Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another busy week in school. Our Year 4 pupils enjoyed a fascinating RE workshop, where they learned about Judaism and deepened their understanding of different faiths and beliefs. We have also marked Anti-Bullying Week, which has been an important focus both in classrooms and during whole-school assemblies. The children have engaged thoughtfully in discussions about kindness, respect and how we can all play a part in creating a positive and inclusive school community.
In this week's newsletter, you will also find important information regarding attendance during periods of severe weather, details of our 2028-2029 Admissions Policy, and information about the Thrive Whipton and Heavitree initiative.

Severe Weather: Keeping School Open and Safe

As we move into the winter months, its worth a reminder as to how we respond to snow and storms. Recent guidance from the Department for Education reminds schools that they should remain open wherever it is safe and reasonably possible to do so.

At Willowbrook, we regularly review our plans to help minimise disruption during periods of severe weather. Measures may include adapting outdoor activities, making greater use of indoor spaces, allowing warmer clothing, and adjusting staffing or timetables where needed.

School closure is always a last resort and would only happen following a careful assessment of local conditions, the safety of the school site, staffing levels and travel conditions. If attendance ever needs to be restricted, priority would be given to vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. Likewise, we would also consider a later opening if that felt appropriate . If we do have to close, we will let you know as soon as we are able to via e-mail and the Devon school closures page (School closures - Children, families and education).

We know that every family's situation is different. Even when school is open, some families may find it difficult to travel safely. We would always encourage you to consider the conditions where you live and along your journey to school and make the decision that is right for your family.

Children In Need & future evets

Thank you all for the kind donations given today for Children in Need – we will update with a total raised once it has been counted.

We would also like to reassure families, that the decision to not wear pyjamas for CIN this year does not mean we are moving away from opportunities for children to dress up and celebrate special occasions. We will absolutely continue to enjoy events such as World Book Day, where dressing up is part of a wider themed day and the timetable, activities and expectations are adapted accordingly. Children in Need is slightly different because the school day largely continues as normal, meaning children are expected to navigate their usual routines and learning while dressed differently from their everyday school clothes. We found last year that this change, without the wider structure of a themed day, didn't work. This is the only day of this sort that we feel hasn't worked. We will think about what we do for next year.

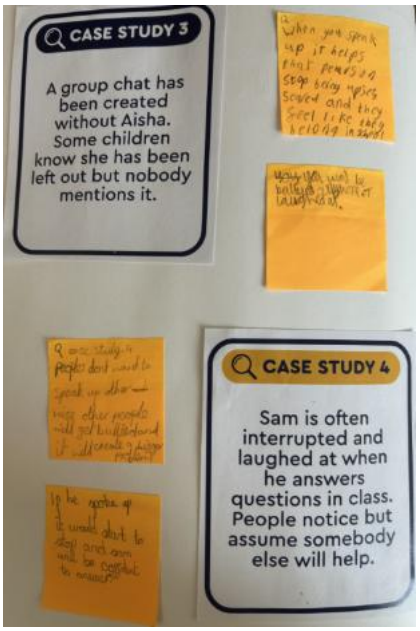
Anti-Bullying Week: Break the Silence

This year's Anti-Bullying Week theme was **'Break the Silence'**.
Sometimes people stay silent when bullying happens because they feel worried, upset or unsure how to help. However, by speaking up, asking for help, listening and supporting others, we can make a positive difference.

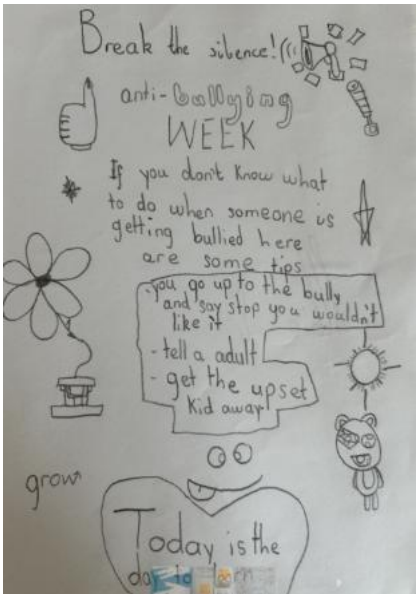
In class, we learned that bullying is repeated unkind behaviour that happens over time. We also discovered that Anti-Bullying Week is not just about learning, it is about taking action.
Throughout the week, we took part in a range of activities, including acting out bullying scenarios, creating anti-bullying posters, joining class discussions and developing ideas to help everyone feel included at playtimes.
Here are some photographs of our week:

