



WILLOUGHBY A PRIORY ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers

We can't believe that we are already at the end of the first term of the year and what a busy term it has been. We welcomed 12 new pupils to Willoughby this year and are delighted with how they have settled in to the Willoughby family.

Parent Pay

Please can I remind all parents that after half term Willoughby will become a 'cashless school'. Therefore, could all parents please activate their Parent Pay account. If you require any support in this matter please contact the school office.

Parents Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended parents evening. It was good to see so many parents in school. If you were unable to attend, please do contact your child's class teacher to make an appointment.

Please can you complete the online questionnaire below to provide feedback, which will help us continue to improve our provision.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=a4b7hEpr50GQiiDXWqYdggfWOWf-mYj5EjesUAh9c_hUNkxLQ05KNk9KODhYSVZNWldTNFgwWUhDQi4u

Car Parking

With Willoughby's numbers growing and the limited parent and visitor car parking we have available parking has become a very emotive issue. Please can we ask that all parents behave respectfully towards others and that if at all possible those of you with ambulant children park off site and walk to collect your child. By doing this the car park will be more accessible for those parents who have children in wheelchairs.

Harvest Food Bank

Thank you to everyone who sent in donations for Bourne Food Bank. Willoughby has certainly made a difference this Harvest time. Thank you to Roman and Shihan who sorted all donations into bags.



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Willoughby Academy is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust. For further information please contact
The Priory Federation of Academies Trust, Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW **Telephone:** 01522 889777
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World Wide Fruit Ltd – Pinchbeck

We would like to express our thanks to World Wide Fruit for hosting a class visit to their Pinchbeck Factory and for supporting the work of our Preparing for Adulthood Curriculum.

World Wide Fruit were incredibly impressed with Willoughby Pupils and we are delighted that they have chosen Willoughby to be their Charity of the Year. All money raised by them will go towards our project this year of installing a wheelchair accessible roundabout.

Ideal School Meals

Could we remind you that the deadline for ordering school meals for the first week back is Tuesday 24th October, 9am.

Enterprise Projects

Protea, Leopard Lily and Tiger Lily have all been involved in Enterprise Projects this term and we would like to thank everyone who has already purchased products. There will be an opportunity to purchase more products at the Christmas Fayre. Protea Class would like to thank *KJS - Complete print to mail solutions* who have very kindly printed their enterprise project free of charge.

New Lincolnshire EHCP and Annual Review online system

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) are launching a new online system for EHCPs and the annual review process. LCC are currently in the process of transferring all EHCP documentation across onto the new system. With the paperwork of 7000 young people across the county needing to be uploaded onto the system, this may take the Local Authority a little bit of time.

If your child's paperwork has been successfully uploaded onto the online system, you will be notified of the annual review meeting directly from the LCC EHCP Hub. If this is the case, you will receive an email containing a link and instructions of how to register and access information. On registering, you will be able to see the professionals invited and who has uploaded reports in preparation for the annual review.

Parents are also able to amend Section A (All about me) and add their views and aspirations. Please complete Section A as soon after receiving the email as possible - as this then allows us to upload school information.

If your child's EHCP documentation has not yet been uploaded by LCC to the EHCP hub, annual review paperwork will continue to be sent from school and parents will be informed by school of the upcoming annual review date.

If you have any questions, please email willoughbysend@prioryacademies.co.uk.

Swimming



This term has seen Willoughby embark on swimming lessons for Daisy and Daffodil Classes and Swimming awareness sessions for Leopard Lily and Tiger Lily. We are delighted with how successful this has been and look forward to more pupils accessing this opportunity throughout the year.

