The Willand WORD

Learning for Life

4th November 2026 Issue 08



Winners!

On Thursday 22nd October, Miss Tottle announced this half-term's house point totals in our Willand Wonder assembly. We are so impressed with how many points each house has accrued and this is a testament to how hard the children are working. The results were:

- 4th place: Cornwall with 1194 points
- 3rd place: Devon with 1232 points
- 2nd place: Somerset with 1235 points
- 1st place: Dorset with 1444 points

Dorset's house captain, Catelin, then got to 'Spin the Wheel' to decide which prize the house was going to have. It landed on Crazy Hair Day so on Friday 6th November, all children (and staff!) in **Dorset only** can wear crazy hair. Please note that children should still wear school uniform.

All the house point totals are now reset to 0 for this half-term so it is once again, all to play for**.**



Children in Need - Friday 13th November

'Willand Comes Dancing'

On the week commencing Monday, 9th November, children will learn 5 'Strictly 'dance moves each day, Monday to Thursday. On Friday they will learn the final 6 steps of the routine and later in the day, children will join the rest of their key stage to perform the whole routine.

To celebrate 'Willand Comes Dancing', **Friday will be a non-school uniform day** for everyone – If you would like to donate, it will be most welcome on the day.

'Strictly' sparkle if you dare!

Enrichment Parent Survey

Earlier today parents were sent an email asking for their views on the enrichment provision at Willand School and we would be grateful if you would spare 10 minutes to complete our survey, which can be accessed by clicking the following link: Parent Survey: Review of Our Enrichment Offer – Fill out form

National Child Measurement Programme

Later today, parents of children in Reception and Year 6 will receive an email regarding the above programme. If you do not want your child to take part, please complete the opt out form by Friday 18th December.

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 Thursday, 22nd November.

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	97.93	3	97.06
1	94.63	4	95.65
2	93.28	5	90.97
		6	96.51

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.88%

Celebrating World Diabetes Day

World Diabetes Day is celebrated each year on **14th November** and helps raise awareness of diabetes: a condition that affects how the body uses glucose (sugar) for energy.

The '4 Ts' are the four main early warning signs of diabetes to look out for:

- **Toilet**: Going to the bathroom much more often than usual, including waking up at night or bed-wetting in children.
- **Thirsty**: Feeling very thirsty and unable to quench the thirst, no matter how much you drink.
- **Tired**: Feeling extreme fatigue or a severe lack of energy because the body cannot use sugar properly.
- **Thinner**: Losing weight or looking thinner than normal as the body breaks down fat and muscle for energy.

At our school, we are proud to support children and families living with diabetes. Children with diabetes manage their condition with incredible responsibility and resilience and we recognise the courage they show each day.

To celebrate the day and raise awareness of the condition, we would like to encourage all pupils to wear something blue on Monday 16th November. There will be no voluntary contribution for this however, if you would like to make a donation, please do so online at https://donate.diabetes.org.uk/donate/~my-donation.

Together, we can raise awareness, promote understanding and support everyone in our school community.

Thank you for your continued support

Naomi Tottle

Headteacher

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

Early Reading Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our Early Reading Survey. The survey has now closed and we are grateful for the valuable feedback received. We will be using the information gathered to help strengthen the support and guidance we provide for reading at home, ensuring that we continue to work together to give every child the best possible start on their reading journey. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Reading Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers who may be able to spare some time to listen to children read in Key Stage 1. Regular reading practice makes a huge difference to children's confidence and progress and any support would be greatly appreciated. Please note that all volunteers will be required to complete a DBS check and attend some in-school safeguarding training before working with children. If you are interested in helping, please contact the school office for more information.

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 – **closing date 9th November.**
https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/jobs/sen-teaching-assistants-3-roles

Reception Parent Workshop 'Blending with Fred'



Thank you to everyone who attended our workshop 'Blending with Fred' today. It was so lovely to see the children showing the adults their environment. We are hoping to run at least one Foundation Fun per term and will try to vary the days/times to enable as many people as possible to attend. The recording of the workshop talk has been uploaded to Tapestry for all Reception parents to access.

Mealtime Assistant Vacancy

We are looking to recruit a permanent Mealtime Assistant to join our team!
Hours: 12:00 to 1:15pm, 5 days per week term time only
Pay: £12.85 per hour.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

If you are interested in this role please collect an application form from the school office.
Deadline for applications: Monday, 23rd November.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



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

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

Home Contact Number and Addresses

Please can we remind parents to always update the school office with any changes to children's contact details, including emergency contact numbers and home addresses.
Many thanks.