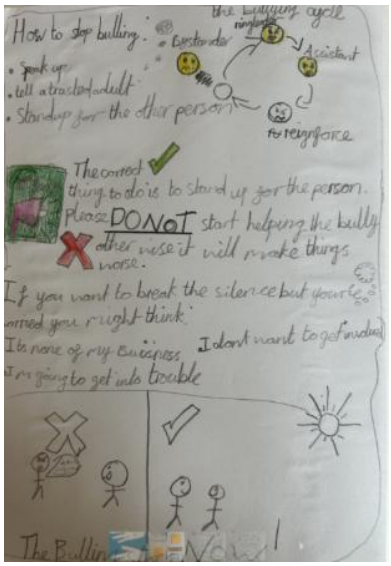


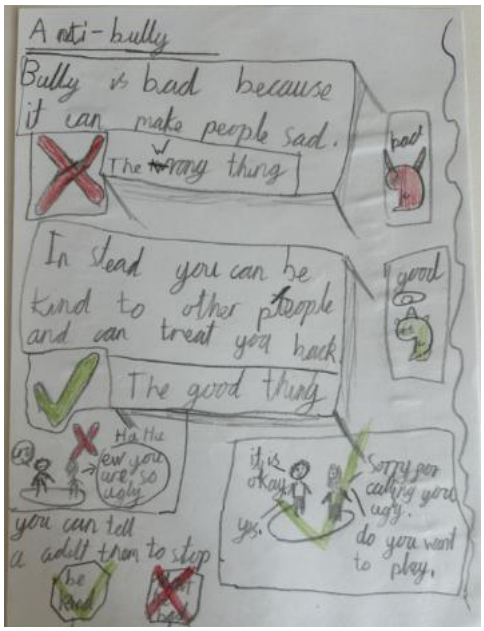












Admissions Policy for 2028–2029: Annual Consultation

Alongside all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on our admissions policy for 2028–2029. The Local Authority is also consulting on its own admission arrangements. You are invited to review the proposals and share your views. Our proposed policy is available on our admissions page: Admissions | Willowbrook Primary School

You can view all policies at http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy , and further information is available at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements

The formal consultation period runs until 15th January 2027. All policies will be determined on 10th February 2027 and published by 15th March 2027.

Pride in Place

Pride in Place is a community-led initiative that aims to make local areas even better places to live, work and thrive. Here in Exeter, we are proud to be part of the Thrive Whipton and Heavitree scheme, which focuses on listening to residents and supporting positive change within our neighbourhoods.
We would love to hear what you value most about the area and your ideas for how we can make it an even better place to live. Your responses to the survey below will help inform local priorities, shape future projects, and ensure that community voices are at the heart of future activity. Thank you for taking the time to share your views.

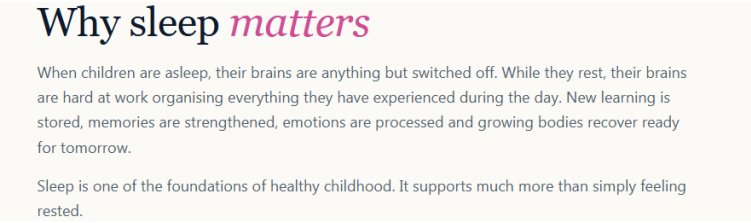
https://engage.exeter.gov.uk/pride-in-place-survey

For more information about Thrive Whipton and Heavitree, you can visit Pride in Place | Engage Exeter

Parent Support Corner

This week's featured parent guide: School Transitions

Read the full guide: Let's Talk About... Better Sleep for Growing Minds - A Guide for Parents & Carers



Dates for your diary

Please note there have been some date changes and updates: Rocksteady will now be taking place on 9th December at 9:30am

