



December 2019

# Newsletter



## A message from our Headteacher...

Being in Willow Wood during December has been fantastic! While it has been very busy for everyone, it has been wonderful to see our children performing brilliantly in their Christmas productions—the singing and acting was amazing—we have some incredibly talented pupils!

Arriving at school every day in anticipation of what Mrs Lee will be dressed as has been great fun. My own personal favourite has to be the bright orange turkey! Thank you for supporting Mrs Lee by donating so generously to 'Save the Children'.

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to you as parents. Your support and welcome has been humbling. My first term at Willow Wood has been fabulous! Our children are an absolute credit to you. Every day I arrive at school with a smile on my face as I enjoy working with the wonderful children, fantastic staff and great parents so much! I am really excited about the coming months as we have lots planned to make sure Willow Wood goes from strength to strength.

## Mini Police

This term our Year 5 pupils have teamed up with our local PCSOs to launch a new community project. Wearing uniforms and high visibility vests and caps they will be helping the police to improve their community and neighbourhood. The children have chosen their own motto—"United in improving our community". In the coming months the children will be working on reducing littering as well as anti-bullying and speeding vehicles.



## Calendar

School closes for Christmas	Friday 20th December
INSET	Monday 6th January
School opens for Spring Term	Tuesday 7th January

### Little Willows

Do you have or know someone who would like to come to our play group?

Little Willows Play Group runs every Wednesday morning in the Community Room from 9.00 - 10.30.

It is a wonderful group with lots of fun activities for your children as well as a great opportunity to meet new friends.





## Sporting achievements

Did you know that Willow Wood has recently been awarded the School Games Gold Award for all of the excellent work it does to promote physical education and sports competition. November and December saw lots of our children taking part in a variety of competitions. Our running club took part in a tough cross country race on a cold, dark and wet Friday night. Despite the tough conditions all of our children did brilliantly and finished in good times. In December we had two basketball tournaments to compete in. The competition was tough and we came up against some very good teams. Nonetheless, the children acquitted themselves well and can be proud of their achievements.



## Its all about reading!

Reading, Reading, Reading !

Over the coming weeks and months you will hopefully notice a growing focus on reading at Willow Wood. This is because I believe that there is nothing more important for our children than making sure that they become really good readers. Reading is the key that unlocks the door to all other learning.

In January we are changing some aspects of how we teach reading and writing across the whole school. All of our activities will now be based on really high quality texts, that enthuse the children. We will also be introducing a way of teaching reading called 'shared reading' that will help children to get a deep understanding of the books that we are reading. Our guided reading will also be more focused and taught using more adults in class each week.

You can also help your child become a brilliant reader by listening to them read once a day. If you hear your child read for just 10 minutes a day it will make an amazing difference to their reading skills and will help them to succeed in school. If you would like any tips on how you can help your child to read, please pop in to speak to their teacher.



## Safety Tip of the month

ICE = In Case of Emergency

Write ICE as a contact name in your mobile phone, adding the name and number of the person who should be contacted if you need help.

Jamie & Kaitlynn Year 6 Safety Officers



Learning Today for  
Tomorrow

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @WillowwoodCNPS for lots of photos and information of what is going on at the school every day.