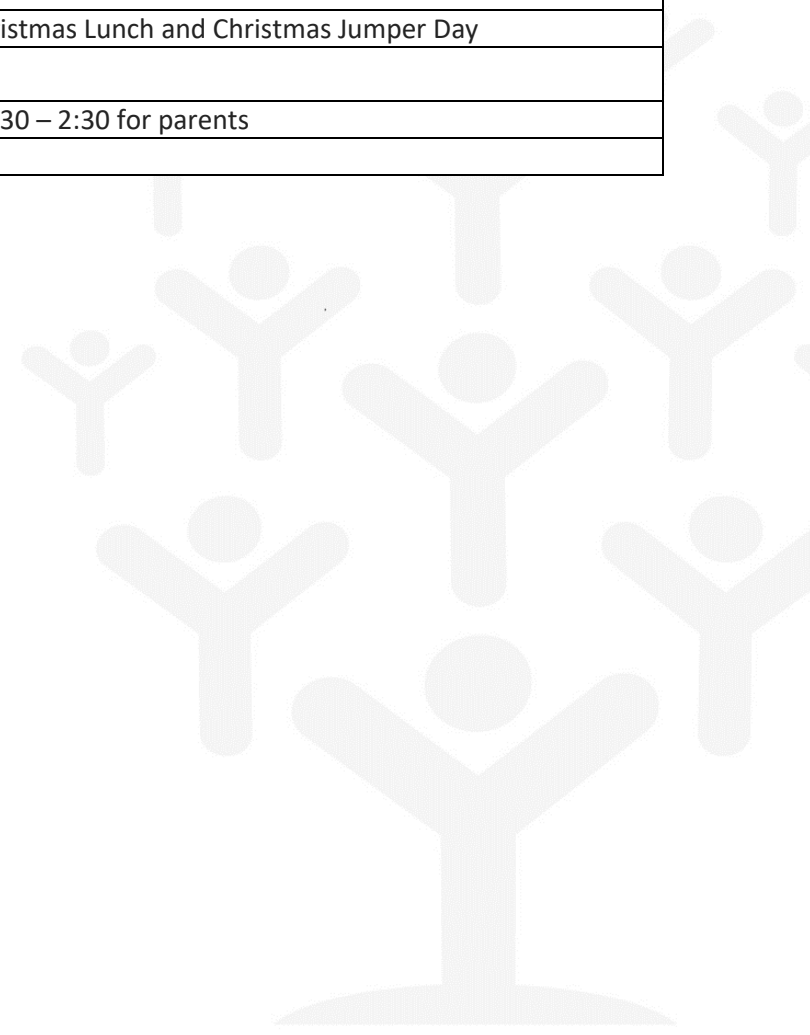
Christmas

I know it is early but we are already preparing for Christmas.

After the success of our Easter Raffle we will shortly be organising a Christmas raffle. If anyone would like to donate any prizes or knows of any companies who would be happy to donate a prize we would be most grateful for your support. Please send any prizes in to the office after half term.

Classes are also preparing their class stall for the Christmas Fayre and would be appreciative of any new toys for the toy tombola or general tombola prizes.

Wednesday 6 th December 2023	Christmas Show (Lower School) Buttercup, Bluebell, Poppy, Water Lily, Daisy, Daffodil, Sunflower and Venus Flytrap
TBC	Christmas Show (Upper School) Iris, Lavender, Snapdragon, Protea, Tiger Lily, Leopard Lily, Foxglove, Jasmine
Thursday 7 th December 2023	Santa Visit (Cummins)
Friday 8 th December 2023	School Meals – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 14 th December 2023	Christmas Disco
Friday 15 th December 2023	Christmas Fayre 1:30 – 2:30 for parents
Friday 15th December 2023	End of Term



Class News

Poppy Class - Natalie

We have had a super first term in Poppy class. 9 amazing pupils have made some lovely friendships and taken on many challenges. Phonics with Fred has become a firm favourite, along with some great forest school and sensory room sessions. Responding to the children's interests has been fun and following a discussion with some pupils we learned they had not experienced going to the cinema before. We prepared a session, designing our own popcorn pots and then had an end of term movie afternoon with popcorn!



