



THE WILLOWS
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



Thursday 21st May 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

The end of another half term has come; I know I say this every time but they are going very quickly, just one left!

Lots has happened this half term and I want to thank everyone for their hard work this term. With SATS and transition there is a lot to be done and it is only through teamwork that we all manage to pull through and make a success.

This week has brought in the first really hot weather of the year. Let's hope that the weather continues but that it doesn't get too ferociously hot! Please use the half term to get summer ready!

Remember, the first Monday back after the May half term is an INSET and so the school is closed; we will see you all on June 2nd.

Have a great week's holiday everyone - here's hoping Arsenal add The Champions League to their League title!

Mr T Robinson

Headteacher

The Willows Primary School



**We look forward to seeing you back at
school on Tuesday 2nd June!**

WELL DONE!

1R Christine for showing courage, kindness, and confidence in your new class.

1P Parker you are becoming a super-independent learner and you never give up, even when things get tricky!

1C Ezmae has a fantastic attitude towards learning. She is always willing to give it a go and tries her hardest every time. She is kind and caring and is a star pupil! Well done Ezmae :)

2D Wilson continues to show a positive and hopeful attitude across his work and interactions with peers. Amazing Wilson!

2H Sofia for always showing courage when completing learning tasks. You always try your best and give everything a good try, even when you are not sure.

2T Rain always tries his best and is an excellent role model to his peers. He follows our school values everyday and is always kind to others. Well done Rain!

3SB River for enthusiastically joining in with all the activities at Skreens Activity Centre and demonstrating excellent team work. Well done!

3D Rayaan for showing courage in trying all the activities during our school trip to Skreens Park.

3S Lillie for overcoming her reservations about re-entering the cave bus, showing bravery to tackle a scary situations with supportive friends.

4I Louie for consistently demonstrating responsibility in all aspects of school life. He takes pride in completing his work to a high standard, follows instructions carefully, and can always be relied upon to make thoughtful and sensible choices.

4E Gabriella for showing courage and resilience in the face of adversity. Gabriella has settled in well and embodies our school values. Well done!

4RH Danila for showing excellent responsibility and always trying their best in everything they do. Well done!

5F Marnie for just being an all round superstar. Marnie, you are so helpful and try so hard! We are so lucky you joined us!

5J Monty for embodying all of our school's core values each and every day.

5W Dominic for having a hopeful and positive attitude to your learning and always trying your best in every lesson!

6B Aleena for making magnificent progress in your mathematics this year.

6H Matilda for consistently showing responsibility through her positive attitude, reliability, and commitment to both her learning and supporting others throughout Year 6.

6F Charlie for being a hardworking role model for all pupils in our school. Well done!



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ACADEMY TRUST



MERRYLANDS
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WHITMORE
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CRAYS HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL



FELMORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



CHERRY TREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



FAIRHOUSE
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



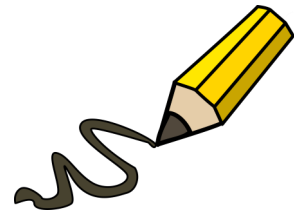
ST MARY'S CofE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Superstar Readers of the Week

Yr1— Emily, Tasfi, Lorelai
 Yr2 — Zoe, Nicolle, Naomi
 Yr3 — Kit, Lucy, Elliot
 Yr4 — Shelbie, Teddie, Jacob
 Yr5 — Lenny, Tina, Ronnie
 Yr 6— Elsie, Andrea, Esme

Superstar Writers of the Week

Yr1— Oliver, Tobie, Jazmyn
 Yr2— Millie, Omari, Lillie-Anna
 Yr3 — David, Maxim, Sunshine
 Yr4 — Louie M, Yasmin, Leia
 Yr5 — Danaya, Theo, Jenson
 Yr 6— Robyn, Iosif, Ade



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.

Kind regards,

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

OPAL Certificate this week

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

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Attendance percentages

for this week.

