



A Values School

WILLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL
'A great school in the heart of our village'

Newsletter

March 2017
Issue 45

OUR VALUE THIS MONTH:

Generosity



Stars of the Week in February were:

Isabelle, Jackson, Courtney, Rae, Callum, Brogan, Tasmin, Camille, Harry C, Kyle, Nate, Dylan, Finlay, Marika and Evan.

Stars of the Week in March were:

Archie, Elliot, Charlie, Filip, Daniel, Lily, Ella, Sebastian, Talia, Alannah, Olivia P, Elliot, Olivia O, Gabe, Sam, George, Bailey, Naima, Rebecca, Nate, William, Isobel, Lucas, Lelan, and Austin.

The **Values Awards** from The Golden Box draw were won by **Courtney** for her enthusiasm when doing her sounds, **Xavier** for being a good friend, **Bailey** for taking part in a school production when he didn't really want to, **Harry C** for being a good friend, **Oliwia G** for clearing up without being asked when she dropped her lunch on the floor and for tidying away lunch equipment without being asked to, **Tasmin** for tidying up without being asked to and **Austin** for wiping the table without being asked.

Lunchtime Awards were earned by **Emmi**, **Camille**, **Harry S**, **Lucas**, **Elliot W-T**, **Matteo**, **Talia**, **Fionan**, **Isobel**, **William**, **Lelan**, **Tasmin**, **George** and **Sebastian**.

Head Teacher Awards were earned by **Harry S** for his persuasive writing, **Emmi** for coming to the rescue and feeding her sister while her Mummy was busy, **Lizzie** for her brilliant poem, **Tasmin** for trying so hard with her writing, **Naima**, **Allanah** and **Callum** for their beautiful handwriting and **Naima** and **Evan** who were the first two children to complete their target card – improvements and working hard.

Evie and **Harry** have gained their pen licences.

Achievements Outside School:

Kyle and **Callum** have been awarded their yellow belt in kickboxing, **Kai** has been awarded his green belt and **Daniel** and **Imogen** have been awarded their red belt. **Daniel** also earned a medal in kickboxing for helping people out and **Harvey** earned this medal too. **Lacey** has earned her Gymnastics Badge 7, **Emmi** has earned her Gymnastics Badge 6 and **Brogan** has earned earned her Gymnastics Badge 6 and a bronze award in trampette and box. **William** has earned a Green Blue Peter badge for drawing an anti-littering poster and **Olivia P** has earned a Blue Peter badge for drawing a picture of the presenters. **Isobel** performed in a dance show for which she earned a medal and she was also awarded a trophy for being the best improver. **Evan** scored a hat trick in a football match and was awarded man of the match, **Sam** has gained his 5m swimming badge, **Lizzie** swam for 800m (32 lengths!!) and **Bethany** has gained her Stage 1 swimming award AND can do cart wheels in the water. **Gabe** and **Nate** have completed their ASA Stage 2 swimming award.

Wow! I'm exhausted just typing up all of that!! Well done to everyone, you have been so busy

since the last newsletter. Keep up the good work and make sure those certificates and medals keep coming into school so that we can all share in your achievements.

TAG RUGBY

In the last newsletter we missed **Kai's** name off the tag rugby team who took part in the tournament at Alban School on 11th January. We are very sorry Kai, and a big well done to you for taking part along with your team mates.

KEY STAGE 1 SPORTS FESTIVAL

Elliot, Sam, Matteo, Gabe, Olivia O, Olivia P, Camille, Sebastian, Rae and Talia all took part in a Key Stage 1 Sport Festival at Mark Rutherford School at the end of January. Well done to all of you.

GYMNASTICS COMPETITION

On 21st March **Brogan, Lacey, Myles, Camille, Olivia O** and **Mim** took part in the Gymnastics County Finals. We are very proud to say that they came 4th out of 8 teams who had all won their heats. This is a fantastic achievement and we are very proud of you!!

WORLD BOOK DAY CHALLENGE

The results for our World Book Day Reading Challenge are as follows:

Oaks Class

Winner – William (770 pages)
Runner up – Lizzie (664 pages)

Acorns Class

Winner - Olivia P (677 pages)
Runner up – Camille (527 pages)

Squirrels Class

Winner – Finn (286 pages)
Runner up – Xavier (146 pages)

Well done to everyone who took part.



FOWLS and the School Council are very excited to let you know that a grand total of



was raised on Red Nose Day. This is an AMAZING total – thank you so much to everyone who took part in any way – whether it was dressing up, telling jokes, walking, sponsoring a walker, baking cakes, buying cakes or eating cakes!!

The winners of the Best Fancy Dress Costume competition were:

Oaks Class

Rebecca

Acorns Class

Ella

Squirrels Class

Courtney

We all had a great day as you can tell from the picture!!



SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Thank you to everyone who has donated vouchers so far. We are well on our way to 800 vouchers which is brilliant. It would be great if we could get this total over 1,000 by the time the scheme ends. This would be enough for us

to order some fantastic new toys for the playground or some additional cooking equipment.

Vouchers are being issued until 2nd May and can be sent into school right up until 30th June.

Remember to ask friends, grandparents and neighbours to donate their vouchers to us as well.