Date	Year group	Activity
Monday 23rd November	Y1	Big emotions workshop led by the Mental Health in Schools Team
Friday 27th November	Y1,2,3 and 6 – 9 am Y4, 5 and 6 – 2.30pm	Music assembly
Wednesday 2nd December	Choir	Christmas Choir performance at St James' Park
Tuesday 8th December	Nursery	Carols and craft 2:30pm
Wednesday 9th December	EYFS and KS1	Xmas Lunch
Wednesday 9th December	Rocksteady children	Rock steady parents invited 09:30-10:30
Thursday 10th December	KS2	Xmas Lunch
Thursday 10th December	Y2	Trip to Rosemoor
Thursday 10th December	Y1	Church Trip
Thursday 10th December	Y6	Carols at Greentree court
Friday 11th December	All Years	Santa Run and Xmas fayre
Friday 11th December	All Years	Christmas Fete 15:00 – 16:30pm
Tuesday 15th December	Choir	Christmas Cracker Choir event
Tuesday 15th December	Reception	Reception nativity - parents invited 2:15pm – 3pm
Wednesday 16th December	Reception	Reception nativity - parents invited 2:15 – 3pm
Wednesday 16th December	Year 6	Tiverton Museum Trip
Thursday 17th December	Year 1-6	Carol concert – Parents invited 2:30 – 3:30pm
Friday 18th December	All Years	Christmas Jumper day
Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th January	Y6	Bikeability
Tuesday 12th January	Y4	Southwest Water visit
Friday 29th January	Choir	Young voices trip to Birmingham
Friday 12th February	Years 1- 6	Intra-sport competition
Thursday 4th March	All Years	World Book Day
Wednesday 8th March	Choir	Community singing event at Exeter School
Friday 12th March	All Years	Mother's Day Gifts and Cream Tea
Wednesday 17th March	Year 4	Escot trip
Friday 19th March	All Years	Red Nose Day – Non uniform day
Monday 22nd March	KS1	Easter Service
Tuesday 23rd March	EYFS	Easter crafts
Friday 23rd April	Years 1-6	Intra- sports competition
Friday 30th April	Years 1-6	VE day assembly
Thursday 6th May	All Years	Tempest class photos
Monday 10th – Thursday 13th May	Year 6	SATs Week
Friday 14th May	Year 6	Beach trip
Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th May	Year 5	Wildside Residential
Wednesday 23rd June	KS2	Sports Day
Thursday 24th June	EYFS and KS1	Sports Day
Friday 25th June	All years	World Music Day

Friday 25th June	All years	Father's day gifts
Thursday 1st July	Year 3	Sleepover
Friday 2nd July	All Years	Summer Fete 15:00pm - 17:00pm
Monday 5th – Wednesday 7th July	Year 6	London residential
Thursday 8th July	Year 6 – Civic award Children	Civic award Ceremony
Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th July	Year 6	High school transition day
Wednesday 14th July	Year 2	Year 2 performance
Friday 16th July	Rec – Y5	Meet new teachers
Monday 19th – Friday 23rd	All Years	Enrichment week
Wednesday 21st July	Year 6	Year 6 Leavers performance
Thursday 22nd July	Year 6	Year 6 Leavers assembly
Thursday 22nd July	All Years	Whole School Awards

Please be aware that, while we will always aim to keep these dates unchanged, they may occasionally be subject to change and we will communicate any updates as soon as possible.

2026-2027 Term Dates

Autumn Term	Monday 7th September 2026
Half Term	Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026
Ends	Friday 18th December 2026
Christmas Holiday	Monday 21st December 2026 to Monday 4th January 2027
Spring Term	Tuesday 5th January 2027
Half Term	Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027
Ends	Thursday 25th March 2027
Easter Holiday	Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027
Summer Term	Monday 12th April 2027
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 29th May 2027
Half Term	Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027
Ends	Thursday 22nd July 2027

Non-Pupil and Occasional days

NPD 1	Thursday 3rd September 2026
NPD 2	Friday 4th September 2026
NPD 3	Friday 23rd October 2026
NPD 4	Monday 4th January 2027
NPD 5	Friday 23rd July 2027
OCCD1	Monday 26th July 2027
OCCD2	Tuesday 27th July 2027

PE Days

Monday - Hazel (y1), Beech (Y1), River (Y6) and Brook (Y6), Birch (Y2), Rowan (Y2)

Tuesday - River (Y6) and Brook (Y6), Vale (Y5), Glade (Y5), Cedar (Y3) and Ash (Y3)

Wednesday- Birch (Y2), Rowan (Y2), Hazel (y1) and Beech (Y1), Elm (Y4), Sycamore (Y4)