Yearly - 93.6% Weekly - 94.3%

KS1 – 94.9% KS2 - 94.0%

ATTENDANCE

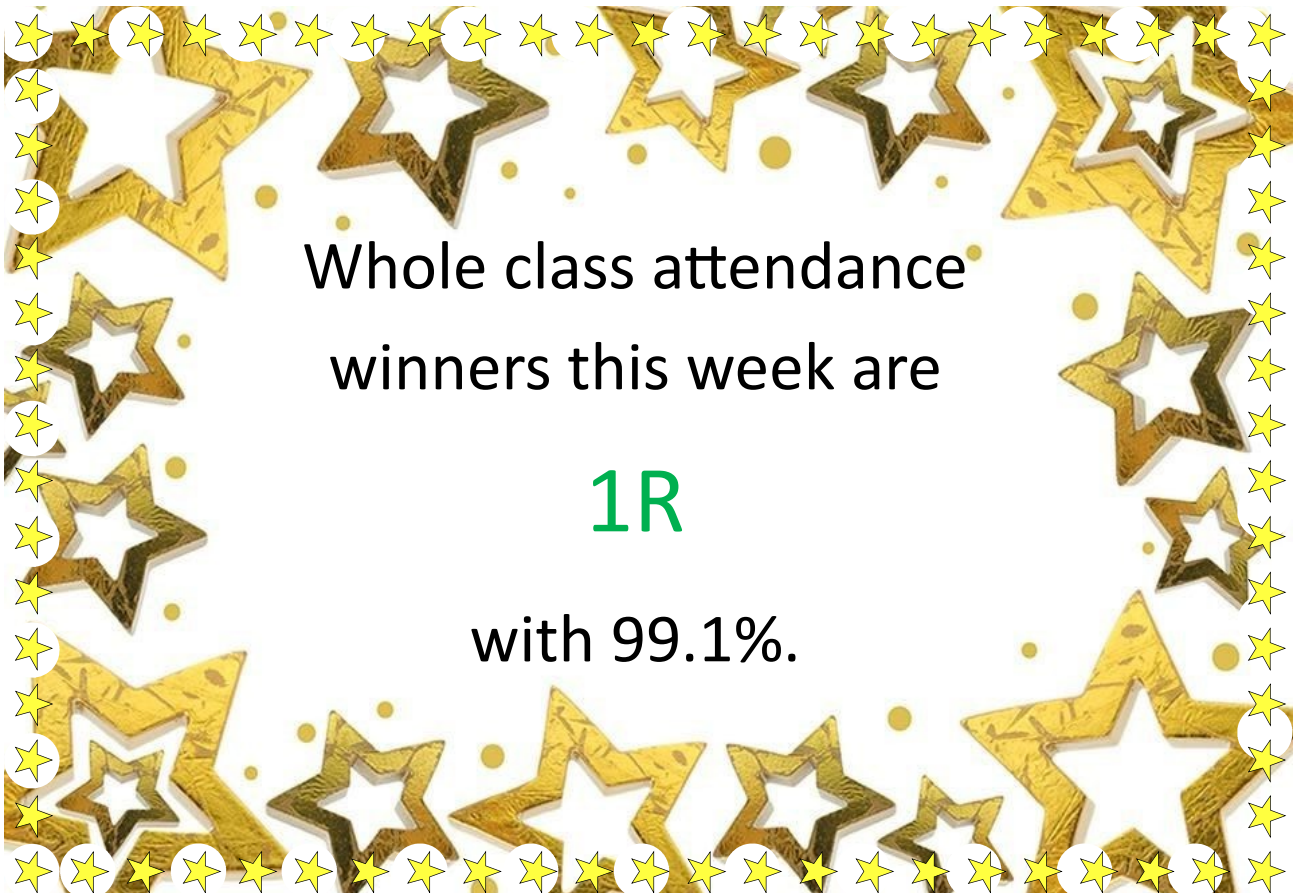
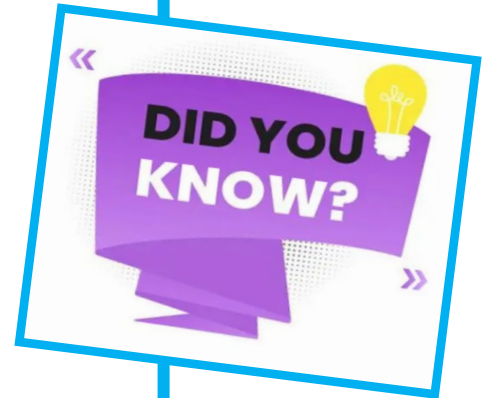
Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

89% or below
Drastic effect on
academic achievement

96% - 90%
Cause for Concern

100% - 97%
Excellent!



