

Willow Primary School Newsletter

Issue 92 - June 2026

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the final half term of the academic year. We hope you had a restful break and are looking forward to an exciting and successful Summer 2.

As we begin the final half term, we would like to reflect on some of the highlights from Summer 1. It was wonderful to see pupils engaging in a range of enriching learning experiences, including educational visits and our successful Multicultural Day, where children celebrated the diversity of our school community and learned about different cultures, traditions and experiences.

This week, our Year 1 pupils completed their Phonics Screening Check and our Year 4 pupils took part in the Multiplication Tables Check. We are incredibly proud of the resilience, determination and positive attitudes demonstrated by the children throughout these important assessments. Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support in helping children prepare and feel confident.

Looking ahead, Summer 2 promises to be a busy and exciting half term. Pupils can look forward to Sports Day, educational visits, transition activities, end-of-year performances and celebrations, as well as our annual Awards Evening. This special event provides an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the hard work, achievements and personal successes of our pupils, reflecting the dedication and effort they have shown throughout the year.

As we enter the final weeks of the academic year, we would like to thank all our families for their continued support and partnership. We look forward to celebrating the many achievements and memorable moments that Summer 2 will bring.

Best wishes,
Mrs Kumar
Deputy Headteacher



Nursery's Super Stories and Sensory Fun!

Nursery have had a fantastic time exploring stories through a range of creative and hands-on activities. Inspired by the book Supertato, the children enjoyed making their own Super Potato characters and using construction materials to build walls and structures.

Linked to The Colour Monster, the children created colourful feeling jars and talked about different emotions. They also loved drawing their own unique monsters, using their imagination and creativity to bring their ideas to life.


It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged in their learning, developing their creativity, communication skills, and understanding of emotions through play.



Reception's Roarsome Dinosaur Adventure!

Reception enjoyed their very first school trip of the year and what an adventure it was! The children had a roarsome time visiting Wellington Country Park, where they explored the exciting dinosaur trail and came face-to-face with some prehistoric favourites.

Alongside their dinosaur discoveries, the children enjoyed a range of activities and outdoor adventure play areas, giving them plenty of opportunities to explore, play, and learn together. It was wonderful to see their excitement, curiosity, and enthusiasm throughout the day, making lots of special memories with their friends.

What a fantastic first trip for Reception! 



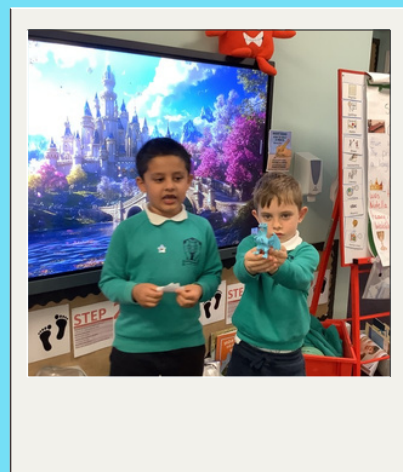
🐉👑 Once Upon a Time in Year 1...

Year 1 have started reading a new book in Literacy called The Princess and the White Bear. To introduce the story, the children explored different fairy tale objects, including a crown, a castle, a dragon and a magic potion. We talked about where we might find these objects in a fairy tale and what stories they reminded us of.

The children then worked with a partner to become storytellers. They chose three objects and used them to make up their own short fairy tale stories. There were lots of creative ideas, from brave princesses and fierce dragons to magical potions and enchanted castles.

This was a great way for the children to use their imagination, develop their speaking and listening skills and work together to share ideas. We were very impressed with the confidence and creativity they showed.

Well done, Year 1!



