

# Willow Wood Community Nursery & Primary School



Acting Headteacher: Ms Katie Ullein

- Nursery for 3 & 4 year olds
- Breakfast Club from 08:00 £1



WHERE PUPILS FLOURISH

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## Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025

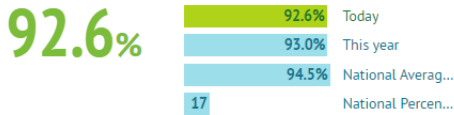


Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday filled with joy, relaxation, and cherished moments with family and friends. As we embark on a new term, we are excited to welcome everyone back to school, recharged and ready for new adventures in 2025!

### Attendance update:

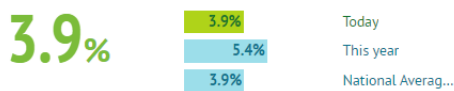
#### Whole School Attendance



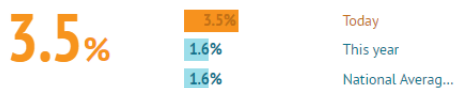
#### Statutory Attendance



#### Authorised Absent



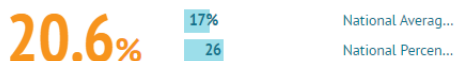
#### Unauthorised Absent



#### Late



#### Persistent Absentees (DfE Whole Year)



### Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

#### Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

#### 5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

#### 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

#### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.  
 Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

#### Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

#### Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Whole school attendance compared to the last Monday before Christmas has gone up 4% to 92.6% but unfortunately overall this year it has gone down to 93%. Last week the class with the best attendance was Hazel class with 95.5% so a big well done to Y6 for having the best attendance!

We are still striving to be above 96% for whole school attendance, so please **only keep your children at home if they are really poorly**. Thank you for getting your children to school on time and ready to learn!

## Attendance Superstars!

All the children who had 100% Attendance in the Autumn term, came home with a certificate and a badge on Friday. Everyone now has the chance to gain the Spring 100% Attendance badge at the end of this term, so make sure you come to school everyday if you want to collect a badge!



## Reminders

- The school office hours are 8.15am – 4pm. Please leave a message on the answerphone if you call outside of these hours and we will get back to you.
- If phoning up to report a pupil absence. Please leave these on the absence answer machine, which is option 1. There is no need to speak to office staff to report a pupil absent, these messages get checked regularly. You can also record a pupil absence on the School Spider App.
- Parent reminder to keep your School Grid account in credit at all times. Meals need to be paid for in advance. Office staff are having to chase on a daily basis, accounts that are on stop due to no payment when a child has a lunch ordered. Easiest way to avoid this, is to top up £13.90 every Monday for a week of meals, this is £2.78 a day. School Grid is the parent's responsibility and not the schools.

## Parental Involvement

- **Little Willows** Mother & Toddler group each Thursday in the Sunshine Building hall.
- **Next SEND Parents Coffee & Chat** - TBC – Everyone welcome, time for parents to come together and chat.
- **Next PTA Meeting** – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 9am – Sunshine building.

## PTA

The next PTA event will be a Film Night on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. There will be a film for Reception & KS1 and another film for KS2. More details to follow.

## Student Spotlight



In assembly on Friday we pulled our 'Strive for 5' raffle. All the children that have read at least 5 times a week throughout the last half term were in the raffle to win a tablet! The winner was Cristovano! I'm sure you'll join with us in congratulating him on his well-deserved win. Make sure you are reading at home with your child at least 5 times a week so they get as many raffle tickets in the box as possible by half term!

## Residential reminders

Final payments for these residential are now open on school spider, for anyone wanting to spread the cost.

Year group	Residential to	Total cost	Deposit	Final payment
Y2	Tattenhall Date: 13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> May '25 1 night	£122 £61 (pupil premium)	£40 by 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov '24	£82 £21 (pupil premium) By 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb '25
Y3/4/5/6	Gulliver's World Date: 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> June 1 night	£115 £57.50 (pupil premium)	£35 by 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov '24	£80 £22.50 (pupil premium) By 26 <sup>th</sup> April '25

## Trips reminders

Trip	Year group	Date of trip	Cost	Needs to be paid by
Chester Zoo	Rec, Year 1 and 2	24/01/24	£8 / PP £4	14/01/24
Jodrell Bank	Years 5/6	21/01/24	£19/ PP £9.50	07/01/24

## Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

Your child may be able to get free school meals/pupil premium if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

The criteria also applies if your child is adopted or under a special guardianship order.

Please speak to the school office if you need any help with applying or have any questions.

It is important that you register, even if your child currently receives Universal Free Infant School Meals as there is additional funding (Pupil Premium) that school can apply for <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

## Finally

We are looking forward to an exciting term filled with learning, growth, and new adventures. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in making our school a wonderful place for our children.

Warmest wishes,  
Katie Ullein  
Acting Head Teacher

