



**THE WILLOWS**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



**Friday 14th November 2025**

**Headteacher's Message**

Dear parents and carers,

Another week has flown past! I was talking to some of you last night at the parents' evening about how quickly this term is going and it hasn't slowed down!

Speaking of last night, thank you everyone for the turnout at the parents' evenings over the past three nights. It is always very fulfilling to see you all, share some smiles, see everyone happy and willing to discuss the progress of their children. Teachers value these nights, particularly the first one, as a way to build the essential relationships between home and school.

It was great to see our PTA out in support at parents' evening. They are doing a great job; any support that you can offer would be very much appreciated (you can find their contact details on the newsletter) and a strong PTA means the children can only benefit. If you haven't, please purchase your disco tickets!

Finally a word on Children In Need. It has been running for (almost!) as long as I have been alive and I remember sitting down to watch it as a child. As a teacher, I can't argue with any attempt to make the lives of children better and so it has always had a special place in the calendar of special days and events. It is a time to take stock, be thankful for what we all have but also to demand more for everyone, strive for inclusion, kindness and understanding of everyone in our community and also the world.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Mr T Robinson

Headteacher

The Willows Primary School

Congratulations to our newly appointed Head & Deputy Head boys & girls; Elijah, Katy, Holly & Saiyam.

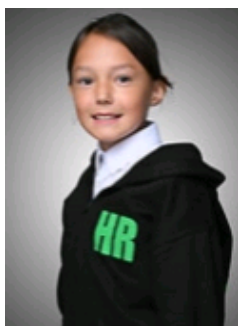
Head Boy



Head Girl



Deputy Head Girl



Deputy Head Boy



**SEND parents and carers coffee morning at  
The Willows**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November

9.15am – 10.00am



Parenting can be lonely, especially if your child has an additional need.

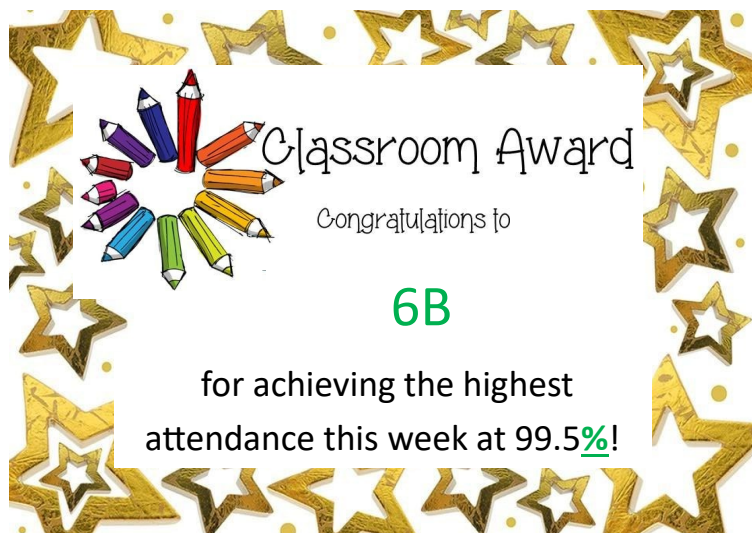
Come and meet like-minded parents and carers in a similar position to you over a cuppa and some biscuits.

This time we have Sammi from Barnardo's visiting with some community support information.

**Mr Aston, Mrs Rumball and Mrs Smith will also be on hand to answer any questions and signpost any support needed.**

## Diary Dates

- **SEND Coffee Morning**—Tuesday 18th November 9.15am
- **Years 2/4/5 Cinema Trip**—Tuesday 18th November
- **Year 1/3/6 Cinema Trip**—Wednesday 26th November
- **Festive Fun Disco**—Wednesday 3rd December (See individual times for each year group)



### Attendance percentages

for this week.

Yearly – 93.9%

Weekly - 94.4%

KS1 – 91.9%

KS2 - 95.6%

**Keep a look out for our Attendance challenge**

**coming the week commencing 24th November 2025!**

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**CRAYS HILL**  
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**FAIRHOUSE**  
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**ST MARY'S CofE**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Reporting Absence

Please report your child's absence to the office by emailing [admin@willows.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@willows.essex.sch.uk) or by leaving a message on the office telephone by calling 01268 470880. The school must be informed **EVERY school day** that the child is absent.

Please ensure that you have reported your child's absence by **9.20am**.

## 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](mailto:pta.thewillows@gmail.com).

## 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 BE REMINDED THE SCHOOL GATES CLOSE 9AM PROMPTLY!**

If you or your child have an appointment, or know that you will be arriving to school late for any other reason, please inform the office via email your child's lunch choice for that day. This is so the kitchen can be provided with the correct number of lunches. Should we not receive your lunch choice, we cannot guarantee your child will be able to have their preferred option.

Should your child's choice be baguette, please state which filling they would like to have.

Thank you for your understanding.



