



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 21st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look forward to the half term, we also reflect on the recent term. Year 6 take centre stage in May, when they sit their SATs papers in English and Maths. These papers can be challenging and assess them on all their learning from Y3-Y6 (in Key stage 2). We were very proud of our Year 6 pupils, who showed strong concentration and focus in each of the four days. It's been lovely to see them proudly wearing their hoodies, which we presented to them on the Thursday, once they'd completed all papers. Thanks to Friends for organising these for the children, they LOVE them!

This week we say goodbye to Miss Reeks, who has been covering Mrs Walls' maternity leave and we will be welcoming Mrs Walls back to school next term. We welcomed Miss Wills back this week in Sycamore. Next term Miss Wills will be teaching Sycamore 4 days a week and Mrs John will be temporarily job sharing with Mrs Walls in Willow Class.

Please check your inbox for next term's clubs and book in ASAP with the office. Some great new clubs! Have a wonderful break.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

SCHOOL VALUES

FRIENDSHIP



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Class News



CHESTNUTS

This week we have been recapping all the sounds we have learnt this term so far and in Maths we have been counting up to 10, understanding positional language and looking at both 2D and 3D shapes. Our focus story is **Farmer Duck**. We have set up our own Instagram page - **Chestnuts2026**, please follow and spread the word. The QR code is on the school Instagram account. I will be adding lots of pictures over the next few days. I hope you all have a lovely break.



WILLOW

In Willow Class we have enjoyed reading the book **'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'** in Drawing Club. Reception have continued to practise writing their own sentences using their phonics knowledge. While Year Ones have practised writing their own questions to ask the Tiger, as well as writing a thank you card to the Tiger after a gift was left on the door step! In Maths, Reception have practised ordering numbers 1 to 10 and Year Ones have been learning about how to find a $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. In History we have been learning about the Royal Family. We have created our own crowns and flags when learning about the coronation. In RE we have been answering the question: 'What do Christians believe God is like?' and created a welcome sign, to show how everyone is welcome in Willow Class! Thank you so much Willow Class for being such a fabulous class to teach, I am going to miss each and every one of you



SYCAMORE

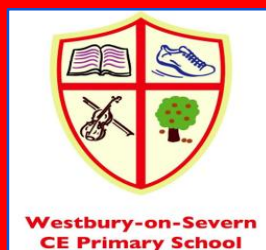
Sycamore Class have had a lovely week filled with learning and smiles. We were so happy to welcome Miss Wills back for a couple of days before her full-time return after May half term, the children were delighted to see her again. In Maths, Year 2 have been exploring pictograms while Year 3 have been learning about time. In English we have been enjoying **'The Last Garden'** the children were very excited to bring home their own mini gardens earlier this week. It has been such a joy teaching Sycamore Class; they have all grown so much and I will really miss them, although I am very much looking forward to teaching them again in September. Have a lovely half term and see you soon!



OAK

We have been exploring Indian art and culture, with a focus on Rangoli patterns. The children have enjoyed designing their own colourful, symmetrical patterns inspired by traditional celebrations. We have also explored Indian block printing, where pupils created repeating patterns and learned about this traditional artistic technique. We learned about the festival of Holi, discussing its meaning and celebrating creativity through vibrant colour work. In addition, pupils have explored henna artwork, creating intricate designs and developing their attention to detail. We have begun preparing our class production of *Wind in the Willows*. The children are already showing enthusiasm, building confidence through rehearsals, singing, and character work.

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Dates for your diary



22nd May- End of Term 5: **Please NOTE Day ends at 2pm** (bus is running)

1st June- Start of Term 6

5th June- School photos- classes and Y6 leavers

9th June- Y6 visit Gloucester Cathedral for the Leavers Service

11th June- Boys 2 Men Workshop for Y/6 boys

22nd June- First day of Dene Magna induction week for Y6

29th June- Kindness Ambassadors visit Chaxhill Care Home

3rd July- School Production at Westbury Parish Hall

6th - 10th- Dream Big Active Week, more details to follow. Lots of exciting physical activities and workshops, plus Whole School Sports morning. Y6 Bikeability during this week.

8th July- Whole school Sports morning- Chestnuts to join races on the field- family picnicking afterwards until 1pm.

14th July- School reports emailed to all parents and carers

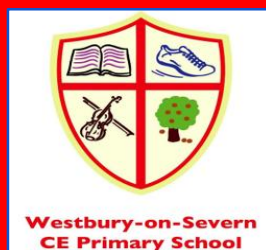
16th July- 9.15am End of year Church Service- a Whole School Celebration of School Values and Farewell to Year 6- all parents and carers welcome.

