 Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

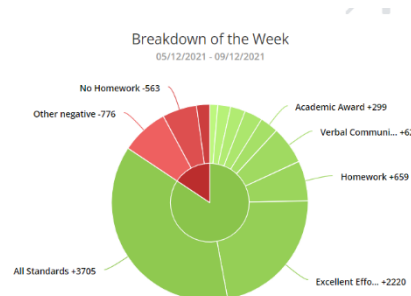
BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO

Weekly Newsletter – 10.12.21

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

Achieve:

This week has been a week of high achievers! Two of our Y11's have reached a debating final in Dubai, our Y7 and Y8 character champions have faced their fears in Storey Arms and our enterprising pupils have raised fantastic grand totals for charity! We are incredibly proud of all the good work that is going on in our school and would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, parents and governors for their continued positive praise and support.



Merits – 06.12.21 – 09.12.21:

We are incredibly proud of the effort that our pupils are putting into their character and studies. A huge Willows well done to all of this week's merit winners:

Year Group	Total	Excellent Effort	Merit Champions
Year 7	1852	7	Gertrude Tsohuka
Year 8	2107	8	Lochlan Taylor
Year 9	1663	9	Mussa Argin
Year 10	1979	10	Shaيدا Tufiq
Year 11	783	11	Coban Probert

School News:

Parent Power:

Parent Power is a project where parents and carers lead the way! You will decide the activities that benefit your families, such as guidance on further and higher education, tailored visits to universities, training on homework support, student finance or lifelong learning. We will work with you to create change for your children in Cardiff.

Join our virtual event on the **14th of December at 2 PM** to find out more about Parent Power Cardiff: <https://form.jotform.com/213267568329364>

English Department:

EXPO Dubai Debate:

We are absolutely delighted that after getting through rounds of debating, our two Year 11 pupils Marzooq Subhani and Crystal Tran won the final of the UK EXPO Debate. They will be one of the four teams representing the UK in Dubai next February for UK National Day. This picture shows the moment they received the news -we think it says it all!



Year 7 and Year 8 Storey Arms:

This week our Year 7 and Year 8 Character Champions have braced the weather and ventured to Storey Arms for a range of activities including gorge walking, rock climbing and abseiling. We admire their bravery and resilience in facing their fears! We would like to thank the pupils for their excellent behaviour and attitude this term, their parents for the positive comments on social media and our staff for providing such a worthwhile and memorable experience.



Careers:

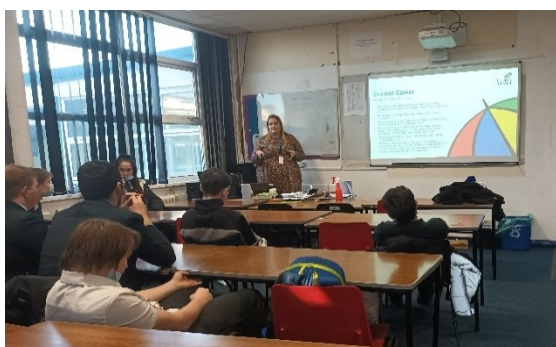
Year 11 Role Model Day

December 6th was year 11 Role Model Day. Five employers, mostly Willows Alumni, came to school to talk to the Year 11 pupils about their jobs and career path since leaving school.



Former pupil, Jessica Jones, spoke to the pupils about engineering and how to set up a business.

The guys from GE Aviation talked about how they make aeroplane parts and the apprenticeships they offer.



Former pupil, and now school governor, Jodie Thomas, spoke about her role with Legal and General and the job opportunities there.

Robyn from Willmott Dixon spoke about the job variety within the construction industry and the apprenticeships they offer.

Many thanks to those involved in the day, including Adrian Cole from Careers Wales for their time and effort. As always, the pupils gained a fascinating insight into the different professions and hopefully learned something that they can take into their future careers.

Genius Hour (Dreams and Wishes Charity):

Congratulations to 8MacArthur who raised £82.70 this week as part of their Genius Hour project. They decided to host a “Bakes & Bracelets” Sale to raise awareness for their chosen charity, ‘Dreams and Wishes.’ They worked very hard and raised an amazing amount in a short space of time! Da iawn!



