



Reception News

This week, we have been looking at the story *We're Going On A Bear Hunt*. We have explored how each part of the story uses different describing words. We have also created our own actions for each part of the story. Using our knowledge of story maps, we completed our own story map to retell the story.

We finished the week by looking at real bears and learning how and where they live. We explored what they eat, where they live, and why they hibernate.

In maths this week, we have been looking at 2D shapes. We have been using shapes to make our own pictures, such as flowers, houses, people, and cars. We also looked at tangrams and how we can manipulate different shapes to fit a picture template.

We hope you all had a wonderful time at our activity session this week. It was lovely to see everyone taking part in the summer crafts.

Reminder: PE is on a Monday, please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit. As we are now completing PE sessions outside, please make sure they have appropriate footwear.

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 outside on Monday afternoons- Please send your child to school in their PE kit every Monday school.

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.

Summer Items— Please ensure children have a hat to wear in school and have had sun cream has been applied before school.

Certificate Winners

Our certificates this week are awarded to:

RR— Vlad, Naya, Lily.G

RC— Arthur, Maisie, David

RP— Sadie, Natalie, William



Nursery News

This week has been very exciting! On Monday we returned to school to find the caterpillars had hatched. The children were amazed to see the beautiful colours on the butterfly's wings and spent time looking at them and talking about the changes they could see. On Tuesday it was a lovely sunny day so we set the butterflies free, the children waved them goodbye as they flew off.

This weeks story was "Farmyard Hullabaloo" The children were very good at remembering the animals in the story, the sounds they made and the actions that each animal did. The children noticed that the only animals awake on the farm at night were the fox and the owl and we discussed these creatures being nocturnal and waking up when everyone else has gone to bed.

In maths this week we have been singing lots of number songs such as five current buns and 5 little men in a flying saucer, the children were able to recognise that each time we took one away the number got smaller. Please continue to practice this at home with your child.

Reminders

Library day is a Thursday, please can all children bring their library book to school on this day ready to change. Please can reading records and reading books be in bags every day. Please remember to record each time your child reads at home this can include the bed-time story on Tapestry. We aim for children to read 5 times a week at home.

P.E day is a Friday. Please can all children come to school dressed in their P.E kits with earrings removed. Please can we have trainers or plimsols on this day, no boots.

Please remember to upload any achievements and weekend news to Tapestry, the children love to share their news with their friends and we love to celebrate it with them.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend, The Nursery Team.

Talking At Home Activity

What are the signs of spring and summer?

Which healthy foods do you eat each day?

How many days are in a month?

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.

Dates for the Diary

19th May– Reception Science Workshop

5th June– Race For Life

19th June– Sports Day



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

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!

Support your Child's Journey into Reception

FREE Courses for Parents



We are super excited to celebrate another term of amazing attendance!

We've seen such a big improvement, and we are so proud of all our children. Well done!

From the week beginning 5th May until 20th May, one class from Key Stage with the best attendance will win a Pizza Party with Mr Robinson!

Come to school every day, arrive on time, and help your class become our Attendance Champions!

Which class will win the pizza prize?

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.





Race for Life

Race for Life – 5th June 2026

On the 5th June we are holding our annual whole school
'Race for Life' event in aid of Cancer Research UK.

Funds will be raised via our just giving page

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/the-willows-primary-nursery-school>

Children can wear traditional 'Race for Life' colours of pink or blue, their normal P.E. kit or a decorated t-shirt.

All pupils will receive a certificate for taking part. Please ensure your child has sun cream, sun hat and a water bottle with them for the day.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. T Clay

Sensory and Nurture Leader – Autism Champion