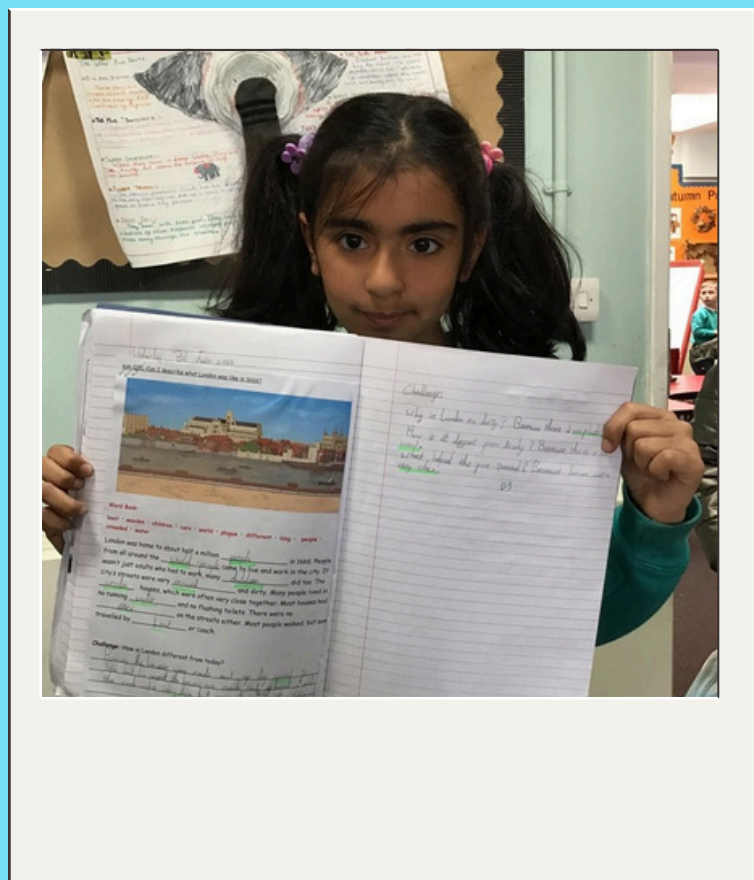
🔥 Year 2 Travel Back to 1666!

Year 2 have begun their exciting History learning about the Great Fire of London. The children started by revisiting what they already know about London and thinking about how the city has changed over time.

Using maps, they compared modern-day London with London in 1666 and were surprised to discover how much smaller the city was, with fields surrounding it. They learned that many houses were made from timber and built very close together along narrow streets, helping them understand why the Great Fire spread so quickly.

The children also explored what life was like in the 17th century, discovering that there were no cars, electricity, or modern buildings. They enjoyed looking at historical pictures and discussing how people, homes, and daily life were different from today.

It has been fantastic to see the children asking thoughtful questions and showing great curiosity as they begin their journey back in time to one of the most famous events in British history. 🔥🏠📖



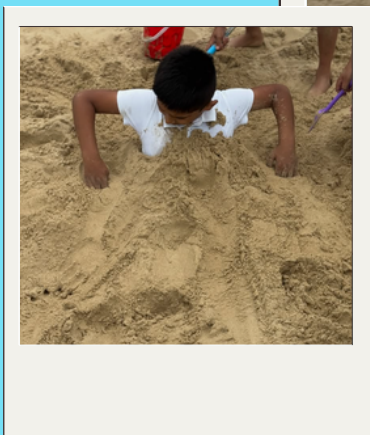
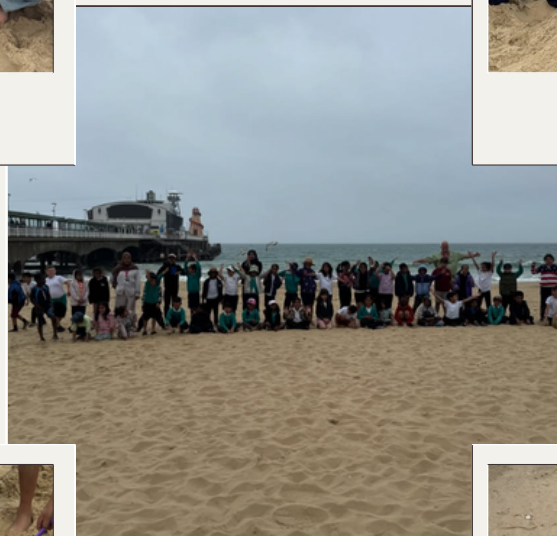
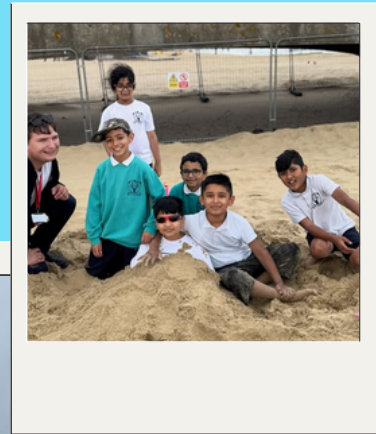
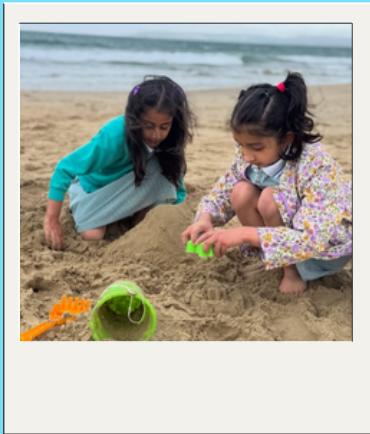


