

Willow Park News

Page 1 of 3



WILLOW PARK SCHOOL

Dream. Believe. Exceed

May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break filled with special moments. As we return for the summer term, we're excited for the learning, growth, and fun that lie ahead. Although we have a short half-term (4 weeks long!), we have lots of exciting learning planned and are looking forward to learning lots of new things as well as building on previous skills.

This term is always full of exciting opportunities, from school trips and sports days to creative classroom projects and end-of-year celebrations. We're looking forward to working together with you to make the final part of the school year a memorable and successful one for all our pupils. Thank you for your continued support - let's make this term the best one yet!

We are excited to finally welcome Joel Baldwin to Willow Park as our Headteacher, and we know he is going to be a great addition to the team! The children have enjoyed getting to know him and learning how to greet new people.

Dates for your Diary

Please mark these important dates in your calendars.

- **Monday 5th May:** School closed for **Bank Holiday**.
- **Friday 23rd May:** School closes for half-term.
- **Monday 2nd June:** School opens for the last term of the school year!
- **Wednesday 18th June:** School trip to [Mini-Meadows Farm](#) – more information will be sent out soon.
- **Friday 18th July** – end of the summer term

Reminders

- Please send your child in with appropriate clothing for the weather. **When warm, please send your child in with sunscreen and a hat** as the children like to spend time outside during the day. Children will be encouraged to drink lots of water, so please send in a water bottle/drink that your child will drink from.
- Please remember to send your child into school with their **Reading books every Monday and shared learning journals at the beginning of every half-term**.
- **Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for student success. If your child is absent, please notify the school as soon as possible everyday your child is absent.
- **Shared learning:** Every half-term we will send home some learning that can be completed

Willow Park News

Page 2 of 3



WILLOW PARK SCHOOL

Dream. Believe. Exceed

May 2025

at home. We do not expect that all of them are completed but it would be lovely to see what you and your child are learning at home. We also encourage daily reading with your child.

- **Clothing and nappies:** Please make sure that your child is coming to school with enough nappies/pants and spare clothes for the day, we enjoy lots of messy and outdoor play so spare clothes are essential. All clothing must be named.

Our Key Learning

At Willow Park, we continue to strive for excellence in all areas of education. This week in our classroom, we've had an exciting and busy time learning different subjects!



In **Phonics**, we will be continuing our sessions using Monster Phonics. Children have been enjoying environmental sounds, body percussion and using instruments to make rhythmic sounds and this will continue within our learning. We will also continue to focus on pure sounds and if you haven't done so already, here is the video: [Click here for a video that can help you and your child understand pure sounds](#)

It is really important that children learn the 'sounds' of letters. They do not need to know the 'name' of letters or the alphabet at this stage. Learning the 'pure sounds' helps children to begin to learn to read.

In **Maths**, we will be focusing on filling/pouring and learning how containers can be 'full', 'empty' or 'nearly full'. As always, we will continue to build on our counting skills and recognition of numbers. Please do count with your child whenever you get the chance!

In other areas of learning, we will be exploring Space as our main topic theme. Our therapy sessions, [Sensology](#) and [Bucket](#) will be focused on our Space topic. Our power of reading book will be Hungry Hen and phonics will be Monster Phonics. Please continue to read with your child whenever there is a chance, this could be a story book, a children's magazine or words you can see day to day.

Willow Park News

Page 3 of 3



WILLOW PARK SCHOOL

Dream. Believe. Exceed

May 2025

TACPAC

At Willow Park, we do daily TACPAC therapy sessions with the children. TACPAC (Tactile Approach to Communication Package) is a sensory communication tool combining touch and music to support individuals with sensory and communication difficulties, such as those with autism. It helps improve body awareness, emotional connection, and non-verbal communication. At home you can use simple household items like sponges, brushes, or fabrics, while playing calm music, to recreate sessions at home. Following the structured routines of TACPAC promotes consistency and comfort, making it an effective way to connect and support their child's development.



In Other News

Joel has started at Willow Park School as our Headteacher! We are very excited to have him as part of our team and the children have enjoyed getting to know him.

Just as a reminder:

- Joel will be the first port of call for parents if they can't make contact with their child's Key Worker or Jayne. The best method of contacting the school is on WhatsApp to the school mobile on 07380 956651
- Jayne will be the class teacher from Monday to Wednesday
- Joel will be the class teacher on Thursdays and Fridays



Thank you for your continued support,

The Team at Willow Park School