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PRIMARY SCHOOL



**St Nicholas**  
Primary



**Canewdon**  
Primary School

# WELL DONE!

**1R Theo** for always showing respect to friends, adults and our school.

**1P Oscar** for always showing respect to your friends and adults you meet.

**1C Jesse** for being respectful to your peers and adults.

**2D Poppy** Poppy is always an excellent role model and shows respect for adults and her peers. Well done! :)

**2H MJ** for always being very respectful towards adults and your peers by using your manners and being polite.

**2T Faria** always shows kindness, good manners, and respect towards teachers and classmates. Her thoughtful words and caring actions make our classroom a happier place every day!

**3SB Maxwell** for being a cheerful and respectful member of the class and always trying his best.

**3D Georgie** for beginning to show respect for the classroom and his own work.

**3S Lewis** for always showing respect to everyone in the community and being a role model for how to behave respectfully.

**4I Leighton** For always treating others with respect and kindness, helping to make our classroom a happy place.

**4E Ayaan** for always showing respect to peers and adults. He has lovely manners and is always considerate to others.

**4RH Mayra** for showing outstanding respect for others and for always taking great pride and care in her work.

**5F Danny** for always being a great friend to everyone, as well as showing respectful behaviour every day.

**5J Kiyanna** for always showing adults and other children respect in the classroom and the playground—well done!

**5W Danaya** for always being polite and respectful to every adult and for setting an excellent example to everyone else.

**6B Katy** for always showing due regard for the feelings, wishes and rights of her peers.

**6H Hayden** for always showing respect to everyone by listening carefully, using kind words, and being a wonderful role model in the classroom.

**6F Armani** for being a kind and respectful member of the class. Everyday he tries his best and is making some great progress.

## Star Readers of the Week

**Yr1**— Kody, David, Halei-Jane

**Yr2** — Jacob, Lillie-Anna, Wilson

**Yr3** — Gabija, Henry, Sunshine

**Yr4** — Amarachukwu, Freddie, Mahii

**Yr5** — Mikolaj, Macie, Lennon

**Yr 6**— Jenson, Eesha, George

## Superstar Writers of the Week

**Yr1**— Leo, Letty, Kaleb

**Yr2**— Ngozi, Teddy, Alessia

**Yr3** — Elliot, Ronnie, Milan

**Yr4** — Scarlett, Theo, Camilla

**Yr5** — Gracie, Edi, Alexandra

**Yr 6**— David, Sienna, Andrea

## Whole Class Superstar Readers of the Week

**Key Stage 1:** **1C-76** **Lower Key Stage 2:** **4I-59** **Upper Key Stage 2:** **5J-105**

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# OPAL

## This weeks OPAL Certificate

**Elvianna** for working hard to tidy  
up equipment and  
encouraging others to tidy.

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. Kind regards,

**Miss Hudson and Miss Dorrington - OPAL Leads**

## Well done!

Well done to Shelbie in 4I and Shainie in Nursery, who took part in the Remembrance Parade on Sunday representing Basildon Brownies & Rainbows, in honour of all loved ones who fought for our freedom in the war.



## The Willows Boccia Team



On Tuesday The Willows SEN sports club travelled to James Hornsby school to compete in the annual Boccia tournament.

They were joined by seven other schools from across Basildon and played three games against each team.

Unfortunately on this occasion we did not make it to the finals; however we did walk away with the 'self belief' certificate for showing such an amazing attitude towards each other and everyone else at the competition.

I am so proud of all of the pupils who took part and would like to thank Mrs Adams for joining me in taking the children.

Mrs Horrobin.

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### Reception—September 2026

With the September 2026 school application process fast approaching, here are some useful steps to follow when applying;

- Application Period: Applications for primary school places in Essex are open from 10 November 2025 to 15 January 2026.
- Application Method: You can apply online through your local council or use the application form provided by the council.
- Preparation: Ensure you are prepared for the application process, as starting primary school is a significant milestone for your child.
- Check Preferences: Make sure to use all four of your preferences to increase your chances of securing a place at your preferred school.
- Offers: Offers will be sent to online applicants by email on 16 April 2026.

**Good luck with your applications, please do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have.**


### Senior School Admissions—September 2026

Applications for the 2026 school year are now closed.

If you wish to make a late application for a secondary (year 7) school place, use the online late application form on the Essex admissions website: [www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions)

All applications received after 31 October 2025 will be treated as late and will only be processed after all on-time applications.

You are less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools if you apply late.



**BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES**

FELMORE – PART TIME CLASS TEACHER closing date 24<sup>th</sup> November  
 MERRYLANDS – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 16<sup>th</sup> November  
 WHITMORE – CLASS TEACHER (FIXED TERM) closing date 1<sup>st</sup> December  
 WHITMORE – HLTA (FIXED TERM) closing date 18<sup>th</sup> November  
 WHITMORE – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT/MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 24<sup>th</sup> November  
 WHITMORE – EYFS/KS1 LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 15<sup>th</sup> December  
 WILLOWS – EYFS CLASS TEACHER (FIXED TERM) closing date 14<sup>th</sup> November

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

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