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'Learning For Life'

2019 October

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the second newsletter of the school year. Everyone in school has settled in quickly to the new term and new routines (including me!) and it is great to see happy faces in the playground.

This issue contains:

- Governor News
- Wrap Around Care
- Willoughby Award winners
- School Council Members
- Parents Evening
- Past pupil success
- Safety Zone visit
- FOWs
- PE update
- Upcoming visit
- Finally ...

Governor News

Our latest *Governors* meeting got off to a wonderful start last week as Bas Haynes was awarded a long service certificate for his time serving as a school governor. Adrian Bath, our Chair of *Governors* said,

'Bas was presented with a Long Service Award in the 'Celebrating Governance' scheme of Notts CC. The Long Service certificate is awarded to governors who have served more than 15 years. Basil has in fact served Willoughby School for 22 years, including a long period as Chair, and has been keeping his light in this respect under the proverbial bushel. Governing board members over these years have always appreciated his wise and experienced guidance.'

Thank you to Bas from us all at Willoughby for your long and continued service.

Wrap Around Care News

Still in governor news, Sander Tiel has sent the following information following up from the Wrap Around Care survey many of you completed last term.

Wrap Around Care Survey follow up

First of all, a thank you to all the parents who have responded to the survey. In total we received 26 responses (via both Willoughby Primary school and the Playgroup) and all have responded positively to the option of a pre and after care service in Willoughby. It's abundantly clear there's a significant interest in having a wrap around care service in Willoughby.

The governor board has formed a committee dedicated to this topic and the committee's next step is to identify the best way to organize the wrap around care in Willoughby at an affordable price level. We have spoken with a few wrap around care providers already and are entering a more detailed discussion with one of them. Our focus is to get the after school care set up first, once that's established we'll look at the possibility of expanding the service with breakfast sessions.

From an organizational perspective we have the option to fully outsource the service or select a more hybrid model where the provider will deliver the framework, training and other assistance but rely on Teaching Assistants and / or parents to actually run the daily sessions. If anyone is interested in organizing a wrap around

service, either independently or in cooperation with a wrap around care provider please contact me directly via e-mail and we can discuss the possibilities.

The committee is doing its utmost best to quickly assess all available options but wants to make clear that it's not guaranteed that the wrap around care in Willoughby can be realized as we need to assure it's a financially viable solution. When that's the case we are targeting to have the service available at the start of next school year.

We will keep you informed on the status of the wrap around care service in upcoming newsletters.

On behalf of the Wrap Around Care committee,

Sander Tiel

stiel@willoughby.notts.sch.uk

My thanks go to Sander for taking on this tricky, but valuable task.

Willoughby Award Winners

The new Willoughby Award has proved very popular and the recipients have been very worthy winners. Their Star of the Day star is on display just as you come in to school so we can celebrate their achievement all week. A photograph of the monthly winners will also be up for you to have a look at.

Congratulations to recent winners of the Award:

6/9/19	George B (Y6)	20/9/19	Amber T (Y2)
13/9/19	Polly M (Y3)	27/9/19	Freddie O (Y4)

School Council Members

In the second week of term each class was asked to vote for their School Council representatives. The members are elected by their peers in their year group. The School Council meets 3 times a term and discusses and organises events and issues brought forward by the representatives. In the first meeting everyone was given their badges and we had an initial discussion. The group decided to support the recycling of crisp packets, make an awareness poster to explain what to do when horses pass by the playground and buy some new playtime equipment with the money raised by the cake sale in the summer term.

All the minutes of the meeting and information are displayed on the School Council board in the KS2 classroom (including a photograph of all the current members). Please have a look!

2019-20 School Council Members

Year 5/6- Willow R & Tom E Year 3/4- Hector C & Isla K Year 1/2- Henry H & Octavia S

Parents Evening

You should have received a letter about our parents evening which is on Wednesday 16th October. We will soon be sending you home a time for your appointment, which we try to keep to 10 minutes. If you feel you may need longer, or if you wish to speak to me, as well as the Class Teacher, please pop in or phone the office so we can arrange another time that is convenient.

