

Headteacher's Newsletter Issue 19

25/07/25



Thank you all for a wonderful opening year!

What a successful year we've had - thank you to all of our families for your support. Supporting our values and ethos, as well as our behaviour policy, has played a huge part in the success that we've had this year, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere where children can feel safe and be ready to learn! We are very excited about what our second year will bring!

We hope that you all have a fabulous and fun summer break!

Parent / Carer Survey

A huge thank you to everybody who completed our survey. It is evident that families feel overwhelmingly positive about the work that we do in school. The fact that 100% of those who responded would recommend our school to other parents is brilliant. Your positive comments show the respect and gratitude you have towards the staff and those positive relationships with parents is the foundation of our children's success. Here are just some of the lovely comments received:

I have found it really easy to speak with my child's teacher about any concerns, which has been fantastic. It's really helpful to have a handover at the end of the day to share feedback and help support my child. The teaching assistants and support staff do an excellent job ensuring that my child, who has SEND, receives her additional support and participates in sensory circuits each day. It's reassuring and superb to know my child is being well supported at Willow Grove.

I think our son's teacher and the principal are the right people in the right places, willing to talk and help. The rest of the school staff is also great.

The staff are always very polite and happy and it reflects in the enjoyment our child has at school.

Lovely school, all staff friendly, welcoming and professional.

School staff have been brilliant and very supportive. Special thanks to Mrs L Kennedy & Miss Kidby for their support.

Mrs Sharp has been an amazing first teacher! Couldn't have asked for a better teacher to transition her into 'big' school.

My child has been happy, and is looking forward to next year.

We have noticed a great improvement in our child's social skills and academic skills this term and believe this is due to the teaching staff. Well done.

Thank you for these kind comments - we will do our best to maintain such high standards moving forward!

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You asked...we listened:

Aprons to save uniforms: we have ordered aprons for baking and will be asking for donations of art shirts in September.

More notice for events: we take this on board and will endeavour to give as much notice as possible for all events in school.

Discipline should be equal: we follow our behaviour policy and all children are expected to follow our rules. Sometimes, there needs to be reasonable adjustments (whilst still following the policy) made for a child's developmental stage or special educational needs, but rest assured, that steps are taken to ensure that our children and staff are kept safe and positive behaviour is expected from everybody. Our ethos celebrates equity over equality and some of our little people need something a bit different to help them to succeed.

SEND Coffee Mornings - we'd like more and for there to be a clearer agenda / information: we agree and will plan these in for the next academic year.

The diversity of the families isn't evident in the staff: we have engaged with a Local Authority initiative to encourage diversity in the workforce. We follow guidelines for non-discriminatory practices in our recruitment procedures. We will continue to work on this.

Sometimes we aren't sure which door to enter by: there will be less combining of the Year 1 / 2 classes next year due to increasing pupil numbers so this should help with this.



Please see our website for term dates. School starts on Tuesday 2nd September for Yrs 1- 3 and our new EYFS cohort start their staggered timetable on Monday 8th September.

Contact 01234 581150 admin@willowgrove.school www.willowgrove.school

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