

# Willenhall Community Primary School Newsletter

[www.willenhallprimary.org](http://www.willenhallprimary.org)

*Ambitious young minds are the future leaders of our community*



## Dates for your diary

**Fri 17th February**—Children break up at 3.25pm

**Mon 27th February**—Children back to school, 8.55am

**Thu 2nd March**—World Book Day

**Tue 7th March**—Reception Sea Life Centre Trip

**Tue 7th - Thu 9th March**—Book Fair in school

**Tue 7th March**— Parent Meetings (A classes)

**Wed 8th March**— Parent Meetings (Alpha classes)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to remind all parents of the importance of keeping us up-to-date with any new contact numbers, if your child is ill in school or an emergency arises we will need to get hold of you. Please email the office ([office@willenhallprimary.org](mailto:office@willenhallprimary.org)) or pop into the office to complete a change of details form.

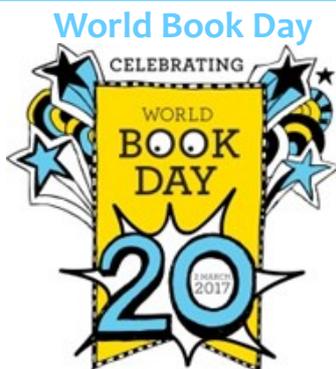
At this time of year we often see an increase in illnesses and consequently absences from school. The school follows the NHS guidelines when advising you regarding keeping your child off school. For sickness and diarrhoea children must be kept away from school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea occurred. Many of the other illnesses, although contagious are no more serious than common colds and if your child feels well enough they are able to attend school. If you're not sure please call the school office for advice.

We have welcomed a few new faces in school in the new year—we have new pupils, and new staff who have joined us. We are saying goodbye to Miss Carey in the school office who is leaving to have a baby—we wish her every happiness and hope to welcome her back later this year.

Don't forget Pancake Day on Tuesday 28th February—we are offering a special school lunch with pancakes, peaches and ice cream for dessert. If your child doesn't normally have a school meal but would like a lunch on this day please return the slip by Monday 27th February.

Let's hope that everyone has a germ free half-term holiday and comes back to school on Monday 27th February happy, healthy and ready for the Spring Term.

Mrs Knowles - Deputy Head Teacher



We will be once again celebrating **World Book Day** as a way of promoting our children's love of reading.

On **Thursday 2nd March** (the first Thursday after our half term holiday), **we will be holding a dress up day where children can dress up as their favourite book character.** Last year, we had some really inventive and imaginative costumes – so we can't wait to see who will be dressing up this year!

Children will be bringing home a **£1 World Book Day Token** that can either be exchanged for one of ten special £1 World Book Day books or used to get £1 off any book costing £2.99 or more. Children can use their token towards the cost of a book at the school book fair.

As a school, we **really appreciate the hard work** our families have been putting in to make sure our children are **enthusiastic and confident readers.** More and more children are now reading regularly at home.

Thank you very much for your support with this.

## Year 4 'Me and My Community'

Last Monday (13th February), Steve Garrett from Willenhall Forum came into school and gave a presentation to both Year 4 classes. The talk linked in with the PHSE work that the year group had been



doing on 'Me and My Community' – What Impacts on my Community? The children learned a lot about their community and how they can make decisions about what their community will look like in the future!

They were also able to ask Steve a range of difficult questions about their community.



Remember to follow our Twitter account



## Willenhall Sports Round-Up



The school athletics team have started the year very well by defending their Coventry East title, beating Manor Park, Aldermoor Farm and Ernesford Grange in the Coventry finals, meaning we will be representing Coventry at the County Finals on March 15th. We also got invited to make up the numbers at the Secondary Sports Hall Athletics competition. We took 16 year 5 and 6 pupils to the Alan Higgs where the girls' team amazingly won the year 7 girls' competition. The boys' team also did really well coming in 2nd place in the year 7 competition.

The boys' year 5 and 6 football team have qualified for the Coventry 4 a-side finals winning their group, by beating Christ the King, Coundon and Stoke, meaning they will be competing against the other group winners on 28th February. During the tournament Matys scored 7 goals, Jonathan and Corey both scored 4 goals.

The year 4 boys' football team played Moseley Primary beating them 12-2 in their first game of the year. With the goals coming from Aaron 6, Franco 2, Shemiah, Michael 2 and Alfie.

The girls also competed in the 4 a-side tournament winning 1 game and losing 2 games meaning they finished 3rd on the night.

