



Newsletter



Wonder - Inspire - Shine
Shaping Minds, Shaping Our World

Friday 4th September
Term 1 Week 1



(PC) = Parents & Carers are invited

SCHOOL DATES For your Calendar

TUESDAY 21ST JULY Last day of Term 6

TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER Staff development day – no school

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER First school day of Term 1 for Years 1-6

MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER EYFS start school part-time

THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER Kent Test

FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER EYFS stay for lunch

MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER EYFS start full-time school

MONDAY 28th SEPTEMBER After school clubs start

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER Year 6 height and weight check

An events calendar for Terms 1 & 2 will be available soon on the school websites.

Message from Mr. Head!

Welcome Back!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and have enjoyed some special time with family and friends. As we begin a new academic year, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to everyone in our school community, especially those families who are joining us for the first time. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

At Willesborough Infant School, we are proud of our nurturing, inclusive and ambitious ethos, where every child is encouraged to thrive, develop confidence and achieve their very best. It was fantastic to welcome our Year 1 to Year 6 pupils back through the school gates this week. Seeing so many smiling faces, hearing excited conversations and feeling the positive energy around the school reminded us all of what a special place our school is.

As I toured classrooms throughout the day, it was wonderful to see children quickly settling back into routines, reconnecting with friends and engaging enthusiastically in their learning. The calm and purposeful atmosphere across the school was a credit to both our pupils and staff.

Our Early Years team have also been busy meeting our newest children and their families this week in preparation for starting school. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them for their first part-time sessions on Monday. Starting school is a significant milestone and we cannot wait to begin their learning journey with us. We hope they enjoy their first day as much as we will enjoy welcoming them!

Staff Updates

We are excited to welcome new members to the Willesborough team on the next page.

After School Clubs

We know many children are eager to find out about our after school clubs, and we are pleased to share that our programme for Terms 1 and 2 is nearly finalised. Full details will be sent to families next week, including the clubs available and the year groups eligible to attend.

Please take some time to discuss the options with your child so they can begin thinking about which clubs they may enjoy. Sign-up will take place through Arbor, with further information about dates and timings provided shortly. All after-school clubs will begin during the week commencing 28th September.

Events Leaflet

Our Events Leaflet for Terms 1 and 2 is also being finalised and will be shared with families next week. We have a busy and exciting term ahead, with lots of opportunities for children and families to be involved in school life, and we look forward to sharing these dates with you soon.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are excited about the year ahead and the opportunities it will bring for our children and school community.

Have a lovely weekend,
Tom Head



LEADERSHIP

ASPIRATION

DETERMINATION

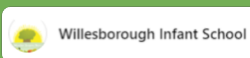
RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT



Juniors Website: willesborough-js.kent.sch.uk
Juniors Email: office@willesborough-js.kent.sch.uk

Juniors Telephone: 01233 620405



Infants Website: willesborough-infant.kent.sch.uk
Infants Email: office@willesborough-infant.kent.sch.uk

Infants Telephone: 01233 624165

Staff Changes

A warm welcome to:

Mr Robson (left) who is teaching Tigers Class in Year 2 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Miss Wells, teaching Franklin Class in Year 5

Mrs Bell, working as a teaching assistant in Year 1 (not pictured)

We are also delighted to congratulate Mrs Hyson (right) on her new role as our Infant School SENDCO. Whilst Mrs Hyson is already a familiar face within our school community, she will now lead our SEND provision on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, before returning to class teaching on Thursdays and Fridays.



New school gates

As you know, new electronic gates were installed at the Highfield Road entrance to the school around Easter, and the Church Road gates had this added over the summer holiday. We would like to remind families of the following important information:

- The Highfield Road gate will remain closed to all vehicular access/egress between the existing signposted times of 8.25am-9am and 2.45pm-3.30pm without exception aside from emergency services.
- The pedestrian access at both ends of the site will still be kept open as usual during the normal school drop off and pick up times – there will be no need to use the intercom to request access.
- Outside of these times, you will need to use the intercom to gain access to the school site, whether you are driving in or walking. Select the button for the school you are visiting to speak to their reception team and have the gate opened for you.
- We do not permit vehicular access for drop off or pick up times (including late or early) except where it has been agreed for children with mobility-related injuries or disabilities.
 - To exit onto Church Road, simply press the green button on the pedestal near the gate to unlock it and pull the gate open.
- Please ensure that you shut the Church Road gate behind you to keep the site and children safe. An automatic closer is due to be fitted soon to help with this but could not be fitted during the summer holidays due to delays.
- To exit onto Highfield Road with a vehicle during normal hours, simply approach the gate and it will begin to open automatically, towards your vehicle. We plan to add a painted marking and/or sign to make the trigger area clear for drivers.
- The pedestrian gates do not open automatically – only the locking and unlocking is remotely-controlled. Please be careful when pulling and pushing these gates as they are heavy and the locking system protrudes from the gates.