Whole class attendance
winners this week are

1R

with 99.1%.

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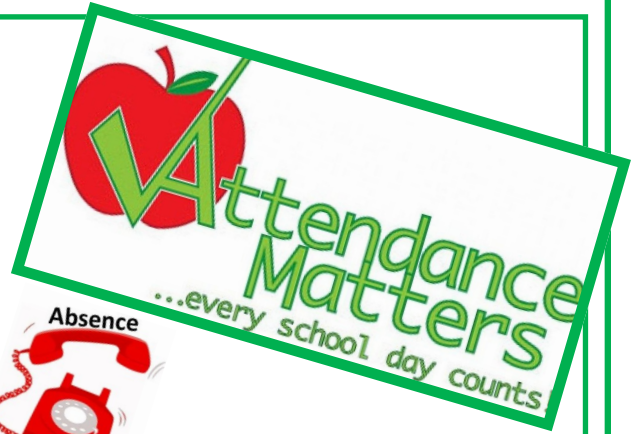
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Reporting Absence

Please report your child's absence to the office by emailing admin@willows.essex.sch.uk, on your [PA connect app](#), 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**.



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.

PLEASE REMEMBER

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL



Thank you for your understanding.



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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Inset day	22nd May
Inset day	1st June

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CRAYS HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL



St Nicholas
Primary



FELMORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Canewdon
Primary School

THIS WEEK...



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Year 1

This week we have been finishing off our topic of Kings and Queens by looking at The Kings Runaway Crown in English. We have been carrying on our phonics prep for the up-and-coming screening check on the 8th of June. In Science we have been conducting an experiment looking at what plants need to grow. We also had our lovely Kings and Queens day on Thursday.

Year 2

We have had a very busy and exciting week. They have all sat their final test papers, and taken part in walk to school week with great enthusiasm. We have successfully completed our class reading story 'George's Marvellous Medicine' where the children really enjoyed writing a diary story about this last week. We have been reflecting on our time at Thorndon Country Park for our school trip and been learning about materials and David Attenborough in celebration of his 100th Birthday.

Year 3

This week Year 3 had a brilliant time at Skreens Activity Park! We climbed ropes and walls, drove pedal cars, navigated obstacle courses and explored a cave inside a bus! We learned team work skills and helped improve our confidence and independence. In Geography we compared the Amazon Rainforest to Sherwood Forest and we finished our Science topic on growing plants. We have continued our learning on money in maths and finished our publishing of a diary entry in English. In Art we finished created The Magic Faraway Tree using various media.

Year 4

Have done amazingly well during their assessment week and should be incredibly proud of all their hard work and effort. They also achieved fantastic results in their mock Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) and are continuing to practise regularly in preparation for the real thing. Parents are encouraged to continue supporting this at home by practising with their child every day. In addition, the children had a wonderful time at the Reading Café on Tuesday and thoroughly enjoyed sharing and celebrating their love of reading together.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been making pizzas as a conclusion to our Food Tech unit of DT this half term. The children spread the sauce and added cheese, and then selected and cut their toppings before putting the pizzas in the oven! They were all thoroughly interested and fascinated by the process. We have also been researching and writing blogs this week all about Amur Leopards.

Year 6

After a year of hard work and dedication towards their SATs, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed a well-deserved reward trip to 360 Play last week. The children had a fantastic time celebrating all of their effort and achievements together.

This week, the pupils have been taking part in "Mathletics", an exciting activity combining sport and maths. The children collected data through a range of sporting activities and used their findings to create different charts and graphs, developing their teamwork and analytical skills in a fun and engaging way.

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We are delighted to share that the children thoroughly enjoyed their Pizza Rewards Party! It was wonderful to celebrate their excellent attendance together, and the excitement and smiles throughout the event showed just how much it meant to them.

Good attendance is so important, as it helps children build confidence, maintain friendships, and make the best possible progress in their learning. Every school day truly counts, and regular attendance gives children the greatest opportunity to succeed and feel part of the school community.

We hope that rewards such as this will continue to encourage and boost attendance levels across the school. Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day.



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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

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