Year 3's Seaside Adventure to Bournemouth Beach! 🌊☀️

Year 3 and WT3 had a fantastic day at Bournemouth Beach last week. The children were full of excitement from the moment we arrived, and it was wonderful to see them enjoying the seaside after looking forward to this trip for so long.

Throughout the day, the children showed excellent behaviour, kindness, and teamwork, a real credit to our school. They enjoyed exploring the beach, playing together, and taking in the beautiful coastal scenery.

A huge thank you to all our parent helpers who supported the trip. Your time, enthusiasm, and care made the day run smoothly and helped create such a memorable experience for the children.

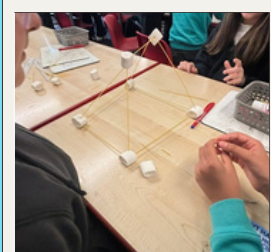


Year 4's Tower-Building Challenge!

Our Year 4 pupils had an exciting opportunity to take part in an engineering workshop delivered by visitors from Cummins. During the session, pupils learned about the work of Cummins and explored how engineers use creativity, problem-solving and teamwork to design solutions to real-world challenges.

The highlight of the workshop was a hands-on engineering challenge where pupils worked collaboratively to design and build the tallest possible tower using only spaghetti and marshmallows. They quickly discovered the importance of strong foundations, stability and effective teamwork as they tested and refined their designs.

The workshop provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to develop their communication, resilience and critical thinking skills while gaining an insight into careers in engineering. We would like to thank the Cummins team for giving up their time to inspire our young learners and for delivering such an engaging and memorable experience.



👑 Year 5 Step Back into Tudor Times!

Year 5 had a fantastic time taking part in an Elizabethan workshop, where they travelled back in time to learn about life during the Tudor period. Through a range of interactive activities, the children explored what life was like in Elizabethan England, discovering fascinating facts about daily life, entertainment, clothing, and society.

The workshop brought their History learning to life and gave pupils the opportunity to engage with the past in a fun and memorable way. It was wonderful to see so many thoughtful questions, enthusiastic discussions, and eager participation throughout the day.

The children represented the school brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We are sure this exciting workshop will inspire and support their learning as they continue to explore this fascinating period in history. 👑📖🌟