FRONTIERS CENTRE ADVENTURE HOLIDAY

A reminder for the parents and carers of our Year 3 and 4 pupils, if you have chosen to pay by instalments for the Frontiers trip, the final payment of £30 is due by 28th April.

UPDATE ON MERGER

The Council has now confirmed that the merger of our school with Cople can go ahead.

As mentioned in the last news letter, Helen Johnson is now working on our new school identity. A survey has been sent home asking for your thoughts on our new school uniform and the first meeting of the working group has been held. The working group consists of staff, pupils and parents and will be discussing various matters relating to the school's new identity over the next few months. Please let us know if you would like to be involved.

150 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We are going to be celebrating our 150th Birthday in July of this year. We are planning a whole week of celebrations in school during week commencing 3rd July and we will be finishing the week with a big party on Saturday 8th July to which you are all invited. We will be sending out more information about the plans for the week and the party once all the details are finalised.

NEWS FROM SQUIRRELS

March has been a very busy month for Squirrels. We have welcomed our parents into the classroom on several occasions. Firstly we enjoyed sharing books for world book day, then we joined together for a circle time

assembly and last of all we had an enjoyable Mother's Day activity session. Thank you to all the parents who have supported us throughout the term.

We have also had some fun science activities including making a shaving foam rain cloud and a bubbling magic potion. Squirrels are now making their own magic potions involving mud and things they find around the garden!

I have asked the Squirrels what they have most enjoyed about school so far and they said painting and learning about colours and shapes but the two most popular activities are eating dinner and being right outside in the garden!

Mrs Staley

WEEKLY MATHS CHALLENGES

Winners this month include:

Oaks: William and Fionan .

Acorns: Tasmin and Emmi.

Certificates: Tasmin and Harry Smith.

Eden, Fionan and Lizzie have now received a second certificate for completing 20 challenges! Miss Worth has now completed 10 challenges and received her certificate.

The adult competition is open to parents, staff and visitors and is displayed in the entrance hall.

NEWS FROM ACORN CLASS

On the 22nd March Acorn class went to Milton Keynes Museum. We were met by two ladies dressed up as Victorians. We split into two groups, then each group went around the rich farmer's house.

In the parlour we saw many wonderful things and the children were fascinated by them all. We then went into the laundry room and kitchen, where the ladies showed us how to wash, dry and iron the clothes. In the kitchen we saw lots of inventions to help make jobs easier for the cook, a knife cleaner and an apple peeler and corer. We saw a sugar loaf and a range, where all the hot water was boiled and food was cooked.

Next we went into the worker's cottage and found that a whole family would live in just two rooms and they would all sleep in the same bed. If they needed the toilet in the middle of the night they would use a gazunder, so called because it 'goes under' the bed.

Just before lunch we went into the school room and pretended to be Victorian children at school, writing on slates and the teacher was very strict, telling us off if we didn't call her Ma'am!

After lunch we looked around replica shops in a pretend street and lastly lots of farming equipment and tools, like a butter churner and old ploughs.

We had a lot of fun and learned so much about life in the Victorian era.



Mrs Smith

NEWS FROM OAK CLASS

It's hard to believe Easter is nearly upon us, we've had a wonderful term, the children have really risen to the challenges of Year 3/4 and I

have seen some big improvements and hard work throughout the Spring term. This was reflected in their Class Assembly, which I thought they did beautifully. It was great to see the enthusiasm with which the children approached this task – well done Oak Class, I am very proud of all of you.

Next half term will bring changes to Oak Class as we welcome back Mrs Buisson. I'm sure Year 4 will be especially glad to see her and I know Year 3 are going to love her too! We will be sharing the class, Mrs Buisson taking Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and myself taking Thursday and Friday. I will still be around school on other days of the week so Mrs Buisson and I will have plenty of chance to talk about the things and catch up on the latest happenings in Oak Class, ensuring it all runs like clockwork.

I will, however, be very sad to no longer be with your lovely children on the other days of the week as I am very attached to them all!

Have a wonderful Easter!

Miss Harrison



DIARY DATES

April	
4 th	Church Service 9.30am. Last day of term
18 th	Teacher Training Day
19 th	Children return to school Year 2 Fire Prevention Presentation
20 th	Frontiers Meeting for Year 4 Parents 3.45pm at Willington
24 th	150 Years Celebrations – Planning Meeting 6pm
May	
1 st	May Bank Holiday – no school
3 rd	Kwik Cricket Tournament
9 th	Resources Governors Meeting
15 th – 17 th	Year 4s to Frontiers Residential Trip
15 th	Curriculum Governors meeting
25 th	School Photos Frontiers Meeting for Year 3 Parents 3.45pm at Cople
26 th	Last day of half term
June	
5 th	Training day
6 th	Children return to school
14 th – 16 th	Full Governing Body Meeting Year 3s to Frontiers Residential Trip
20 th	Sing On Concert – more details to follow
21 st	Inter-school competition
22 nd	Curriculum Governors Meeting
26 th	Resources Governors Meeting
29 th	Bikeability KS2
July	
3 rd – 7 th	150 Birthday Celebrations week
6 th	KS2 visit to the Evergreens OAP Club
8 th	Birthday Party
10 th	Full Governing Body Meeting Church Service 9.30 am.
21 st	Last day of term
September	
1 st	Training Day
4 th	Children return