Daffodil Class – Amy

This half term, Daffodil class have been so busy and have had so much fun whilst learning! In Literacy, we've been working on using capital letters and full stops in the correct places; we got messy looking for all the capital letters in the flour! In numeracy, we've done some brilliant work on place value, addition, time and money; lots of hands-on activities! In science, we've been learning about our 5 senses; the pupils had mixed reactions about the marmite! In PSHE we've been answering the big question, 'who is my family?' The pupils have been identifying who makes up their unique families and have worked really hard on making a special gift for someone special in their lives. We have also had a great time going swimming!



Foxglove Class – Nadine

Foxglove have had a fabulous start to the academic year. We have taken a journey on a multi-sensory story, built fires in the woods with Dave, tried new foods in cookery, laughed so hard our bellies hurt and shared some quiet time in the sensory room. Our new teacher, Nadine, is so proud of all the work we have completed, are always ready for mathematical challenge.

Foxglove have established new friendships and welcomed back some old faces. Well done Foxglove for a fantastic first term.



Venus Flytrap – Amy

We have had a fantastic term in Venus Flytrap. All the children have settled in so nicely and have produced some amazing work. In English we have been exploring the story Funnybones. We then discussed adjectives and story structure before making our own stories. We wanted to know some other words for dark- so we experienced this in a dark room, to see how we felt and what adjectives we could use to describe it. We really enjoyed sharing our stories with the rest of the class this week.



In maths our focus has been shape. We have enjoyed a range of activities relating to this- including sorting 2D and 3D shapes when Amy tripped over and spilt them all over the classroom!



In continuous provision we have become familiar with our weekly sticker jobs which we have to do. These extend our learning and skills in lessons for us to apply independently within the environment. This style of learning has meant we are all very focused and motivated. We are looking forward to another busy term, but first enjoy your holidays!

Daisy class – Leanne

Daisy class have had a great time this term. We have been swimming every week completing different activities and using different floatation devices to help us learn to swim. We have taken on a variety of tasks set by Dave in Forest School and particularly enjoyed having fires and toasting marshmallows and waffles.



Leopard Lily and Tiger Lily – Rachel and Jess

Leopard Lily and Tiger Lily have been going to the leisure centre each week. Their confidence and swimming skills have really improved and its really good fun splashing the staff! We are looking forward to continuing after half term.



Tiger Lily went to Stamford college on Wednesday the 11th of October to explore a post 19 pathway. Whilst we were there, we visited the independent living and work unit known as “the houses”. There is a huge greenhouse, vegetable garden, kitchen and even goats and rabbits to look after! After this, we went to the small animal unit. Here we met a therapy dog, a red knee tarantula called Rosie, a python called Kevin and a tortoise named Sully! We had a great day,



and we look forward to exploring more post 19 pathways this year!

(Written by Tiger Lily)

Water Lily – Tracy



In Water Lily we have introduced a new approach called TACPAC which the children are enjoying and finding very calming. We have been busy using colourful semantics to describe our book 'What Makes Me a Me?' Our Attention Autism sessions continue to support the children with the early fundamentals of language including awareness of others, attention, listening, shared attention, switching attention and turn-taking.



Protea Class – Kerry

This term Protea class had the opportunity to visit two factories, Worldwide Fruit and Magnavale. During our visit, we had the chance to engage in various tasks, such as making boxes, packing products, and ensuring the quality of the fruit. We have also embarked on our own enterprise business project, with the aim of having our products available by Christmas. Our first products will be calendars and playing cards – watch this space!

This term some of us have been focusing on Fresh Start Phonics, while the rest have been working on reading comprehension and in PSHE we have been looking at and discussing our skills and strengths and how this links to careers. It has been a fantastic term for us all!