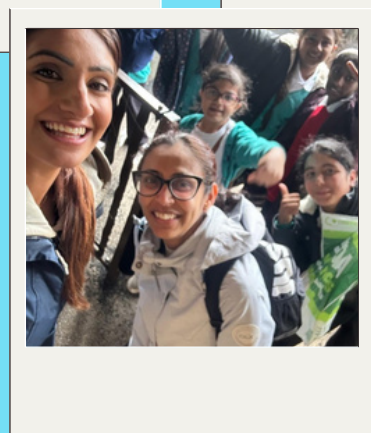
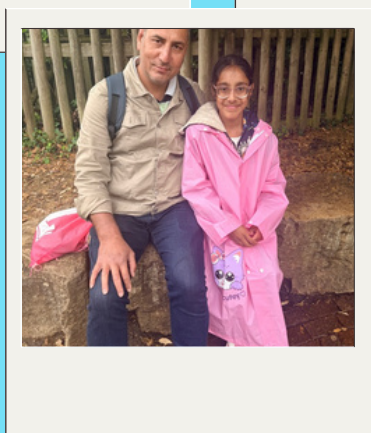
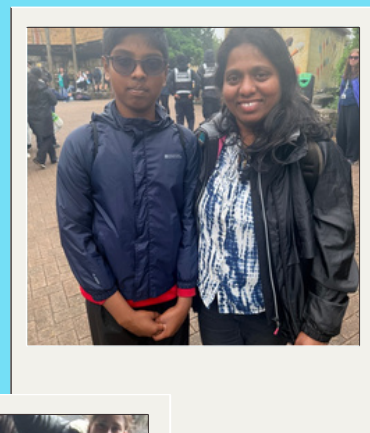
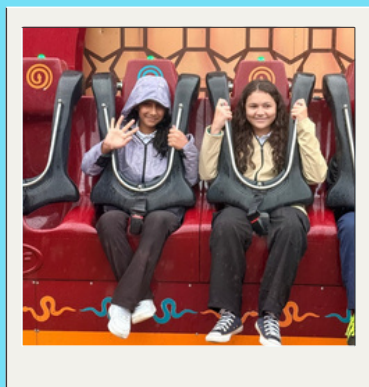
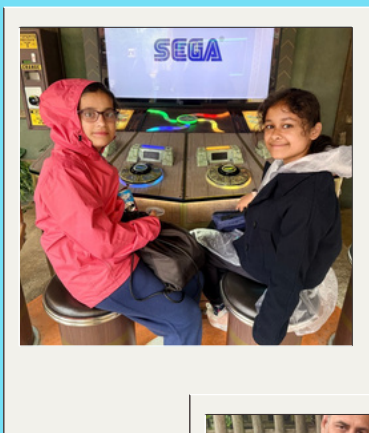
Roars, Rides and Smiles for Year 6!

As part of their end-of-year celebrations, our pupils enjoyed a memorable day at Chessington filled with excitement, adventure, and plenty of laughter. Whether they were braving the biggest rollercoasters, exploring the zoo, or simply spending time with friends, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to celebrate all they have achieved during their time at primary school and create lasting memories together before embarking on their next chapter. Throughout the day, they demonstrated maturity, kindness, and excellent behaviour, representing our school brilliantly and making all the adults incredibly proud.

A huge thank you to our staff for helping to make the day such a success and to our Year 6 pupils for embracing every moment with enthusiasm and positivity. We hope they will treasure these memories for years to come as they prepare for the exciting journey ahead.

Well done, Year 6—you truly deserve it!



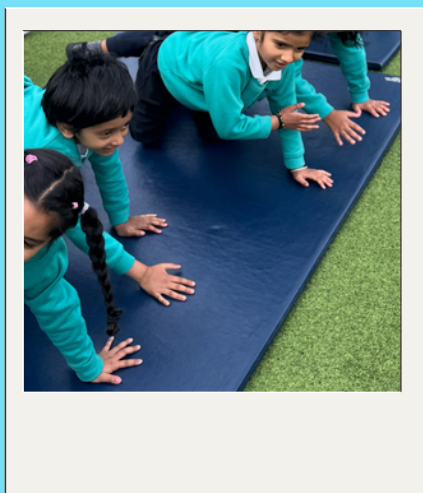
💡 Hannah Beharry Inspires Willow!

We were delighted to welcome Hannah Beharry to Willow Primary School for a truly inspiring visit. Hannah led a special assembly where she shared her sporting journey with the children, speaking about the importance of hard work, perseverance, resilience, and believing in yourself when working towards your goals.

One of the highlights of the assembly was a light-hearted sparring session with Mr Jones, which had the children laughing, cheering, and thoroughly entertained!

Following the assembly, pupils took part in an exciting 10-minute sports circuit, trying a variety of activities and challenges. The school was buzzing with energy and enthusiasm, and it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces getting involved.

It was a memorable day that inspired our pupils to stay active, work hard, and aim high. A huge thank you to Hannah for taking the time to visit and share such a positive message with our school community. 💡⭐





Willow Shine at Cricket Tournament!

Our Year 5 and 6 Cricket Team proudly represented Willow at a recent tournament, competing against several other schools. Throughout the day, the children demonstrated fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship, supporting one another and giving their very best in every match.

It was wonderful to see the team showing such positive attitudes, resilience, and respect both on and off the field. The children represented the school brilliantly and were a real credit to Willow.

Well done to everyone who took part—we are incredibly proud of you!





Important Dates for Your Diary

Don't Miss Our Parent Workshops!