Samanther, Summer, Matthew and Preston took part in the rowing county finals in Solihull on the 3rd February competing against schools from around Warwickshire and finished in an impressive 6th place.

Also a big well done to Hayden in year 6 who represented Warwickshire at the speed bounce in the Athletics County Championships. Hayden becomes the first child from Willenhall to be selected for the county team and we are all very proud of him.



### Year 5

Over the past half term, we have been doing lots of exciting things in Year 5. In geography, we learnt how tectonic plates move in different ways and demonstrated this using Oreos, which of course, we got to eat afterwards! We compared the earth's crust to the structure of a peach and we researched the volcanic eruption of Pompeii in 79AD. Unsurprisingly, the children were very interested in the deaths of the people during the eruption and how their bodies were frozen in time within the ash.

Our English topic this term has been based on the picture book Ice Trap, which follows the story of Ernest Shackleton and his expedition of Antarctica. The children created persuasive adverts for dare devil candidates, discussed what essential items they would need to take if they went to Antarctica (Xbox was a popular, yet an unrealistic option), wrote descriptions of the setting and finally, recorded conversations that the desperate men would have amongst one another on the ship.

The children said about this term:

*"We enjoyed reading Ice Trap and writing lots of interesting things about it. I also loved learning about how volcanos are formed and their different parts. It was fun when we watched a video that recreated the eruption in Pompeii because then we made a fact file about all the things we had learnt."*

*"I loved eating Oreos when learning about tectonic plates."*



### Year 4's Fire Service Visit!

Both Year 4 classes had a visit from the local Fire Service on Friday 20th January, 2017. The reason for the visit was to teach the children about fire safety and all the different hazards they might come across in the home. All the activities were taught through an interactive fire safety program in which pupils had the opportunity to interact with the different safety themed activities!

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE**

Making the West Midlands Safer, Stronger and Healthier

# Health for Kids!

Coventry School Nursing is delighted to launch two new health focussed websites for young people across Coventry, one aimed at children and another for teenagers.

www.healthforkids.co.uk offers a fun way for children to learn about health with games, activities and quizzes, and also offers advice to parents.

www.healthforteens.co.uk hosts videos as well as articles to educate teenagers on a range of health topics such as contraception, mental health, drugs and alcohol.

Students will still be able to see their NHS school nurse face-to-face in clinic and can also access support through ChatHealth, a School Nurse texting service for 11-18 year olds across Coventry. The service enables students to send confidential SMS text messages to School Nurses who will provide impartial advice and support. The number to text is 07507 331949.

In addition, we also provide an advice line so parents can contact a school nurse to discuss any child health concerns they may have. The service is known as Parent Line and can be reached by calling 01926 626 590 between 5pm and 8pm Monday to Friday.

South Warwickshire   
NHS Foundation Trust

## FREE NURSERY PLACES FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AT WILLENHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

*For a good start in life—give your child an early education*

**Our nursery places for September 2017 are filling up fast.**

Our nursery places are offered on a first come first served basis so be sure to get your application in as soon as possible.

Free places are available for children who will be 3 years old **before** the 1st September 2017.

**Please contact the school office for more information, an application form or to arrange a guided tour**

## Class Photos

Photographers will be in school in May to take class photos but we will just be having the class photos taken for Reception, Year 6 and the sports teams.

## Evidence of Childcare Payments

If you pay for breakfast club or additional nursery sessions please be aware that you may be required to provide evidence of childcare payments to HM Revenue & Customs. Please ensure that you retain copies of all receipts, the school will not provide 2<sup>nd</sup> copies or produce confirmation letters on your behalf. Receipts will be emailed to you, please ensure that the school has your email address.

## Cancer Research Donation

Thank you to every one that ordered school photographs last term. 50p from every order was donated to Cancer Research meaning we raised a total of £80.00.

Parents, welcome to:

### Schoolgateway

The easy way to pay online for dinners and other items.

Download the app.  or visit: [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com)

**Activate your account today!**



**Online Payments**

37% of our parents are now registered on School Gateway and enjoying the benefits of being able to pay online for school items.

If you haven't registered yet please visit [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) or download the app from your app store to set up your account.

A post box for cash payments and reply slips is now available in the main entrance of the school.

Please ensure that money is in a sealed envelope clearly labelled with your child's name, class, the amount and what it is for. Please send the correct money as we do not give change.



**Alternatively you can pay online using the School Gateway.**

*(Please note that the school does not provide envelopes)*



