



WILLOWS
HIGH SCHOOL



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BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO

Weekly Newsletter – 23.04.21

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

Llongyfarchiadau!

We have enjoyed another successful week of learning at Willows High. We continue to be impressed with the commitment to learning and excellent effort displayed by the majority of our pupils.

Thank you, as always, for your support particularly regarding uniform. A reminder that pupils should wear grey trousers, skirts or shorts this term, have a tie, blazer and black school shoes. There is help available for eligible families regarding the cost of uniform. Information on this can be found here

<https://gov.wales/pupil-development-grant-access>. If you need help regarding the forms you can contact our Family and Community Engagement Officer: Samantha.Watt@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk or on 02922 672744 / 07592 037937. or your child's Heads of Year with any individual problems. The uniform grant has been extended to all years for the current academic year. The closing date for applications is 30.06.21.

By continuing to work together, we are sure that we can secure a positive future for the young people and their families in our care.

A wonderful Willows well done to all of this week's merit winners:

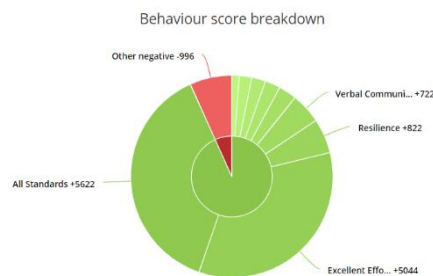
Merits – 16.04.21 – 22.04.21:

Year Group	Total Merits	Excellent Effort	Merit Champion
Year 7	3156	7Radcliffe	Chloe Edwards
Year 8	2492	8Attfield	Julio Brito Mendonca
Year 9	3795	9Holst	Chinaza Okafor
Year 10	2673	10Inness	Yassir Al-Idrissy
Year 11	1684	11Josephson	Cameron Ashton

Attendance:

Whilst we understand that absence due to illness can not be helped, we would kindly ask you to ensure that you make sure your child is attending school daily. This is because every single day in school matters. The odd day off soon adds up to a serious concern. If you miss school, you miss out on valuable learning time which could have a serious impact on your future progress.

All of us should be aiming for perfection but occasionally we may have to miss a day. If that is the case please let us know that your child will be absent and the reason why first thing in the morning. We can be contacted in the following ways:



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Ringling School Reception on [029 20414243](tel:02920414243)

E-mailing us at firstday@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Or by ringing or texting our Attendance Officers on:

Ms. Short (Attendance Officer) - [07733889023](tel:07733889023)

Ms. Davies (Assistant Attendance Officer) – [07733889062](tel:07733889062)

If your child is likely to be off school for a number of days, please keep us posted on their progress and expected date of return to school. Medical evidence may be requested.

Please do not send your child to school if your child or anyone in the household is displaying any Coronavirus symptoms. This is to keep schools open and safe. Further information can be found here: <https://t.co/j1cusJG56m?amp=1>

A reminder that there is now an extended list of Covid-19 symptoms and testing available for children and families who are experiencing them. Please read the updated FAQ's here: <https://t.co/FsHQMOFi2K?amp=1>

Also, if you need information about the Corona virus vaccine in a different language, please visit phw.nhs.wales/patientinfo

Please note that Year 11 pupils, in particular, should make every effort to attend school every day so that they are present and prepared for their qualification assessments. The only exceptions are those who have been asked to isolate – these pupils will have the opportunity to sit assessments when they return.

School News:

Extra-Curricular Activities:

This week, our fantastic Heads of Year have arranged extra-curricular activities within year group bubbles based on ideas from pupil voice. We would like to encourage all members of our school community to join in with these activities. They provide good opportunities to learn new skills, make new friends and enjoy our facilities in a relaxed environment. Here's what each group has been up to:



Year 7 with Miss. Williams:

Every Tuesday Miss. Williams will be running 'Craft, Cuppa and Cake Club' where pupils can make some crafty objects and watch Netflix with a hot chocolate or tea with some cakes. The craft will change each week. Cheers Year 7 – we hope to see more of you next week – let Miss. Williams know!

Every Thursday, Miss. Williams will be running a sports club. The sport will change each week based on pupil suggestions. So far, we can expect some football, basketball, athletics and even some dance. This week was the turn of rounders! It was a lovely day and all the students thoroughly enjoyed it!

