

NEWSLETTER



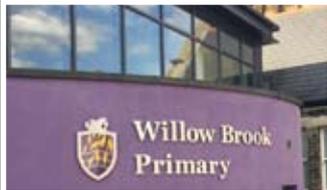
WILLOW
BROOK
PRIMARY

Michaelmas Term 2016

Week 15



Friday, 16th December 2016



Key Dates

Lent Term 2017

3rd January
STAFF INSET

4th January
FIRST DAY of LENT Term



Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been without doubt the best term ever for Willow Brook Primary. The fantastic learning, the exciting trips and visits from artists and scientists are just a few of the many elements which have gone in to this success.

In the Christmas concert I said that something very special is happening at Willow Brook Primary, and everyone agrees. Our community is vibrant and strong.

Lent term will see our first International trip, skiing with Year 5; our Founders' Day celebration event and of course the very best in learning opportunities at all times.

I thank you for your support in making Willow Brook so successful.

Have a wonderful break.

Graham Clifford
Head of School



We are very proud of our recent and on-going achievements. As a school we do not want to be complacent and we value the thoughts and feedback from you – our families – on what you think and feel about our school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and behaviour.

Parent View at Willow Brook is a 12 question on-line survey to give you – our families – the chance to tell Mr Clifford and the members of the School Leadership Team what you think of our school.

The survey will take no more than five minutes to complete and can be done so at any time. There is no closing date. Responses will be received directly by Mr Clifford's office. A summary of responses received will be published each week.

To take part, the survey is available to download from the School's Twitter feed @willowbrookpri as well as its Facebook profile <https://www.facebook.com/willowbrookprimary>. Links to the results from this survey as well as the Student Voice survey will also be posted on these web sites every week during school term time. For families who do not have regular access to a computer, laptop computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access, the school will be putting in place a facility for families to take part in the survey.

The school will not be able to see any information about people who complete the survey and it is possible to complete the survey more than once if you have children in different classes across the school. To prevent the survey from very unlikely abuse, the Parent

View at Willow Brook survey will only receive answers based on a choice of responses. In accordance with the School's social media policy statement, the School's social media accounts will not be used for direct communication either between colleagues or for school staff to either contact or be contacted by families. A full copy of the School's social media policy statement is available on request.

The survey is not designed to receive information that might require the staff at the school to reply or take action in respect of specific issues that you might have about your children's attendance and learning. Please contact the school office to make an appointment for any meetings that might need to take place.



Follow Willow Brook Primary School on twitter

@willowbrookpri



Christmas Concerts 2016



On Monday the 8th of December Lower Phase, had their concerts at 10 am. Middle Phase was at 9:15am on Tuesday the 13th and Upper Phase was at 2:15pm on Wednesday the 14th of December 2016.



Year 3 and Year 6 sing for their supper

On Thursday 8 and Friday 9 December, children from Year 3 and Year 6 were invited to sing Christmas songs outside Nandos in Walthamstow. As a thank you from the restaurant, the children were invited into the restaurant to have a chicken burger and chips. Yesterday some children from Years 2, 4 and 5 sang for their supper outside Nandos in Walthamstow.





Google VR day

by Google

Willow Brook planted seeds of adventure in the minds of our children last Thursday. Our budding explorers adventured in the world of virtual reality through foreign lands, voyaged through the deep seas and launched expeditions into space. All of this was made possible by a visiting representative from Google who provided our school with virtual reality headsets for a day.

Children were taken on a virtual tour through a variety of regions on the planet in ways that are not humanly possible. The adventure consisted of exploring the coral reefs in Australia, Copacabana beach in Brazil, Mount Everest, Egyptian pyramids, the solar system and many other breathtaking locations around the world.

It is incredible to experience the wonders of the world from the comfort of our own classes. Emanating through the school were cries of wonder and awe. We are very grateful for being given this experience. May there be many more adventures in the future!

In the Spring Term the school will be sending home information about how families can take part in using Google Expeditions at home.



Congratulations to Nabila (UCL), for achieving 20 merits.



Congratulations to Siddiqa (UCL), Breanna (UCL), Havin (UCL), Deepak (UCL), Chardonay (Goldsmiths), Victoria (Kings), Sumayo (Goldsmiths), Joe (Goldsmiths), Osaro (Goldsmiths), Ali (Whitechapel), Aasiyah (Whitechapel), Amy (Imperial), Allen (Imperial), Edgaras (Imperial), Madjer (Imperial) and Daria (Imperial) for achieving 10 merits.



Philosophy for Children

At Willow Brook Primary School we have added a new subject to get children thinking: Philosophy for Children.

Philosophy for Children (P4C) In P4C, children are taught how to create their own philosophical questions. They choose one question and that is the focus of a philosophical enquiry. For example, a question discussed might be 'Is it ever ok to steal?'

The teacher supports the children in their thinking, reasoning and questioning. The children work at becoming good thinkers, speakers and listeners.

P4C has four key thinking skills:

- **CARING**
listening and valuing other people's ideas
- **COLLABORATIVE**
responding and supporting members of the group
- **CRITICAL**
questioning and reasoning in response to ideas
- **CREATIVE**
connecting ideas and suggesting alternatives



A sailor went to sea!

Last week Year 1 children took part in an exciting interactive story-telling session on board the Cutty Sark. Using role-play, props and their imaginations, the children built an adventure together as they explored the ship.

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