



WILLOWS
HIGH SCHOOL



BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO



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Weekly Newsletter – 12.03.21

Hello! مرحباً! Ahoj! Ola! Dzień dobry! Salut! Helo!

Llongyfarchiadau!

Congratulations to this week's top merit champions! We are really proud of your resilience and determination to succeed in your online learning!

Return to School:

We are delighted that we will be welcoming Y11 back to school from Monday 15th March for the last two weeks of term.

Year 10 will return to school on Monday 22nd March for the last week of term.

Year 7 will attend school on Tuesday 23rd March for a Check in-day.

Year 8 will attend school on Wednesday 24th March for a Check in-day.

Year 9 will attend school on Thursday 25th March for a Check-in day.

For the week commencing 15th March, we will continue with the current home learning timings of the day.

From the 22nd March we will need to return to timings that include split lunches and breaks throughout the day so that the instances where Year Groups in school come into contact with each other are minimised. We will ensure that teachers communicate this with pupils and set their online lessons accordingly for pupils to access at the correct times.

When pupils return they will be **expected to wear school uniform**. This recommendation is contained in the Welsh Government operational guidance. Please contact your child's Welfare Officer if you foresee any problems with this. **On days where pupils have PE, they will continue to wear their PE kit to school** (as before Christmas) until further notice. Pupils will need to wear face coverings in the classroom where physical distancing cannot be maintained. The school will provide two face coverings to every pupil on their return.

Date	Top Merits in Year Group
Friday – 05.03.21	Samuel Nicolau Nevaeh Jones-Eedy Sama Al-Battat Callum Stacey Sophie Russ David Williams Saul Fuentes Ellen Eccleshare
Monday – 08.03.21	Nathan Mba-Aba Sama Al-Battat Kacy O'Flynn Evie Abraham-Bazzard Elrayah Bella Chomchanok Donsamak James Qian Madison Morris Lena Rodrigues
Tuesday – 09.03.21	Flavio Xhini Iestyn Britten Khoresh Ameni Dylan Evans Jasmine Kirby Lowri Wallace Nyah Davies Hasan Islam Ayad Mohamed Yosan Yeibiyo Mohammad Arham Mahmood Shadathul Ahmed Chomchanok Donsamak Yassir Al-Idrisy Crystal Tran Aki Hussain
Wednesday – 10.03.21	Sumaya Muhammad Lily Fortt Iestyn Britten Aparajita Hota Christelle Tala Chomchanok Donsamak Lena Rodrigues

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Awarded for excellence



However, pupils may wish to carry their previous school face-coverings (black) in their bags in case they want to swap them during the day.

We are really looking forward to seeing our learners! If you have any questions, please contact your child's Welfare Officer in the first instance who will be happy to help.

School News:

Transition Events:

Over 50 pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 joined Mr. Palmer-Smith for our 'Staggering Science' event on Wednesday. Here, pupils and their parents found out how an elephant cleans their teeth, how a bowling ball fits inside a vacuum cleaner and what the inside of your nose really looks like!



We are delighted that so many parents and pupils have made Willows their first choice for September 2021. An e-mail will be sent to parents inviting them to meet the Senior Leadership Team on **March 24th at 5pm**. In the meantime, you can book an appointment to discuss any individual issues with Mr. Whittaker here: <https://calendly.com/willowshigh/meeting-regarding-transition?month=2021-03>. If you are still undecided, please make an appointment – we would love to talk to you!

Reading Recommendation:

This week's reading recommendation is 'The Amazing World of Tom Gates' series by Liz Pichon. Meghan in Year 7 enjoys these as they are funny and easy to read. She would recommend this series to primary and younger secondary pupils – they are fun to read and can really cheer you up!

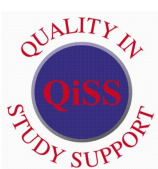


Charity:

Congratulations to the Vaughan-Thomas family who have completed a danceathon to raise money for the 'Versus Arthritis' charity. We are both very proud of you and envious of your energy levels! Well done!