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



Hello!

We are the **Mental Health Support Team** - an **early intervention service** focused on evidence based, guided self-help to help improve children and young people's mental health. We offer **therapeutic support** to young people as well as **working closely with school** to develop the whole school awareness of mental health and emotional wellbeing. We **work with children, young people and families** with **mild to moderate common mental health difficulties** (anxiety, low mood and emotional dysregulation).

We will be coming into your school on **Tuesday 17th November** at **15:30-16:00** to talk to **parents and carers** about the **Lumi Nova app -** a free, NHS funded service designed to support young people aged 7-12 who are experiencing worries or anxieties.



We are here to see you!

Devon
County Council

Devon Educational Psychology Service

Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries – Information for Parent Carers

The Devon Educational Psychology Service (EPS) is running group sessions which aim to reduce worrying in children and young people. The sessions can help parent carers develop skills that can be helpful in managing worries and supporting school attendance.

Programme Details

- **Duration:** Six sessions, each 90 minutes long
- **Schedule:** Delivered over seven weeks (six sessions with a one-week break)
- **Participants:** Parent carers (children do not attend).
- **Where:** Online via Microsoft Teams.
- **When:** Sessions will be held within typical school hours. We will contact parent carers with dates and times if we are able to offer you a place.
- **Start dates:** We are running groups starting in November.

Who Can Join?

We are offering sessions to parent carers of children who are concerned about their child's attendance and anxiety around school. The programme is designed for parent carers of children between 5-12 years of age, but it can be adapted for older children. The programme can be adapted for parent carers of children with SEND. We will work with you to help you get the most out of the sessions.

Spaces on the programme are limited, and we may not be able to offer everyone a place. We will be happy to talk this through with you via the contact details below.

How to Join?

To request a place, parents need to complete an online form which can be found here: https://forms.office.com/e/w13eSAq9a9

For more details or questions, contact the educational psychology service using this email address: educate.assistanteducationalpsychologist-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

We are accepting requests until 23rd October.

Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries

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

The online shop is open until **17th November** to make a purchase from this year's Christmas Campaign!

Products available include:

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

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, 9th November

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pepperoni Pizza *GF/DF*	Homemade Italian Bolognaise *GF/DF*	Roast Turkey with sage and onion stuffing *GF/DF*	Homemade Sausage Rolls *GF/DF*	Oven baked Fish Fingers *GF/DF*
Cheese pizza *GF/DF*	Quorn chicken noodles *DF*	Cheese & onion pasty	Cauliflower Cheese in homemade sauce	Oven baked Vegetarian Fingers *DF*
Potato wedges/ Pasta Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Spaghetti Garlic bread Green beans Crisps Salad Bar	Roast/Mashed Potatoes Fresh carrots & swede 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	Healthy fruit crumble Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Smoothie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Fruit Cocktail and Ice-cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Homemade healthy flapjack 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

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Diary Dates to remember...

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 – *'Willand Comes Dancing'*
Monday 16th November	Wear Blue for World Diabetes 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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EVENTS

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





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.

Comic Club: Halloween Draw-Along!

Although Comic Club didn't take place towards the end of term, I didn't want to miss the chance to get creative! So, I've put together a special Halloween draw-along for everyone to enjoy.

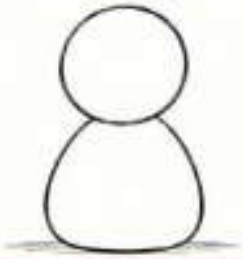
Follow the step-by-step instructions to draw your very own spooky cat, complete with magical Halloween details. You can follow along at your own pace, adding your own creative touches and bringing your Halloween character to life.

Happy drawing, everyone! I hope you have lots of fun getting creative this Halloween!

DRAW ALONG WITH MRS PAGLIERO!

Follow these simple steps to draw your very own Halloween cat!

1 Start with a circle for the head and a bigger, rounded shape for the body.



2 Add the ears, face and the beginning of the legs.



3 Draw the details – whiskers, eyes, nose, mouth and the tail.



4 Add a hat, collar or any accessories you like.



5 Now it's time to add colour! Use your favourite colours and make it look amazing.



6 Make it your own! Change the expression, add spots, stripes, wings, make it bigger, smaller, friendlier or funnier!



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!