Monday 15th June – Willow Nursery Stay and Play with sports games
AM: 9:30–10:30am
PM: 12:30–1:30pm

Wednesday 17th June – Willow EYFS Induction Meeting, Main Hall
8:45am and 2:00pm

Friday 19th June – Year 5 PSHE Parent Workshop, Main Hall, 8:30–9:30am

Trips, Events & Exciting Days Ahead!

Tuesday 16th June – Willow Sports Day
KS2: Morning
KS1: Afternoon

Tuesday 23rd June – Willow Awards Night

Friday 26th June – Willow Summer Fete, early finish times

Monday 29th June – Willow KS1 to KS2 Transition, Main School Hall, 8:30–9:30am

Thursday 2nd July – Willow Sports Day Backup Date

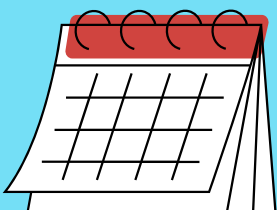
Thursday 2nd July – Year 2 Bournemouth Beach Trip, Marish and Willow

Tuesday 7th July – Transition Day

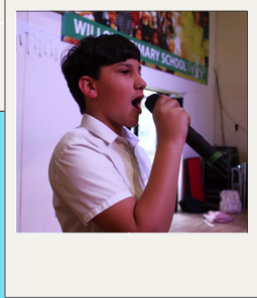
Wednesday 8th July – Willow Year 6 Show, 1:30pm

Monday 13th July – Transition Week Begins

Friday 17th July – End of Summer 2, early finish

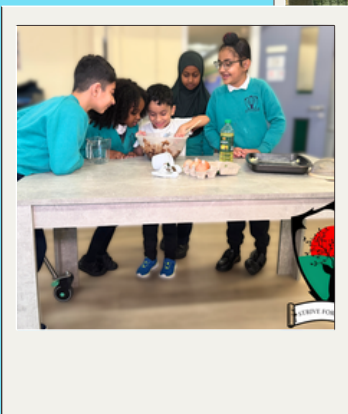


Follow the Fun at Willow Primary School!



We are proud to regularly share snapshots of learning, celebrations, and everyday school life with our families and wider community via Instagram.

**Follow us to see more:
@MarishAcademyTrust
@WillowPrimarySchool**



Parent Notices

Timings of the School Day

Soft start is from 8:15am to 8:30am for all year groups except Nursery.

Willow Tree: Doors open 8:15am to 8:45am and then at 3:00pm

Nursery: 8:00 – 11:00am and 12:00pm – 3:00pm

Reception: 8:30am – 3:15pm

Year 1 and Year 2: 8:30am – 3:15pm

Year 3 and Year 4: 8:30am – 3:25pm

Year 5 and Year 6: 8:30am – 3:25pm

Ensure that you drop your child off at the designated entrance. Do not leave them unsupervised on the school grounds.

Fees for Breakfast club and Meerkats

Wombats	Before 4pm	After 4pm
	£2	£5
Breakfast Club	£1 per day	-
Late collection	£5 per 15 minutes	-

If you would like your child to attend Breakfast club or Meerkats you will need to apply for a space. For more information or an application form, enquire at the school office.

Please note, there is a different payment schedule for Pupil Premium/ Free School Meal pupils. Please contact the office before applying.

All pupils must be booked in advance otherwise they will not be allowed to attend. If your child attends Meerkats without a booking you will be charged the late fee. Children must not attend Breakfast Club without a booking as numbers are limited. Please book a week in advance.

You are required to sign your child in to Breakfast Club and out of Meerkats each day.

Attendance Statistics

Our attendance..

Reception: 93.26%

OH NO!

Year 1: 95.83%

Year 2: 95.39%

Year 3: 93.97%

Year 4: 98.1%

WELL DONE

Year 5: 94.66%

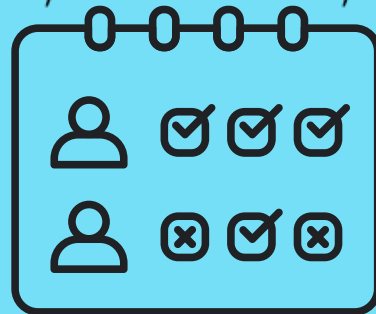
Year 6: 94.44%

Our target is 96%



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



Below 90%: Serious Concern

Far too much time missed. Big impact on learning. Serious impact on academic success. This must improve.