Attendance Ladder



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Year 8 with Ms. Coles – Riley:

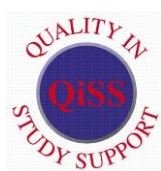
Tuesday's Move-About club was a huge success! Pupils enjoyed an hour of football- it was a unanimous vote to play full pitch, so our lovely PGCE students Miss Hobby and Mr. John were able to really put our Year 8s through their paces! Miss Riley was very proud of all pupils who took part as they showed real teamwork, kindness and patience with one another. The sun was shining, and the daisies and dandelions abound on our field really did paint an idyllic scene! If you would like your child to take part next Tuesday, please email me at georgia.coles-riley@willows.cardiff.sch.uk. It may be an idea to pack sunscreen in your child's bag for next time as we are heading into those glorious summer months!

There was a big turnout for Thursday's Creative Club, where the pupils had a chance to share their ideas and play some games. Miss Riley enjoyed the boundless energy and noisy enthusiasm from her year 8 pupils. It was a joy to see such energy and camaraderie amongst the pupils. Pupils voted strongly in favour of doing improvised comedy sessions, as well as a teddy bear making project and other creative craft ideas. One pupil suggested a multicultural cooking club, and another suggested cosplay. Miss Riley is keen to incorporate as many pupils' interests as possible so look out for announcements around these special activities! If you would like your child to take part next Thursday, please email me at georgia.coles-riley@willows.cardiff.sch.uk.

Year 9 with Miss. Sansom:



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Our active Year 9's voted for football sessions for this half-term. These sessions will be taking place in the barn every /Tuesday after school. The sport will be voted for half-termly. Please see Miss. Sansom to sign up as there are limited places available for his activity.

On Thursday, Miss. Sansom will be running an Arts and Craft Club. Currently the group is working on signs for the Wellbeing Garden. Their next project will be creating / decorating plant pots. Again, please see Miss. Sansom if you want to join the fun and get creative!

Year 10 with Mr. Furness:

On Tuesday and Thursday, Mr. Furness ran a volleyball and dodgeball club for Year 10 pupils to work on their team building skills. Next week, on Tuesday, Year 10 will plan how to construct their own bird house and make all of the necessary preparations. This will be completed during Thursday's session. Please see Mr. Furness if you want to get involved. It is a good opportunity to learn new skills, make new friends and you can include it on your college applications.



Year 11 with Mr. Bartlett:

To help support Year 11 with their upcoming assessments, Mr. Bartlett will be available in the school library every Tuesday and Thursday for an hour after school. Year 11 pupils are welcome to attend to revise in a quiet, relaxed environment.

PE Department:

This week saw the return of our 'Set for Success' scheme run in conjunction with Cardiff Metropolitan University. This session was based on developing our communication skills.

On Tuesday Olympic Swimmer Tom Haffield, our athlete mentor delivered the second session of the 'set for success' leadership course to some pupils in 10 Banksy. The pupils identified desirable qualities that employers look for in potential employees such as being reliable, confident, able to work independently and in a team, driven, creative and motivated.

One of the most important skill sets that employers look for is the ability to communicate effectively. Tom took the group through a range of practical activities and challenges which allowed them to demonstrate, practise, review and further develop their communication skills. The pupils were engaged and open to suggestions on how to improve, they were willing to discuss how their choice of language, ability to express themselves and their body language can have an impact on how others perceive them. They learned how effective communication can help provide a positive outcome in a variety of situations.



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Community:

Community Gateway:

Community Gateway's annual Careers and Role Model Week returns week commencing Monday 26th April with a fabulous interactive programme that aims to bring Cardiff University closer to pupils across the southern arc of Cardiff.

This year's webinars include:

- Q&A with Lecturers and Student Ambassadors
- Careers and Employability
- Enterprise Skills and Business Start Up Support
- Hear about outreach activities with Widening Participation
- information about Bursaries, Scholarships and Grants
- A Parent's Guide to Higher Education
- Learn about the support from Wellbeing and Counselling Services
- Understand about Science with SparkLab Cymru
- Introduction to various University schools and courses and much more

The week is aimed at school children, college students, young adults and anyone considering possible career options who would like to find out more about what Cardiff University has on offer.

There will be a mix of giveaways throughout the week from branded lanyards to t-shirts, so make sure to register and share with your friends and family!

View the full schedule and sign up for sessions here: <https://grangetowncareers2021.sched.com/>

The flyer is attached to the bottom of this newsletter.

Tremorfa Pantry:

We were over the moon to hear that one of our lovely Year 10 pupils won the Tremorfa Community Pantry logo design competition. We are sure you'll agree that the logo is extremely professional and we are proud that it will be taking a prominent position in our community. Well done Asala!



