



THE WILLOWS
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

**Friday 10th
October 2025**

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

Another week has flown by! The decent weather is continuing to hold and everyone is settling more and more.

We are having a big push on attendance this year so you will regularly hear me go on about it! Just remember every day is important; we are happy for your children to come to school and let us see how they get on. Try and get them in as much as you can; it does not take much to slip to 95% (just two weeks off will make you 95% for the year!) and multiple illnesses will quickly mean that your child is below 90% attendance and therefore classed as 'persistently absent' meaning a meeting at the school to try and improve it. Please speak with us if you are having any difficulties that may impact your child's attendance - we are here to help!

Speaking of help, please use the school's multiple avenues of communication if you need to speak with someone. Set yourself up on the App, use ClassCharts (or Tapestry in EYFS) and make sure you visit our website to see how you can directly message the Inclusion Team. Whenever something happens and you need to speak with us, need our help or advice just get in contact no matter what the issue is.

Lastly, hopefully this is the year that I get something done about the road and parking! I have a meeting with the local MP and also representatives from the police, planning and traffic to try and find a solution. There is only so much that we can do though so please behave and park responsibly outside the school if you have to drive there. Try and walk, skate and bike if you can!

Thanks everyone, have a great weekend,

Mr T Robinson

Headteacher



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

CHERRY TREE – FIXED TERM TEACHER closing date 22nd October

CHERRY TREE – SEMH ASSISTANT closing date 15th October

FAIRHOUSE – FIXED TERM SEND SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 12th October

MERRYLANDS – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 12th October

MERRYLANDS – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT/SEND SUPPORT closing date 17th October

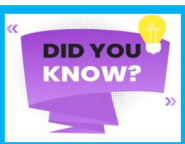
WILLOWS – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 9th October

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies – Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)

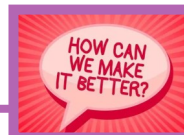
The Willows Primary PTA

You can now find information on any of our events under the '**PTA Events**' section on the contents page of the **PA connect app**.

For more information, or to register your support please email: pta.thewillows@gmail.com



Attendance



Often, the reasons behind low school attendance will be met with understanding and empathy: unmet diverse needs, anxiety and caring responsibilities are just a few examples.

Striving to understand the reason leads to it being dealt with sensitively, which can then improve attendance for the pupil.

Keep communicating!

Make sure you are keeping the school up to date and included, so that we can help to eradicate any barriers to attendance.

You can do this by speaking to a member of SLT, office staff, class teacher or LSA. This can be arranged face-to-face, via email or telephone, or through class charts which is set up for every pupil in the school.



Classroom Award

Congratulations to

2T

for achieving the highest attendance this week at **98.3%**!

Attendance percentages for this week.

Yearly – 94.3%

Weekly - 94.2%

KS1 – 93.4%

KS2 - 94.5%

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...



ELEMENTARY STUDENTS
read well by the end of third grade



MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
pass important courses



HIGH SCHOOLERS
stay on track for graduation



COLLEGE STUDENTS
earn their degrees



WORKERS
succeed in their jobs

Too many absences—excused or unexcused—can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year—that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month—can knock students off track.



Attendance Works

Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence
www.attendanceworks.org

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BERLESDUNA
ACADEMY TRUST



MERRYLANDS
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



WHITMORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



CRAYS HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL



FELMORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



CHERRY TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



FAIRHOUSE
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



ST MARY'S CofE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Taking holidays in term time.

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Missing school can negatively impact a pupil's progress and stop them from reaching their true academic potential.

If you feel that there are exceptional circumstances, you should make an application to your the school. You must get permission from the headteacher if you want to take your child out of school during term time. You may be asked to provide a form of evidence dependant on the circumstances.

You could be fined or face legal action for taking your child out of school during term time without the school's permission.

Any leave of absence request should be completed on the PA connect app. Once this has been done, your request will be reviewed and then a member of staff will be in contact with you regarding the outcome.



Lateness



We are recently noticing a large number of children arriving late to school without an agreed arrival time. This will impact your child's overall percentage of attendance.

Persistent lateness to school can significantly disrupt academic performance, social dynamics, and overall students well-being, leading to long term, negative consequences.