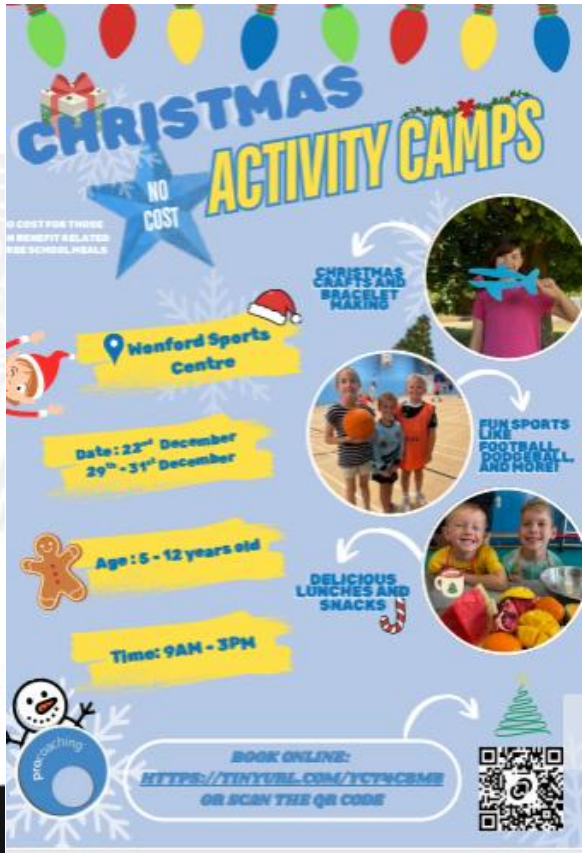
Thursday- Cedar (Y3), Ash (Y3), Elm (Y4), Sycamore (Y4), Vale (Y5) and Glade (Y5)

Friday - Acon and Seedling (REC)

Lunch Menu Week Beginning 23/11/26

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MAIN MEAL	**MAIN MEAL**	**MAIN MEAL**	**MAIN MEAL**	**MAIN MEAL**
Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread	Chicken Stir Fry	Roast Turkey & Stuffing	Salmon & Broccoli Pasta Bake	Breaded Chicken Nuggets
VEGETARIAN MEAL	**VEGETARIAN MEAL**	**VEGETARIAN MEAL**	**VEGETARIAN MEAL**	**VEGETARIAN MEAL**
Sweet Chilli Halloumi Wrap	Quorn Stir Fry & Noodles	Vegetable Wellington	Vegan Sausage Roll & Potato Wedges	Veggie Nuggets
JACKET POTATO	**JACKET POTATO**	**JACKET POTATO**	**JACKET POTATO**	**JACKET POTATO**
Served with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Served with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Served with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Served with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Served with Tuna, Cheese or Beans
OTHER	**OTHER**	**OTHER**	**OTHER**	**OTHER**
Egg & Lettuce Sandwich	Pizza Muffin or Baguette	Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Tuna Mayo & Cucumber Wrap
SIDES	**SIDES**	**SIDES**	**SIDES**	**SIDES**
Sweetcorn or Carrot Sticks	Peas or Green Beans	Roast or Mash Potato, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Corn on Cob or Cucumber Sticks	Chips or Pasta, Peas or Salad & Tomato Sauce
DESSERT	**DESSERT**	**DESSERT**	**DESSERT**	**DESSERT**
Fruit Crunch Pot	“ABC” Cake	Ice Cream Pots	Cookie	Vegan Chocolate Brownie


TIGERSTYLE
SPORTS KARATE
WILLOWBROOK
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
KICKBOXING • CONFIDENCE • DISCIPLINE • FUN
THURSDAYS
3:30 – 4:30PM
STARTING
17TH SEPTEMBER
2026
COST
£60
BUILDS CONFIDENCE
MAKES NEW FRIENDS
IMPROVES FITNESS
LEARNS VALUABLE SKILLS
WILLOWBROOK
PRIMARY SCHOOL
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!
TRAIN LEARN GROW


CHRISTMAS
ACTIVITY CAMPS
NO COST
CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND BRACELET MAKING
Wenford Sports Centre
FUN SPORTS LIKE FOOTBALL, DODGEBALL, AND MORE!
Date: 22nd December
29th - 31st December
Age: 5 - 12 years old
DELICIOUS LUNCHES AND SNACKS
Time: 9AM - 3PM
BOOK ONLINE:
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/TCTHCBMB
OR SCAN THE QR CODE


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For children aged 4-11.
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SportyStars
Inflatable Games
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AND MORE!
CHRISTMAS
MULTI-ACTIVITY
HOLIDAY CAMP
ST LUKE'S CAMPUS,
UNIVERSITY OF EXETER
21st, 22nd & 23rd Dec
29th & 30th Dec
8.15am - 5.15pm
Ages 5-12
www.sportystars.co.uk | enquiries@sportystars.co.uk


BEACON HEATH RESIDENTS
Community Meal
Beacon hEATh
Food Project
Thursday 22nd October, 19th November,
10th December & 21st January
Beacon Heath Church
Food served at 6.30pm
JOIN US FOR FREE HEALTHY VEGETARIAN
HOME COOKED FOOD
Door open at 5 for a cuppa, dinner served at 6.30pm
Lend a hand helping out if you come early
More info- Ebbie Peters- ebbie.peters@eci.org.uk or call 07516 692583
Supported with a ward grant from
Exeter
City Council