Project Vote:

As a school we are taking part in Project Vote, a parallel Senedd election for young people organised by the Children's Commissioner for Wales. This is not the real Senedd election but a parallel Senedd election that

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gives young people the chance to learn more about how elections work in Wales. If you are 16 or older on 6th May, you will be able to vote in the real Senedd election if you have registered to do this. On 6th May, we will publish the results of our parallel election. Your teacher will receive information about this.

Please read the information on the different parties by following this link:

<https://www.projectvote.wales/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Blaenoriaethau-Priorities.docx>

And vote using this link, the closing date for your votes is Friday 30th April 2021:

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/projectvote/?id=219114027648>

Cardiff Summer Activities:

Please could all pupils follow the link below to answer a few questions on what additional activities and opportunities you would like to see in our community this summer. The youth service can then look to arrange these for you. It'll only take a couple of minutes, get your voice heard:

<https://www.menti.com/yovvi4rd9g>

Health and Well-being:

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.

A reminder that our school safeguarding leads can be contacted if you have any worries or concerns about a child:

Ian.Whittaker@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk

Danielle.Mackintosh@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk



The NSPCC Sexual abuse Helpline number is 0800 136 663 for children to ring confidentially. More information can be found here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/child-sexual-abuse/>

Environment:

Please find further information about this month's Sustrans 'Big Pedal' event here: https://bigpedal.org.uk/?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Orlo



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Diolch:

Thank you, as always, for your support. A reminder that the pupils should now be revising Knowledge Organiser 5 for home-work as well as completing 10 minutes of Mathswatch and 20 minutes of reading on MyOn every evening.

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.

We wish our Muslim families a continued peaceful Ramadan Mubarak.

Enjoy your weekend,

Team Willows

Kids General Knowledge Questions

Why not have a go at this fun quiz this weekend? Answers on next week's newsletter:

1. How many sides does an octagon have?
2. In the Toy Story films, what is the name of the boy who the toys belong to?
3. What is the capital of Germany?
4. How many books are there in the Harry Potter series?
5. What sport does Roger Federer play?
6. What date is Guy Fawkes Night?
7. What is the Welsh word for 'welcome'?
8. In what country would you find The White House?
9. What kind of food is Penne?
10. How many days are there in February during a leap year?
11. In what country might you find a platypus and a wombat?
12. What is Super Mario's brother called?
13. What kind of creature is Shrek?
14. What three colours make up the French flag?
15. What band was Harry Styles in before his solo career?
16. What kind of food does a panda eat?
17. What is the highest mountain in the world?
18. What programme features trains called James and Gordon?
19. What type of animal is a greyhound?
20. How many players are there on a rugby team?

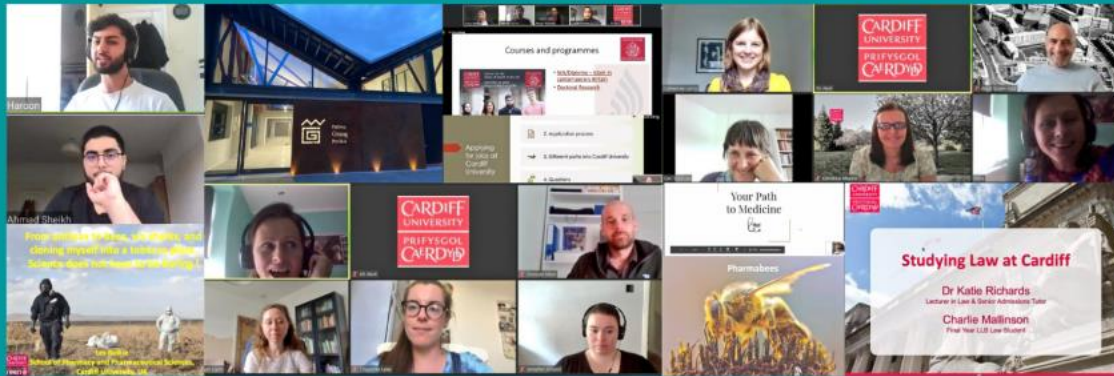
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VIRTUAL CAREERS AND ROLE MODEL WEEK



26 April - 30 April 2021

LET CARDIFF UNIVERSITY HELP YOU ON YOUR CAREER JOURNEY...

- Careers at Cardiff University
- Employability Skills
- Meet the Schools
- Enterprise skills development and start-up support
- Hear about outreach activities with Widening Participation
- Find out about bursaries, scholarships and grants
- Meet our Student Ambassadors
- Support with Wellbeing and Counselling services

#GrangetownCareersWeek2021
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