Attendance Update



THIS WEEK:

JUNIORS: 95.9%

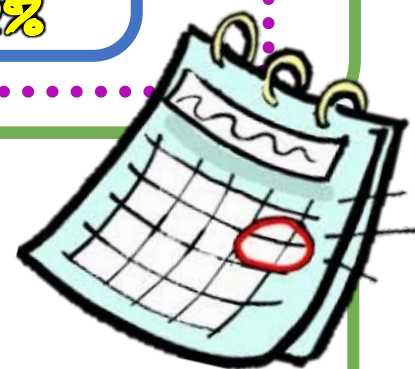
INFANTS: 93.2%



THIS YEAR:

JUNIORS: 95.9%

INFANTS: 93.2%



Term Dates for 2026 / 2027

Autumn Term 1 (T1):

Start: Wednesday 2nd September

End: Friday 23rd October

Half Term: 26th October – 30th October

Autumn Term 2 (T2):

Start: Monday 2nd November

End: Friday 18th December

Christmas Holiday: 21st December – 1st January

Spring Term 1 (T3):

Start: Monday 4th January

End: Friday 12th February

Half Term: 15th February – 19th February

Spring Term 2 (T4):

Start: Monday 22nd February

End: Thursday 25th March

Easter Holiday: 26th March – 9th April

Summer Term 1 (T5):

Start: Monday 12th April

End: Friday 28th May

Half Term: 31st May – 4th June

Summer Term 2 (T6):

Start: Monday 7th June

End: Wednesday 21st July

Staff Development Days for 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September Friday 23rd October Friday 18th December Friday 28th May Wednesday 21st July

Staff Development Days for 2027/2028

We know some families like to plan well ahead, so we will add the staff development days for the next school year here when they are finalised at a later date.



PTFA AGM: Come Along and Have Your Say



The PTFA Annual General Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 29th September** at **6pm** in the **Infant School**, and we would love to see as many parents and carers there as possible.

The AGM is an important opportunity to look back on everything the PTFA has achieved over the past year, celebrate the support of our school community, and discuss plans for the year ahead. It is also where the new PTFA committee will be voted in, so it is a great chance to find out more about how the PTFA is run and how you can get involved.

This year, thanks to the generosity and hard work of families, staff and volunteers, the PTFA has raised an incredible **£18,451!!** At the AGM, you will be able to hear more about this fantastic total and see how the funds will be used to benefit children across the school.

Whether you are a regular volunteer, interested in helping occasionally, or simply want to understand more about the work of the PTFA, please do come along. Your support, ideas and attendance really do make a difference.

Could You Join the PTFA Committee?

The AGM is also when we vote in the PTFA committee for the year ahead. These roles are vital in helping the PTFA run smoothly, but you don't need any previous experience—just enthusiasm, a little time, and a willingness to support the school community.

- **Chair or Co-Chairs:** helps lead the PTFA, chairs meetings, supports the committee and works with the school to plan fundraising activities.
- **Vice Chair:** supports the Chair on all activities, helps lead activities where needed, steps in for Chair when unavailable
- **Treasurer:** looks after the PTFA finances, keeps records of money raised and spent, and helps report on how funds are being used.
- **Secretary:** helps organise meetings, takes notes, shares updates and keeps the committee's plans on track.
- **Committee members:** bring ideas, help plan events, support fundraising activities and volunteer where they can.

Being part of the PTFA is a rewarding way to meet other families, get involved in school life and help make a real difference for the children. Whether you can take on a named role or simply offer support when time allows, every contribution is valued. If you have ever thought about getting involved, this is the perfect opportunity to find out more and consider putting yourself forward.

For more information, please contact Liz Cornell at willesboroughschoolspta@outlook.com.



WILLESBOROUGH
SCHOOLS PTA

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE WILLESBOROUGH SCHOOLS

PTFA AGM MEETING

SEPTEMBER, 29TH

6:00 PM in the INFANTS SCHOOL

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

OUR SUCCESS OF LAST YEAR - MONEY
RAISED - INDICATION OF FUTURE EVENTS -
COMMITTEE MEMBER ELECTIONS

Help us make your child's time in school AMAZING!!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Parents, teachers, staff, grandparents & community members
come join the fun and stay informed!

FREE WINE & SOFT DRINKS!

Questions? Contact us WillesboroughSchoolsPTA@outlook.com



WOW Badges

Wonder - Inspire - Shine
Shaping Minds, Shaping Our World

Willesborough Outstanding Work (WOW) badges are awarded in recognition of an excellent piece of work in any area of learning. The work is framed and displayed in 'The Hub' at the Junior School and in the corridor at the Infant School.

Here is a list of this week's worthy winners!