Past Pupil Success

We are always happy to hear about ex-Willoughby pupils and what they get up to after leaving us. I am thrilled to tell you that Joseph Auty recently received another mention and special Star Student award from The South Wolds Academy for his outstanding A Level results. Joseph achieved 3 A* grades and is now studying Chemical Engineering at the University of Loughborough. Well done Joe!

Safety Zone Visit

Our School Vision 2022 has, as one of its core drivers, a desire to create an exciting curriculum, which engages and challenges pupils to learn, in a variety of ways.

As part of this the Year 5 & 6 pupils recently spent a morning over at Holme Pierrepont experiencing 9 different activities all with a 'keeping safe' theme. The children learnt to do CPR and put someone in the recovery position, they helped spot dangers in the home, used a Nottingham City Transport bus and found out the repercussions of not using a seat belt amongst other things. Natalie French in Year 6 said, "It was a good trip. We really learnt a lot about how to keep safe. The PDSA taught us how to communicate with dogs which was useful because a lot of people have dogs in school and now we can tell how they are feeling."

FOWs

FOWs recently had their first meeting of the year and it sounds like it was a busy one!

First of all I would like to say a heartfelt 'Thank-You' to Jane Watson who has stepped down as Treasurer and also from the committee. She has been part of FOWs for many years and has always been there with a wonderful smile on her face supporting FOWs events and working behind the scenes too. We really value all that you have done for us.

At the meeting FOWs discussed fundraising and spending decisions as well as a new format for the Christmas Fair. The staff look forward to meeting up with FOWs to work and plan together to put the plans into action.

PE update

In spite of the recent rainy weather the children have all been participating well in PE activities. Dance lessons with Bethan have proved popular on Fridays and football practice on Wednesdays has been well attended.

As we will be in the village hall after half-term, can I please remind everyone to bring some 'clean' trainers/plimsolls to change into and make sure PE kit is in school on the right day.

Upcoming Visits

Peter Hammond (Local Archaeologist) will be coming in to the KS1 class on October 7th to give the children experience of toys and games from the past to enhance their history topic.

We also have a whole school trip to Conkers booked for November 13th, further details to follow.

Finally...

Anyone for hockey?! I have shamelessly been promoting West Bridgford Hockey club which has a Hockey Taster Day amongst other things coming up. As you may know there are currently 3 ex-Willoughby players at the club who started when they were in Year 3. I have included a message from one of the organisers of the Junior section of the club.

Thanks for your continued support for all that we do together to ensure all the children have a safe and happy environment in which to learn.

Beatrice Smith
Head Teacher

West Bridgford Hockey Club Juniors

Hockey Day: Sunday, Oct 13th

I am writing to let you know about a couple of our junior initiatives this season and to invite you to encourage your youngsters to try out our sport. We are currently offering the following:

- Hockey Day on Sunday, Oct 13th at West Bridgford School on Loughborough Road. This is a free opportunity to try out the sport with a number of fun activities. It lasts from 11.00 to 1.00, and as well as beat the goalie and similar, we will be organising small games throughout. Our bar will be open selling snacks, hot and cold drinks, etc. Age 4 to 15, just turn up, we provide sticks and balls.*
- Weekly Sunday coaching led by England Hockey Level 2, DBS accredited coaches. Every Sunday from 9.00 to 12.00 (times depend on age) at Becket School, age 5 to 15. Just turn up in PE kit, we provide sticks.*
- Help if you want to offer taster sessions from our hockey club, generally on Tuesdays as that is when our coaches are available!*

Our club is accredited by England Hockey which means that we provide a safe environment for youngsters. Our aim is that sport should be accessible to all abilities and enjoyed by all. We are a mixed club running mens, womens, boys and girls teams. You can find out more about the club from our website www.wbhockey.co.uk. Alternatively, you may wish to contact me on the numbers/email above to discuss details.

There is no formality to attending – youngsters just need to turn up to the astro turf pitch beside the school buildings and get stuck in!