95-90%: Cause for Concern

Negatively affecting academic success. Some gaps appearing. Let's aim higher.



96-100%: WELL DONE!

Achieving full potential. Excellent effort! You're smashing it!

Parent Notices

Playground Fundraising Initiative

We are excited to share that both schools will be fundraising throughout the year to support the purchase of new playground equipment. A variety of events will be held across the year to help us reach this goal. We look forward to your support and involvement in these upcoming activities.

Polite Reminder to Parents and Carers

We kindly request that no dogs (or any other pets) are brought onto the school premises, even if they are being carried.

Please also ensure that bikes and scooters are not ridden anywhere within the school grounds. There have been a few concerns raised about near accidents involving pedestrians. When leaving bikes in the designated bike area, please make sure they are securely locked.

Additionally, we ask all parents and carers to be considerate of our neighbours during drop-off and pick-up times. Please park responsibly and drive calmly and safely around the school.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for everyone.



Willow School Uniform

Our Willow school uniform is:

- Green Sweatshirt or cardigan
- Navy blue trousers, shorts or skirt
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Black sensible shoes (no boots, high heels or platforms)
- (Nursery – the above with dark coloured jogging bottoms)
- PE Kit – plain white T-Shirt (round neck or polo), navy/black shorts.
- A dark tracksuit (plain or with a small logo) to wear over the PE Kit for outdoor lessons in cold weather. Trainers/plimsolls are needed for all PE lessons.

All items of clothing must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

The only jewellery allowed is one small stud in each ear, a watch and that which is a specific religious requirement. These must all be removed for PE. The child must take full responsibility for looking after these items. The school will accept no responsibility for their loss or damage.

PE and Games – PE is not an optional subject, it is a part of the national curriculum.

Swimming in KS2 – Swimming is not an optional subject. A letter with swimming costume requirements will be sent when your child is in year 4.

Parent Notices

A REMINDER ABOUT SAFE AND RESPECTFUL PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF

We would like to remind all families about the importance of safe, sensible and respectful behaviour during pick-up and drop-off times.

For everyone's safety, please ensure that:

- Pavements are kept clear and not used for parking, so that children, pushchairs and families who cannot step into the road can pass safely.
- Local residents' driveways are not blocked and the surrounding community is respected.
- Rubbish is taken home and not left in the local area.

We also ask that all adults speak to one another in a calm, polite and respectful manner at all times. As a school community, we are role models for our children, and they look to us to demonstrate kindness, patience and understanding.

Our school serves many children with additional needs, including those who may move unpredictably or require the safety of the pavement at all times. Please be mindful of this and show consideration to all families.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our school community safe, welcoming and supportive for everyone.

International Language of the Month



International Language of the Month – Icelandic

Facts about Iceland:

- **Continent:** Europe
- **Population:** 390,000 people live on Iceland (2025)
- **Capital:** Reykjavik, which means 'smoky bay', with about 140,000 residents in the city
- **Name:** Republic of Iceland. (In the local language: *Island*); nickname: "Land of Fire and Ice"
- **Government:** Democracy
- **Language:** Icelandic, English (Nordic Languages and German are widely spoken)
- **Religion:** mainly Christians 95% (Evangelical Lutheran Church 74%)
- **Currency:** 1 *Icelandic krona* (ISK)=100 *ore*
- **National Anthem:** *Ó, guð vors lands* (Our Country's God)
- **National Holiday:** 17 June (Independence Day)
- **National Symbol:** Falcon and the national colours: blue, white and red.

Now let's learn a few phrases:

Yes - Já

No - Nei

Good day - Góðan daginn, Góðan dag

Good evening - Gott kvöld

Hi / Hello - Hæ / Halló

Goodbye - Bless

Thank you – Takk

0 - núll

1- einn (m), ein (f), eitt (n)

2 - tveir (m), tvær (f), tvö (n)

3 - þrír (m), þrjár (f), þrjú (n)

4 - fjórir (m), fjórar (f), fjögur (n)

5 - fimm

6 - sex

7 - sjö

8 - átta

9 - níu

10 - tíu

Icelandic is the official language of Iceland. It is a Germanic language; this means that it is related to languages like English and German. It comes from Old Norse, the language spoken by the Vikings. As Iceland is an island far from other countries, the language hasn't changed much over time. This means Icelandic people can still read texts written hundreds of years ago!