Buttercup Class – Kelly



Buttercup class have made an amazing start to the year with 5 new starters who have all settled into school brilliantly; confidently using our indoor and outdoor areas and making new friends. We have had lots of fun learning about our families and sharing our photo albums with staff in class. We have had such fun exploring our faces and bodies through sensory art and play – our foot print walk and spaghetti hair have been huge favourites! Over the last few weeks we have focused on Autumn; crunching in leaves, feeling different textures and making hedgehog bread rolls. We have even had our first outing to the post box! A super busy but very fun term.



Sunflower Class – Katherine



What a busy, fun term we have had – we all settled into our routine and have made some super progress in all areas of the curriculum. We have enjoyed lots of Autumn learning opportunities. Our weekly trip to the woods to explore and look for signs of Autumn are always a highlight of our week, we also like our al fresco snack and drink too! As it's pumpkin season we all had a try at removing the seeds and thinking about how we would describe all parts of the pumpkin, Sallyanne then took it away to make a yummy treat for us to try. We also explored Black history month with music and food – we danced and played instruments to Jazz, Reggae, R&B and Rap music and then smelt, tasted and explored Black soul food including sweet potato casserole.



Food – Alison



All pupils have settled into their Food lessons really well since returning after the summer. Highlights have been Black History month cooking where all pupils in all classes explored and made a wide range of Afro Caribbean food. Kayden Coupland starting his work experience as a Food Technician and actually extended this into helping in Sunflower class. The pupils in Sunflower love having him in there. All pupils have extended their food based skills, particularly Snapdragon who are really perfecting their 'rubbing in' technique this term.



Lavender Class – Lauren

This term we have been visited by Polly a pet therapy dog and her owner Bea. Polly has visited us on a Tuesday afternoon, and we have learnt how to care for a dog. We have enjoyed taking Polly for walks using her lead and giving her lots of cuddles! The class have read a story to Polly at the end of each session, Polly even sat on our laps as the book was read! We have loved having Polly visit us this term and hope to see her again soon.



Iris Class – Laura



In Iris class this term we have been learning about our bodies in Science. We have looked at how our bodies grow and change, what humans need for survival and healthy eating. When learning about digestion we thoroughly enjoyed using playdough to make the shapes of the different parts of the digestive system, whilst doing this we tried to use the correct vocabulary to demonstrate which part we had made. In PSHE we had a fantastic Keeping Safe day, during this day Iris class had several visitors. The favourite session of the day was Mini Police, in this session we learnt about anti-social behaviour, what it is and how we should report it. Iris class then had chance to take their fingerprints and dress up in Police uniform.

Snapdragon Class – Helen

Snapdragon has had a busy Autumn this term with many highlights to talk about. For example, everyone has worked on their 'Happy Box' and 'Toolkit' to use as a part of their regulation station. As a part of our Science Challenge during Science Week we laughed as we tried to construct the tallest tower and the earthquake proof building and even our own creations from only marshmallows and spaghetti. Snapdragon class can be very competitive! Our lessons have been busy including reading 'Tom's Midnight Garden' this term has captured our sense of adventure, especially when we watched the film. We are ready for half-term holidays!



Jasmine Class – Gemma

We have had a great start to the new academic year! Busily exploring signs of autumn during our forest school and art sessions. We hope you have enjoyed tasting our culinary autumnal delights during our sensory cookery sessions. During our sensory story and communication experiences we have been thinking about ourselves; developing our body awareness through massage and relaxation. We are looking forward to next term and all the festivities in store!



Bluebell Class – Pamela

Bluebell class have been very busy this term. We have enjoyed our new fun session called the Mystery box, this has built anticipation and allowed the pupils to communicate in a fun and exciting way. Towards the end we were very lucky to have a walk out in the community. We visited the Don't Lose Hope gardens and the local library. Throughout the term we have had some lovely weather, so we have made the most of it and used our wheelchair swing lots. All pupils have worked hard and deserve a well-earned rest during the holidays.



We would like to wish you all a happy half term and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 30th October for another exciting term.