Whilst we understand that there are certain situations where this cannot be helped, it is important that you keep communicating with us. This is to help us better understand, or to be able to help with the improvement of late arrivals, addressing any barriers that may be contributing to this.

If your child arrives to school after the gates have closed, or if they have an agreed later start time, you must accompany them to enter school via the office. You must sign them & support them in using our InVentry console in the reception area. You will be asked to give a reason for their lateness, please make sure you complete this accurately, **as it is recorded on your child's attendance.**

If a later arrival time has not been agreed, should your child arrive after 9am, they will be marked as 'L' on the register. Any arrivals after 9.25am are marked as 'U', which goes down as a missed/unauthorised mark! Please can also use the InVentry console to specify your child's lunch choice for that day. Please see the menu in the main reception.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THE SCHOOL GATES CLOSE 9AM PROMPTLY!

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WELL DONE!

1R Raine for demonstrating extraordinary strength, courage, and perseverance.

1P Harley for showing great resilience settling into your new school. Keep up the good work!

1C Albie For showing great resilience in class. Well done Albie!

2D Lainey has shown great resilience since starting Year 2, always trying her best and with a lovely smile on her face. Well done Lainey!

2H Sonny for showing resilience when completing your work in all of your lessons.

2T Jacob has been trying hard to become a more resilient learner. He has been working hard to complete his work to a high standard, even if he finds it challenging. Well done Jacob!

3SB Dollimai for always trying her best, even when things become tricky. Well done!

3D Amaya for always having a positive outlook and looking for the brighter side of situations.

3S Toby for always being willing to try and not giving up when he finds tasks hard.

4I Shelbie for showing great resilience, she has persevered through difficulties, and continued to grow in confidence and determination. Well done!

4E Emily for having the resilience to learn from her mistakes.

4RH Alfie for showing amazing resilience in his learning and confidently asking for help when he needed it – a true example of a growth mindset!

5F Brogan for always trying incredibly hard and never giving up when faced with a problem. Well done!

5J Ella for showing great resilience in continuing to try your best until you get it right!

5W Daniel for always showing great resilience and trying your best even when things are difficult.

6B Bella for showing remarkable resilience during mathematics lessons.

6H Alice for showing outstanding resilience by staying determined, overcoming challenges, and never giving up, even when tasks were difficult.

6F Robyn-Rae for being a resilient hardworking learner especially when it comes to Maths. You should be very proud of the progress you have made.

Star Readers of the Week

Yr1— Mathias, Matthew, Alex

Yr2 — Jamie, Chloe, Usaim

Yr3 — Faye, Rayaan, Reggie

Yr4 — Louie, Sobe, Aaida

Yr5 — Denis, Tina, Dea

Yr 6— Brook, Poppy, Evelina

Superstar Writers of the Week

Yr1— Amelia, Ezmae, Gracie

Yr2— Jakub, Emily, Scarlett

Yr3 — Darja, Evie, Olivia

Yr4 — Violet, Alaia, Eileen

Yr5 — Charlotte, Meghna, Amelly

Yr 6 — Chibugo, Iosif, Excellent

Whole Class Superstar Readers of the Week

Key Stage 1: Lower Key Stage 2: Upper Key Stage 2:

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ST MARY'S CofE
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OPAL

Laundry basket 	Suitcase 	Wooden spoons 	Action figures 	Plastic crates 
Dress up items 	Cars 	Dinosaurs 	Pans 	Plastic dolls 
Lego 	Small balls 	Scooter 	Plastic tubes 	Tarpaulin 
Beach spades 	Buckets 	Trowels 	Skateboard 	Cardboard tubes 
Guttering 	Wooden planks 	Helmet 	Aprons 	Chalk 

Please try to keep these items in mind as these are the kinds of donations that our school needs as part of our Outdoor Play and Learning initiative. These items will make playtimes outside much more exciting, engaging and fun! Please give your child's class teacher any donations and these can then be passed on.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

This weeks OPAL Certificate

Khaliyah for working hard to tidy up
equipment and
encouraging others to tidy.

We are pleased to support Basildon United F.C.



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