Many people also consider Icelandic one of the more challenging languages to learn!



E-Safety

At The National College, our [WakeUpWednesday](#) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](#).

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IMAGE-ALTERING FILTERS

From playful puppy ears on Snapchat to 'beauty mode' on TikTok, image-altering filters are now a routine part of how young people communicate online. While many are harmless, others subtly reshape people's faces and bodies. This can blur the line between reality and edited content, potentially influencing how children and young people see themselves and others.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ALTERED BEAUTY STANDARDS**

Many 'beauty' filters smooth skin, reshape facial features, or adjust body proportions. Over time, repeated exposure to these filters can shift a child's idea of what is 'normal' or attractive, creating unrealistic expectations about their own and others' appearances.
- PRESSURE TO LOOK PERFECT**

Filtered images can often attract more 'likes' and positive comments. This can encourage children and young people to rely on editing tools to gain others' approval, rather than feeling confident in their natural appearance.
- LOW SELF-ESTEEM**

Regularly viewing heavily filtered content can lead to comparisons with unrealistic images. This is linked to body dissatisfaction and reduced self-esteem, particularly among children and teenagers.
- HIDDEN ADVERTISING**

Some filters are linked to beauty products or brands, subtly promoting third-party brands. Children and young people may not recognise this as advertising, while also sharing personal data – such as facial images and usage habits – with apps and third parties.
- BLURRED REALITY**

As filters become more advanced and natural-looking, it can be difficult for children and young people to distinguish edited content from real life, especially when filters are used in everyday photos and videos.
- SEXUALISED EDITS**

Certain tools can make users appear older or more sexualised. This may attract unwanted attention, increase the risk of images being shared without consent, and expose young people to unsafe interactions.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- START OPEN CONVERSATIONS**

Talk regularly about filters, such as how they work and why people use them. Ask the children and young people in your care how filtered images make them feel and encourage honest discussion without judgement.
- CHALLENGE 'PERFECT' POSTS**

When viewing content together, gently point out the signs of editing, filters, or posing techniques. This builds critical thinking and helps children and young people question unrealistic images.
- REINFORCE WHAT'S REAL**

Help children and young people understand that filtered images are digitally altered and are not an accurate reflection of real life. Emphasise that they don't need to meet these artificial standards.
- PROMOTE OFFLINE CONFIDENCE**

Encourage activities that build self-worth beyond appearance, such as sports, hobbies, friendships, and creative interests, so that confidence isn't tied solely to online validation.

Meet Our Expert

Farven Kaur is a digital parenting expert and founder of Kids N Clicks, a platform dedicated to helping parents navigate the online world alongside their children. She is an expert contributor for Internet Matters, offering practical guidance on emerging online safety issues. Her insights have been featured by the BBC, The Telegraph, Talk TV, and other major media outlets, supporting families across the UK.

[See full reference list on our website](#)

#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**

[@wake_up_weds](#) [/www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.04.2026




What's On?



Low-Cost Counselling for Parent Carers

We offer low-cost counselling for parent carers of children or young people with SEND - regardless of whether they have a formal diagnosis. As a team, we have experience ourselves as parent carers, and are passionate about supporting parent carer mental health.

Our services include:

-  Up to 20 weeks of telephone or Zoom counselling. Our prices are affordable, starting from £35 a session.
-  Online therapeutic groups, which are free to attend (donations gratefully accepted) - such as our monthly, online creative therapy group.
-  1:1, one-off, behavioural support and advice sessions - practical support to help you make sense of your child's behaviour.

For more information, or to register your interest, please reach out to us at: nurturehub@icloud.com



www.nurturehubtherapyservice.co.uk



Online Creative Therapy Group for Parent Carers

...on the first Tuesday of each month, from 10am - 11am.

For parent carers of all artistic abilities, with a child or young person with special educational needs or disabilities - no need for a diagnosis!

Free to all - but donations are welcomed via our website.

