



Reception News

This week we have been focusing on Dentists.

We have been looking at the job of a Dentist and how they help people in the community.

We have also been thinking about how we can keep our teeth healthy and cared for. We had a lovely visit from the Dentist, who gave us an educational talk about how to care for our teeth, the times of day we should be brushing our teeth and for how long.

We also used some pictures to sequence how to brush our teeth.

In maths this week, we have been focusing on pairs and odd and even numbers. The children have enjoyed making pairs of socks, making pairs using colours, shapes and sizes. We have had lots of lovely activities to do.

We then looked at odd and even numbers and how we can recognise even and odd numbers using tens frames and numicon.

In PE this week we have been looking at dance and how we can move to different pieces of music.

Weekly Challenges!

Reading: We are looking for all children to be reading at least 5 times at home. This can be a few pages of their reading book. Please ensure each time your child has read at home, it is recorded in their reading diary.

Bedtime story: Every Friday a recorded bedtime story will be published on Tapestry, read by one of our team for you and your child to enjoy together. This can be recorded as a 'read' in your child's reading record.

Phonics: Each week we will send home a phonics video for your child to watch and join in with at home recorded by one of the EYFS team. Please complete the activities and share your work on Tapestry.

Tapestry: Don't forget to add your adventures to Tapestry—the children love sharing their photos on the big board and this really helps to support their speaking and listening skills.

Weekly Routines

PE will be inside on Monday afternoons: Please send your child to school in their PE kit every Monday.

Reading books—Reading books will be changed weekly. Reading books and diaries should be brought into school everyday. Other books can be recorded in you child's reading record.

Library books—Our library slot has now changed to a Monday. Please ensure you have your library book in school on a Monday to be changed.

Water bottles— Please ensure your child has a water bottle, which has been filled each day.

Winter Coats and Accessories— The weather is much colder now, please ensure your child has a named coat in school each day. Could we please ask that all hats, gloves and scarfs are clearly named to ensure they are returned to the correct children.

Certificate Winners

Our certificates this week are awarded to:

RR— Mark, Teddy, Olive

RC— Delilah, Amari, Dolly

RP— Alice, Ada, Jack



Nursery News

This week at Nursery we have been reading the story of "The Snow Thief" The children were able to talk about why the snow melted, why we do not get snow in the summer and what the weather needs to be like for snow to form. We had lots of fun finding different ways to melt ice to rescue frozen conkers for the animals. The children have used lots of different materials including salt, cotton wool and sponges to create wonderful wintry pictures.

In maths we have been looking at the numerals 1, 2 and 3. The children have been carefully counting objects to match each numeral.

This weeks phonics sounds were l and n. The children have enjoyed thinking of words with these sounds in and have worked very hard to try and form the letters independently! Please continue to encourage your child to do this at home too and share any home learning on Tapestry.

Reminders

Where possible we would like the children to be reading at home at least 5 times a week. Please record any reading your child completes at home in their reading record. This can include watching the bedtime story on Tapestry. Please can reading books and reading records be in children's bags everyday. Library books will be changed on a Thursday.

P.E is on a Friday, please can children come to Nursery dressed in their P.E kit with earrings removed.

Please can all clothing and water bottles be labelled with your child's name.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team.

Dates for the Diary

27th & 28th January– Reception Health Screening

6th February– Fire Service Education Visit

9th February– Children's Mental Health Week

13th February– Last day to bring sponsorship money into school

10th February- Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February– Last Day of Half Term



Reporting absences

Please make sure to report your child's absences each day that they are off using PA Connect.

This should be reported by 8.30am each day.

If your child has an appointment to attend please add this to the PA Connect app, along with supporting evidence.

Children's centres

We have a few children's centres local to us who are able to offer a great deal of support to families. They run lots of sessions and groups for different aged children as well as parents. Please check out time website below—there is a timetable of events available on this page.

<https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/hubs/northlands-park-family-hub/>

NHS Speech drop in

If your child is under 5 years old and you have any concerns about your child's speech, language, communication or interaction skills please contact NELFT at Great Oaks for an appointment to support your child on the contact details below.

Email: drop-in@nelft.nhs.uk

Telephone: 0300 300 1544

Winter Reading Challenge

10 January to 22 February

Join at your local library!



10 January
to 22 February
2026

Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter!

Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

Choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, you'll get a sticker! Complete six, and you'll receive a certificate and get to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies!

Plus, you can join in with themed events and activities at the library!



Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk

HERO

Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day

5 minutes 10 minutes 15 minutes 20 minutes 25 minutes

equates to a yearly loss of:



Five minutes late per day adds up to three learning days lost in a school year

If 15 minutes late each day you will miss two full weeks of school in one year

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!



Class attendance this week

RC- 83.3%

RR- 88.0%

RP -95.7%

The Willows PTA! Exciting News!

We're thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new events site your goto hub for all upcoming PTA events!

www.pta-events.co.uk/thewillowspta

🖱️ Online Ticket option now available for future events

💷 Prefer to Pay with Cash?
No problem! We'll continue offering tickets at school on specific days and times.

Keep an eye on our emails, posters, and updates so you don't miss out!

Thank you for your continued support and for being part of our amazing school community! ❤️

Contact Us

✉️ Email: pta.thewillows@gmail.com

📘 Facebook: Parents page TWPS