

# NEWSLETTER



WILLOW  
BROOK  
PRIMARY

Lent Term 2017

Week 6

Thursday, 9th February 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Again, we have had a wonderful half term with the most exciting and engaging learning opportunities for all our pupils.

We have been learning: maths outside, using cookery to develop our maths and English skills. All children have been engaging in Philosophical debates (P4C) as well as orienteering, music, art, Spanish and French.

Our co-curriculum, which is all of our free clubs (at lunch time and at the end of the day) continues to offer an extraordinary range of horizon widening opportunities such as Ukulele, Mandarin, sports and Latin dance. Our children have throughout demonstrated exceptional levels of respect and broadmindedness, not least during a recent Holocaust Memorial Assembly, led by Year 5, which was without doubt one of the most impressive

demonstrations of how our young people are going to be the very best leaders and citizens of the future.

I am very happy to share that we have raised over £250 pounds for school resources, thanks to the PTA led Leyton Orient 50/50 opportunity. I look forward to seeing many of you at the match.

Finally, it has been reported that a minority of parents are not abiding by traffic codes, and causing blockages along Marsh Lane by parking illegally. In future, Traffic Wardens will be notified and penalty notices will be issued. The pollution from idling cars leads to serious health concerns and is not in line with our ethos.

Enjoy the half term and I look forward to seeing you all in the second half of Lent Term.

**Graham Clifford**  
Head of School



Lee Mitchell, the **Head of NSPCC Schools Service**, contacted Willow Brook this week with a certificate to celebrate our recent donation of £250.11.

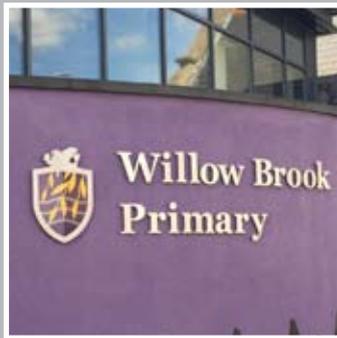
He wanted to thank us all and let us know this money will go to vital services to support children, including national and local projects. The community of Willow Brook has shown yet again we are dedicated to ending cruelty to children and supporting charities to make our world a better place to live in.



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## Key Dates

### Lent Term 2017

Half Term

Monday 13th February –  
17th February 2017

End of Lent Term

Friday 31st March 2017



## Holocaust Memorial Day

Last Friday, Willow Brook commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day. This was a reflective day about the events that happened during the Holocaust. Posters were put around the school, ensuring that all students were aware of this day. The Year 6 Student Ambassadors then organised and presented a commemorative assembly for Key Stage 2. This assembly greatly emphasised the importance of this day and respect was shown by the whole school.



## Pupil Voice

We learnt about the amazing work that UNICEF do to help protect children all over the world and created decorations for Cupid's disco! This is to raise money for charity.

Willow Brook is aiming to become a Rights Respecting School, which is very exciting! For this, the Student Council will form a Rights Respecting Group (RAG) and will do their best to ensure that all the children at Willow Brook know their rights! We will also focus on these rights in our Student Council meetings.

We believe that these discussions focus on Article 12: Respect the views of the child.

**Y**ear 4 have been working on an exciting performing Arts project every Tuesday after school. Around forty students attend the sessions every week, including Year 4 students from Riverley Primary school.

The project is led by our GST Director of Performance and Drama, together with our drama teacher Mr Guy, and supported by our Arts Team.

The committed students are working towards a collaborative production of Roald Dahl's '**James and the Giant Peach**' but there's still time to sign up!

If you are in Year 4 and want to give it a try then collect a letter from the office or speak to Mr Guy.





# Tower of London

Recently, Year 6 spent a frosty day at the Tower of London, learning about life in Tudor times. Despite the cold (which was an insight into life before central heating!), Year 6 enthusiastically took part in two workshops.

The first was an introduction to key characters in Tudor time; they met Catherine Parr's brother and considered what advice they would give to a wife of Henry VIII.

The second was an exploration of historical artefacts, where our children were asked to consider what a collection of objects would have been used for. After a day of being history detectives and analysts, our children are now well-equipped with a whole host of history skills.

Thank you Mr Allen for organising such an informative visit!



## SCHOOL NURSE DROP IN SESSIONS

The Nurse will be in  
this month

**February 21st**

and next month

**March 20th**

**9:00 to 10:00 am**

Ask at the School Reception  
for more information



NELFT NHS  
NHS Foundation Trust



GRIFFIN  
SCHOOLS  
TRUST

As proud members of the Griffin Schools Trust, a family of schools and a supportive network of educational expertise, we work very closely with other schools locally and nationally.



## Philosophy for Children

### A story to share with your child:

A parent goes to town on a shopping trip. She brings back home a big bag of toys for her seven children. She explains that the toys are a gift and she must give them out fairly.

‘Well, what is fair?’ she asks. ‘Would the fairest thing be to give the most to those who deserve the most? Who deserves the most? Maybe the cleverest ones should get the most?’

But the mother is greeted by loud complaints from her children.

‘Just because someone is clever, or better at maths, football, or something doesn’t mean you should treat them differently. It wouldn’t be fair to give lots of toys to a few of us. Some of us might only get one toy or none at all.’

The mother checks she understands what her children mean: ‘So you are saying that although people are different from one another, fairness means you should all be treated equally.’

‘Fairness is equal treatment,’ her children reply.

But before she has time to hand out the toys, there is someone at her front door. She has to leave the children. When she gets back, a few minutes later, she finds that the children have all been fighting over the bag of toys.

Some children have more toys than others, and those with very few toys are upset. Her children become quiet. The mum asks them about what has happened and what they should do next...



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