For more information, or to register your interest, please reach out to us at: nurturehub@icloud.com



www.nurturehubtherapyservice.co.uk

Helping an ADHD Child with Homework



FREE one hour online session for parents
Thursday 25th June 7pm - 8pm

Join us online to get some advice on how to help your ADHD child start and complete their homework.

Book on the PARENTS - Live Talks page
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

FIGHTERS REPUBLIC

DO YOU HAVE AN AUTISTIC SON? AGED 13-18

Join Our FREE 8-Week Sports Project!

We are researching how team sports can support autistic young people to live healthier, happier lives.

Parents and sons are invited to take part in our study to help improve inclusion in sport.

Thames Valley Athletics Centre, Eton, SL4 6HN

Starts Saturday June 20th



Scan QR Code if you're interested

07909 963220

ianbaileyboxing@hotmail.com



What's On?

JUNE FREE PARENTING CLINIC PARENTING ACROSS TWO HOMES

PARENTING CLINIC

PARENTING ACROSS TWO HOMES

15 JUNE
12.00 TO 12.30PM
HOSTED ON ZOOM
Come live or catch the replay

Join Anisa Lewis, Parenting Coach, for this month's Free Parenting Clinic.

This clinic is for any parent navigating life after separation, divorce or family change.

In this 30-minute session, Anisa will share:

- What children need most to feel safe after a family change
- How to support big feelings, theirs and yours
- Simple ways to create stability and connection across two homes
- How to communicate with your co-parent in a child-centred way

This is not legal advice or mediation, it is emotional and relational support to help families feel whole again.

Book your free place here:
<https://anisa.lewis.as.me/theclinic>
or Email: hello@anisa.lewis.com for the booking link.

Parenting Across Two Homes: Supporting Your Child Through Family Change


When a family changes shape, children feel it deeply.

With the right support, parents can create calm, stability, and connection, even across two homes.

Parents often tell me:

- Things are 'fine', but I still feel unsure.
- My child's behaviour has changed, and I don't know what they need.
- I want to protect them from the tension.

You are not alone. And you are not expected to know all the answers.



Anisa Lewis
Parenting Coach





WESTERN HOUSE ACADEMY
School's out... the fun is ON!

HOLIDAY CAMP

Creating spaces where every child can thrive!

- Science Experiments
- Fun Crafting
- Simple cookery sessions
- Badminton
- Football Cricket
- Dance Workshops
- Boxing drills and skills
- Basketball and more!

Scan the QR to secure your place!

LOCATION
Western House School
Richard's way
Cippenham
SL15TJ

AUGUST 10TH - AUGUST 27TH
(LONG LAST DAY)

Learn. Grow. Thrive.

10am-2pm
ALL MEALS AND SNACKS INCLUDED
AGES 5-15YRS



CONTACT US - 07359657104 FREE HAF SPACES / £20 A DAY INCLUDING MEALS AND SNACKS



Virtual Coffee Morning

Family, Siblings and Homelife

Friday 19th June - 10:00 - 11:00am 25 spaces available!

Join our online informal discussion to cover the following areas:

- Creating a home that works for everyone's needs and rhythms
- Supporting sibling bonds
- Navigating family tensions with empathy and realistic expectations
- Letting go of 'perfect' parenting

Please note this is not a workshop but support group for parent/carers and any medical advice should be sought from your medical practitioner.



Sign Up Today!

Available for families who reside in or have a registered GP in East Berkshire with a child who is Autistic/ADHD (suspected/pathway/diagnosed)

To book your place contact GEMS:
 Gems.4Health@nhs.net  0800 999 1342





LANGLEY ACADEMY
School's out... the fun is ON!

HOLIDAY CAMP

Creating spaces where every child can thrive!

- Science Experiments
- Fun Crafting
- Simple cookery sessions
- Badminton
- Football Coaching
- Dance Workshops
- Boxing drills and skills

Scan the QR to secure your place!

LOCATION
Langley Academy
Sixth Form Block
Langley Rd
Langley
SL37EF

MONDAY 20TH JULY - FRIDAY 7TH AUGUST

Learn. Grow. Thrive.

10am-2pm
ALL MEALS AND SNACKS INCLUDED
AGES 5-15YRS



CONTACT US - 07359657104 FREE HAF SPACES / £20 A DAY INCLUDING MEALS AND SNACKS