WEEKLY

WOW

AWARDS

Year R Badgers	No infant awards this week	Year 3 Fletcher	Harlee
Year R Hedgehogs		Year 3 Potter	Jax
Year R Owls		Year 4 Monet	Daphne
Year R Foxes		Year 4 Doodle	Ladipma
Year 1 Lions		Year 4 Kahlo	Sienna-Skye
Year 1 Giraffes		Year 4 Turner	Lillie-Rae
Year 1 Elephants		Year 5 Franklin	Bella
Year 1 Pandas		Year 5 Hepburn	Elliot Wood
Year 2 Turtles		Year 5 Turing	Ewan
Year 2 Penguins		Year 5 Earhart	Annabelle
Year 2 Leopards		Year 6 Thunberg	Delilah
Year 2 Tigers		Year 6 Wolff	Samuel L-C
Year 3 Morpurgo	Harry	Year 6 Obama	Hazel
Year 3 Dahl	Heaven	Year 6 Parks	Isaac

Great job everyone!
Keep up the AMAZING work!

Value Awards

Our core value awards are awarded in recognition of excellent behaviour, especially in relation to one of the school's core values. Well done to this week's students who have shown the following values...



Year 3 Morpurgo	Roman	ASPIRATION
Year 3 Dahl	Macy	RESPONSIBILITY
Year 3 Fletcher	Jaxon	RESPECT
Year 3 Potter	Ollie	DETERMINATION
Year 4 Monet	Chloe	DETERMINATION
Year 4 Doodle	Henry	RESPECT
Year 4 Kahlo	Lexa	RESPECT
Year 4 Turner	Elsie	RESPONSIBILITY
Year 5 Franklin	Aateesh	DETERMINATION
Year 5 Hepburn	Abigail	RESPONSIBILITY
Year 5 Turing	Elijah	ASPIRATION
Year 5 Earhart	Diya	LEADERSHIP
Year 6 Thunberg	Marcus	RESPECT
Year 6 Wolff	Tina	DETERMINATION
Year 6 Obama	Ruben	RESPECT
Year 6 Parks	Thenuja	LEADERSHIP



Shine Awards

The 'Shine' award is presented to children who have shown an exceptional commitment to behaviour throughout the week. They may have been excellent listeners who have supported their peers; they may have shown empathy towards their peers or may have shown a great commitment to behaviour for learning. It could be a multitude of reasons! The children receive a special 'You Shine' badge which they wear with pride.



Year R Badgers	No infant awards this week
Year R Hedgehogs	
Year R Owls	
Year R Foxes	
Year 1 Lions	
Year 1 Giraffes	
Year 1 Elephants	
Year 1 Pandas	
Year 2 Turtles	
Year 2 Penguins	
Year 2 Leopards	
Year 2 Tigers	



Support Us

Wonder - Inspire - Shine
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[Click here to buy tickets for our school lottery!](#)

For every ticket you play, 40% goes directly to our schools.

There are smaller cash prizes, or you could win the £25,000 cash jackpot!

Congratulations to Ms W from Ashford who won £14.75 in the last draw!

The more people enter, the higher the guaranteed win is!



octopus energy

If you're thinking of changing energy suppliers to Octopus Energy, you can get £50 for yourself and £50 for the schools if you use our referral link:

<https://thewillesboroughschools.octopus.energy>

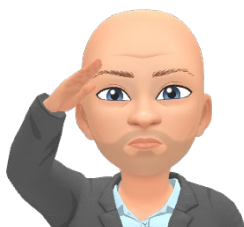
Please note that this is not a recommendation or endorsement, it is just a way to support the schools.



Don't forget, you can donate unwanted clothes, shoes, textiles, bed linen, soft toys, scarves and more at our clothing banks!

This helps to raise money for the schools, too!

THANK YOU



LEADERSHIP



Willesborough Junior School

ASPIRATION

Juniors Website: willesborough-js.kent.sch.uk
Juniors Email: office@willesborough-js.kent.sch.uk

DETERMINATION

Juniors Telephone: 01233 620405

RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT



Willesborough Infant School

Infants Website: willesborough-infant.kent.sch.uk
Infants Email: office@willesborough-infant.kent.sch.uk

Infants Telephone: 01233 624165



BOOK DONATIONS WELCOME

Our school has signed up with national charity the Children's Book Project to receive donations of good quality, gently used books from local families. These will be used across the school. Books can be dropped at reception.

Spread the word and look for us on their map!
childrensbookproject.co.uk/donate-books/

Registered charity 1183092

Children's
Book
Project



FREE Wilder Wellbeing for adults at RSPB Dungeness, TN29 9PN.

Enjoy gentle walks, tap into your senses and learn relaxation techniques to experience the benefits of nature in a small group setting.

WILDER WELLBEING: For Parents and Carers of SEND children and young people

Every Thursday 24th September to 29th October, 11 am–1pm

WILDER WELLBEING: For adults healing from grief.

Every Thursday 24th September to 29th October, 2–4pm

**To find out more visit kwtg.uk/wellbeing or email
wilderwellbeing@kentwildlife.org.uk**

We ask that you commit to attending as many of the six sessions as possible. Speak to us if you need support with funding transport, we may be able to assist