

**MANY THANKS to
MOLE VALLEY
FARMERS**

*for their kind donation
of a Christmas Tree to
display in our School
Hall*



The

Willand

Learning for Life

4th December 2024 Issue 12

Year 1 & 2 Play

– Wednesday, 11th December

Both children and staff have been working very hard to ensure they are ready to perform and entertain parents next week.

There will be 2 performances of 'Bethlehem Star', 1:45pm and 5:30pm for which there is a small admission charge of £2.00 for adults and £1.50 for children. Tickets are selling fast and can be purchased by returning the appropriate order form and fee to school. Please note that due to high demand there will be a limit of 2 tickets per family for the evening performance, should you wish to order more we will put your name on a waiting list and notify you should the performance not sell out.

Please be reminded that complimentary tickets for the dress rehearsal, on Tuesday, 10th December at 1:45pm are available for the Over 60's, upon requested.

Parents driving to school for the play should be reminded not to park in the Village Hall Car Park as these spaces are reserved for the organisations who have a Village Hall booking.

Photos and Videos

Please may we remind you, that we do have children who need their identities protected and ask you **not to upload online any videos, photographs, or items such as performance programmes, listing children's names from school events.** Please be mindful of this when attending the KS1 Nativity and Reception Celebration; whilst we are happy for you to take photos and videos these should only be kept by you privately.



Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day

– Thursday, 12th December

We are asking children to join in with

Christmas Jumper Day and would love to see everyone wearing a Christmas jumper along with non-school uniform on Thursday 12th December.

If you would like to donate towards this worthwhile charity, it will be most welcome on the day.

Attendance

As part of Devon County Council's drive to improve school attendance, we will be sharing our attendance statistics with you for the week ending Friday, 29th November 2024

Year Group	%Attendance	Year Group	%Attendance
Reception	97.69	3	97.24
1	92.78	4	97.59
2	94.47	5	92.88
		6	95.00

The Current National figure for comparison is 95.4%

Staffing

I am writing to inform you of an important change at Willand School. Our valued colleague, Mrs Hope, will be leaving us at the end of this term.

Mrs Hope has been a part of our team for over 20 years. She has made significant contributions to our community, particularly in leading Music. Her dedication and passion have greatly benefited our students and staff alike.

While we are sad to see Mrs Hope go, we are also excited for her as she embarks on the next chapter of her career.

We wish her every success in her future endeavours and hope she continues to achieve great things.

In light of Mrs Hope's departure, her teaching days will be covered by Miss Lewis and Miss Phillips.

Our priority remains to support our pupils and ensure continuity in their education.

Vision screening for 4-5 Year Olds

Later today, parents of children in Reception will receive an email regarding the above.

Please only complete and return the form if you DO NOT want your child to have their vision screened in school.

*Thank you for your
continued support*

*Naomi Tottle
Headteacher*

Contact us: Telephone: 01884 820367 / 829463 Website: www.willand.devon.sch.uk Email: office@willand.devon.sch.uk
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Online Payments: <https://login.schoolgateway.com> PTFA: willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

Safeguarding - From time to time the school may need to make referrals to Children and Young People's Services

Online Safety – 'Wake Up Wednesday'



'Internet Safety Parent Workshop'

On Tuesday afternoon, 3rd December, we had a fantastic session delivered by Jon Galling (DCC Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups) on keeping our children safe online. Everyone who attended felt they had learned something new and valuable. I will share some of the resources and tips via the next few Willand Words so watch this space ...Some of the key things we learned were.

1. Play online games alongside your children so that they know you are interested and will talk to you. This is the key to keeping them safe. If they don't feel that you understand 'their world', they are less likely to share their worries.

2. There were some quite shocking statistics about how children can be targeted online. It's important to be aware and not assume that it won't happen to your child. We do teach online safety as part of our curriculum, but children spend far more time online at home than in school so it's important for parents to keep up-to-date too.

3. You can filter the internet before it even enters your home via WiFi. Use this link today to check whether yours is switched on or not. <https://swqfl.org.uk/services/test-filtering/> If not, contact your service provider to have filtering switched on. It's FREE!

Jon talked about using seatbelts in the car for safety. Things such as internet filters and age restrictions are like the seatbelts in our cars; we wouldn't drive our children around without them so we shouldn't allow them internet access without the 'virtual seatbelts'.

Pauline Maynard

As always, if you have any questions relating to online safety, please contact Mrs Maynard (Online safety Lead)

Village Carol Concert

Congratulations to the 24 children from the Y1,2&3 choir who represented our school brilliantly and sang beautifully at the Village Carol Concert on Sunday evening.

Also, a big well done to Holly and Katie in Y6 for doing a reading on behalf of the Brownies and Guides.



REMINDER - The Pantry Christmas Hampers 2024

We would like to remind parents that the deadline for requesting a Christmas Hamper from The Willand Food Network (The Pantry) is next **Monday, 9th December**: If you feel your family would benefit from a Hamper this year, please complete the request form and return to school by this date.

SEND Information

Devon Family Hub Parent/Carer Newsletter
In December's issue...

