 created this Frogman complete with a cape!





Willa from Year 3 created this colourful character!

Evelyn from Year 4 created this sparkly princess!



Arla from Year 3 created this princess complete with a dragon sidekick!!



NEXT WEEK:

Next week, we will be focusing on **The Ultimate Villain!!!** The Comic Club can't wait to see what wicked characters, dastardly designs and wonderfully villainous creations the children come up with!