17th July- Last day of term :

1.15pm -Year 6 memories and reflections- Parents and carers welcome to attend in the hall.

1.45pm- Year 6 leave the building to whole school applause.

School Day ends at 2pm- SUMMER HOLIDAYS begin!



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Celebration Awards

Every *Friday* we celebrate pupils' achievements during our Celebration Worship.
If your child achieves something spectacular out of school, they are welcome to bring in medals, trophies or certificates on a Friday and we will share their success with the whole school.

Willow Class **Academic Excellence Awards:** Fern and Marnie

Sycamore Class **Academic Excellence Award:** Caspar and Django

Oak Class **Academic Excellence Award:** Elodie and All of Year 6

Whole school Attendance update

Sept 1st 2025 – May 21st 2026

= 96.3%

National Average = 94.9%



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Whole School Annual Walk to the River Severn



Our yearly "pilgrimage" to the magnificent River Severn has become a highlight in the school calendar. Pupils love navigating all the stiles and bridges along the way, noticing nature and learning our local geography. We always stop for refreshment by the river and note whether the tide is high or low.



Thanks to all the parent volunteers who enjoyed the walk with us, holding hands and helping children over stiles...and retrieving dropped water bottles from under bridges!



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Open Classrooms- Parent and Carer Drop in



So lovely to see so many parents, grandparents and family members today in to admire their children's work.





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SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2026/27					 Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL	
SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER		NOVEMBER	
Mon		7 14 21 28	Mon	5 12 19 26	Mon	2 9 16 23 30
Tues	1	8 15 22 29	Tues	6 13 20 27	Tues	3 10 17 24
Wed	2	9 16 23 30	Wed	7 14 21 28	Wed	4 11 18 25
Thur	3	10 17 24	Thur	1 8 15 22 29	Thur	5 12 19 26
Fri	4	11 18 25	Fri	2 9 16 23 30	Fri	6 13 20 27
Sat	5	12 19 26	Sat	3 10 17 24 31	Sat	7 14 21 28
Sun	6	13 20 27	Sun	4 11 18 25	Sun	1 8 15 22 29
DECEMBER			JANUARY		FEBRUARY	
Mon		7 14 21 28	Mon	4 11 18 25	Mon	1 8 15 22
Tues	1	8 15 22 29	Tues	5 12 19 26	Tues	2 9 16 23
Wed	2	9 16 23 30	Wed	6 13 20 27	Wed	3 10 17 24
Thur	3	10 17 24 31	Thur	7 14 21 28	Thur	4 11 18 25
Fri	4	11 18 25	Fri	1 8 15 22 29	Fri	5 12 19 26
Sat	5	12 19 26	Sat	2 9 16 23 30	Sat	6 13 20 27
Sun	6	13 20 27	Sun	3 10 17 24 31	Sun	7 14 21 28
MARCH			APRIL		MAY	
Mon	1	8 15 22 29	Mon	5 12 19 26	Mon	3 10 17 24 31
Tues	2	9 16 23 30	Tues	6 13 20 27	Tues	4 11 18 25
Wed	3	10 17 24 31	Wed	7 14 21 28	Wed	5 12 19 26
Thur	4	11 18 25	Thur	1 8 15 22 29	Thur	6 13 20 27
Fri	5	12 19 26	Fri	2 9 16 23 30	Fri	7 14 21 28
Sat	6	13 20 27	Sat	3 10 17 24	Sat	1 8 15 22 29
Sun	7	14 21 28	Sun	4 11 18 25	Sun	2 9 16 23 30
JUNE			JULY		AUGUST	
Mon		7 14 21 28	Mon	5 12 19 26	Mon	2 9 16 23 30
Tues	1	8 15 22 29	Tues	6 13 20 27	Tues	3 10 17 24 31
Wed	2	9 16 23 30	Wed	7 14 21 28	Wed	4 11 18 25
Thur	3	10 17 24	Thur	1 8 15 22 29	Thur	5 12 19 26
Fri	4	11 18 25	Fri	2 9 16 23 30	Fri	6 13 20 27
Sat	5	12 19 26	Sat	3 10 17 24 31	Sat	7 14 21 28
Sun	6	13 20 27	Sun	4 11 18 25	Sun	1 8 15 22 29