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Health and Well-being:

Mind Hub:

A reminder of Cardiff Youth Council's 'MindHub.' This is an internet hub created by young people for young people. It provides information and links to services in relation to emotional health and well-being. This excellent resource covers a number of aspects of mental health from depression and anxiety to gender identity and sexuality. It can be accessed here:

<https://www.mindhubs.wales/>



Here is a reminder of some of the key services available for young people and their families:

- **School nurse** – pupils can text 07520615718 or 'chat' on 'Chathealth.NHS.UK' for confidential advice and support.
- **Family Gateway** – 03000133133 – provides advice for families no matter how big or small the problem.
- **Food Bank*** - our nearest food bank can be found at St. Saviours Church on Splott Road. For dates and times, go to <https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/>
- **Period Poverty** – Please e-mail Mrs. Bubbins at Kelly.Bubbins@willows.cardiff.sch.uk if you need feminine hygiene products and we'll do our best to help.

Community:

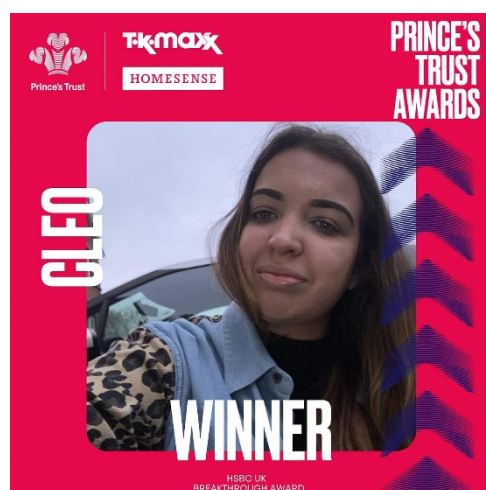
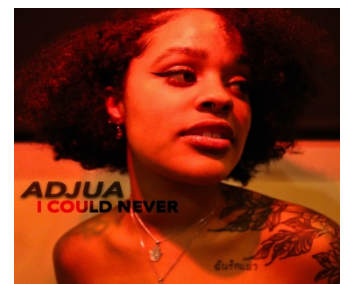
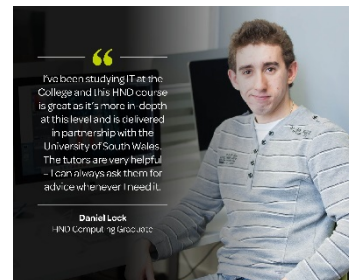
Past Pupil Pride:

It's been a big week for past pupil achievements!

Firstly, a massive well done to Daniel who is fronting CAVC's campaign to encourage more young people to complete High National Diplomas. Daniel is currently studying computing at CAVC in conjunction with the University of South Wales. We wish him all the best with the rest of his course.

Next, we would like to praise and promote, a new single that has been released by the extremely talented Abena entitled 'I could never understand why.' We look forward to seeing you taking the music world by storm. You can listen on Spotify here:

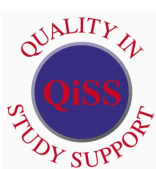
<https://distrokid.com/hyperfollow/adjuai-i-could-never-understand-why>



Lastly, we would like to congratulate Cleo on winning the Prince's Trust Breakthrough Award. Out of 250 nominations across the UK, Cleo was placed in the final six. By telling her personal, inspirational story of achieving whilst growing up in care – Cleo was put through to the final and won. She was delighted to chat to Fern Cotton, Aleisha Dixon and Jordan and Perry from Diversity on the way! Cleo hopes that her story will inspire others in the same situation to persevere and achieve their dreams. More here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8DTsw-4Tk4>

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Votes for 16 and 17 Year Olds:

On May 6th 2021, 16 and 17 year olds in Wales will be able to vote in the Senedd elections for the first time and thousands of young people can make their voice count. You can register to vote from aged 14 to influence your future. Go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Thank you!

We would like to thank 'The Butchers Arms' in Rhwbina for donating devices for pupils. These will make a big difference to some of our pupils' education. We really appreciate it!

Diolch:

Thank you, as always, for your support with our online learning and over the coming weeks with our return to school plan. By working together, we are sure that we can make this run as smoothly as possible for our children.

If you have any further pupil specific questions, your first point of contact should be contact@willows.cardiff.sch.uk or you can ring the school reception on 029 20414243 who can put you in touch with the relevant member of staff.

Have a lovely weekend,

Team Willows



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