Top Tips - this month's Top Tip topic looks at how to save money this Christmas.

PARENTING PRE-TEENS can be a challenging time. We share some information and guidance on how you can stay close as your children move into adolescence.

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR.. Or is it? Christmas can be a challenging time for some people. We share some tips and resources for making the festive period a little easier.

Plus all the usual features - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - information about upcoming events the Devon Digital Team are running, SEND, DECEMBER AWARENESS DAYS and much more.

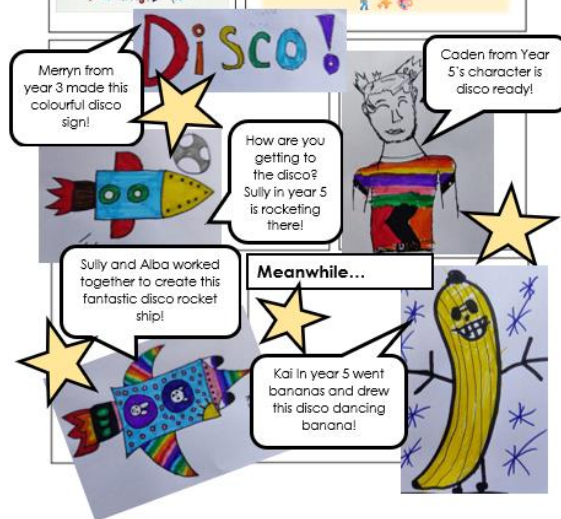
To view the contents of the Newsletter [CLICK HERE](#).

Wellington Maths Challenge

On Saturday 30th November, four of our best mathematicians took part in the Maths Challenge at Wellington School. We have attended this annual event for many years and this year our school was one of over 60 taking part. Our team worked together to solve 25 questions in one hour. Their problem-solving skills were put to the test with a range of tasks which were based on principles from across mathematics. The girls (Jess, Elodie, Evelyn and Rosie) enjoyed the challenge and scored well. We are extremely proud of them and grateful that they and their families came out on a Saturday morning.



This week at **Comic Drawing Club**, excitement for the school disco was in full swing! We channelled that energy into artwork bursting with colour, movement, and fun. Our pictures came to life with the magic of the dance floor. It was a fantastic way to get into the disco spirit!



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PTFA NEWS

Hi Everyone!

We are thrilled to announce that we raised £1321.33 from the disco. It was so lovely to see the children laughing, dancing and singing away together.

Our next event is the Winner, Winner Chicken Dinner Bingo on **Sunday 8th at Willand Football Club**. Doors open 6pm and eyes down at 7pm. A few things to remember: Due to prizes it is adults only (over 18s) the bar is card or cash but to purchase bingo books, flyers and raffle tickets it is cash.

The Fab-Bricks have been dispatched and will get orders out to everyone as soon as we can.

We are hoping to do an end of term Christmas tuck shop after school on Friday 20th December. More details and prices will be made available closer to time.

We are very grateful to all the volunteers who give their time to help us, without whom we would not be able to run the events that we do. We are always looking to welcome new people; we are a small, friendly team with big ideas. We would especially like to hear from anyone who may be able to support us in the role of Secretary, Social Media Officer and Grants Officer. Please email us on willandschoolptfa@gmail.com and we'll be happy to discuss with you the roles and any help offered.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Your PTFA Team

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 9th December

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Westcountry beef burger in a plain bap	Chicken Fajitas	Roast beef	Chicken curry Naan bread and rice	Harry Ramsden's Fish
Vegetarian burger in a plain bap	Quorn Fajitas	Quorn sausage	Macaroni cheese	Homemade Cheese Wheel
Potato wedges/ pasta Baked beans/ peas Salad Bar	Rice/pasta Mixed vegetables Salad Bar	Roast/mashed Potatoes Yorkshire pudding Fresh Carrots Gravy Salad Bar	Green Beans Salad Bar Crisps	Chips / Pasta Seasonal vegetables Tomato Sauce Salad Bar
Ice cream and peaches Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Syrup sponge and custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	American Pancake and cream Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Strawberry jelly and fruit cocktail Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Iced Sponge Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese				

Willand School Lunch Menu Change for tomorrow

THURSDAY 5 th December	
Chicken Goujons	
Quorn Dippers	
Pasta/waffles Sweetcorn Tomato sauce Salad Bar	
Sticky Toffee Pudding and caramel sauce Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	
PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese	

Diary to remember...

Tuesday 10 th December	Y1 & 2 Play Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday 11 th December	Y1 & 2 Play 1.45pm 5.30pm
Thursday 12 th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 13 th December	Reception Classes Christmas Celebration 9:30am
Friday 20 th December	End of Autumn Term
For full calendar of events, please click below – https://willand.devon.sch.uk/Calendarofevents.pdf	

EVENTS

Please see the noticeboard outside the school office for the following events

MOLE VALLEY FARMERS,
Honiton Road, Stoneyford, Cullompton
– **Thursday, 12th December**
Late Night Shopping until 8pm
with Free Reindeer Event from 6pm-8pm



Please note that we are unable to check on the validity of the companies or the people running the schemes, and if those working with children have the correct police checks.

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