City Hospice Charity:

On December 15th our wonderful PGCE teacher trainees will be working with Year 8 to raise money for City Hospice Charity. They are aiming to raise £180 to pay for a hospital bed for a terminally ill patient. Please help us, help others by providing your child with £1 to buy delicious home-made cookies. Our Canadian and Welsh trainees are aiming to fill each bag with their favourite flavours (Sugar Cookies, Welsh Cakes, Maple Syrup and Brown Sugar, Shortbread and Ginger Molasses).

Extra-curricular Activities:

Social Enterprise Club and Young Entrepreneurs Club:

We have finally stopped producing products ready for Christmas here at SECWillows. We will be setting up our stall at the Community Christmas Fair at the Oasis centre on Splott road this Saturday 11th December. You will find us inside with the Year 7 Entrepreneur Club selling all of our Christmas wares including trees, snowmen and copper reindeers. You will also meet some of our workers so why not drop in between 12pm and 5pm and say hello. If you can't make it to the fair, why not check out our Facebook Group and order by emailing Rhydian.batchelor@willows.cardiff.sch.uk





Christmas Key-rings:

There was quite a turn out at Mr. Hanif’s Christmas keyring making club. They had lots of fun with Christmas music playing in the background. Next week will be the same and will involve some treats and snacks as well – so why not come along!



Carol Concert – with a difference!

Unfortunately, the pandemic has put a stop to our annual Community Christmas Concert this year, but do not fear because the Performing Arts department have been busy working on a Christmas Concert with a difference. We are going to bring the concert to you, via Willows Waves radio station.

All you need to do, is simply download the FREE Willowswaves app (available on apple and android) and get ready to listen from 6pm next Wednesday. The added bonus is that you will have exclusive listening rights to the Willows Waves radio broadcasts that are aired daily!



The Christmas Concert- with a difference has something for everyone, the willows high choir, soloists, interviews, radio plays and much more! We're sure it will get you into the Christmas spirit. Look forward to you tuning in and joining us next Wednesday at 6pm.

Health and Well-being:

Period Dignity:

In a few weeks, we will be feeding back the results of last term's pupil and parent 'period questionnaire' in assemblies. If you do not wish your child to take part in this, please e-mail their Welfare Officer to let them know and alternative arrangements will be made.

Your health matters at Willows!

Dr Anwar advises on how to have yourself a merry COVID-safe Christmas



As we approach the end of the year and with preparation for the festive holiday season in full swing, the emergence of a new COVID variant has placed us back in familiar territory. Just when many of us were returning to pre-pandemic life and looking forward to a Christmas of relative normality, coronavirus cases are once again on the rise. The recently identified Omicron variant has reignited concern and the growing number of cases at an exponential rate means we must **pause and reconsider how we can all celebrate Christmas** in a COVID-safe manner.



With England implementing 'Plan B' and Public Health Scotland urging people to defer Christmas parties, it is now more important than ever **we adhere to the guidance provided by the Welsh Government**. You can view the guidance and keep updated at <https://gov.wales/coronavirus> or by scanning the QR code using your phone camera.

So, for now, it is time for us to **go back to basics and minimise the further spread of COVID-19**. There are important measures we can all take to help protect ourselves, our families and the NHS.



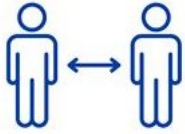
HAND HYGIENE

Proper hand washing is still the number one way to reduce your risk.



WEAR A MASK

Wear a mask when social distancing can't be maintained.



MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

Stay 6 ft. apart when possible.



STAY OUTDOORS

The risk of transmission in open air is considerably lower.

If you have any questions, you can find Dr Qashif Anwar in the Science Department in room S5 or **send your question to qashif.anwar@willows.cardiff.sch.uk**. Together we'll keep Wales safe.

Safeguarding:

A reminder that our school safeguarding can be contacted if you have any worries or concerns about a child: Danielle.Mackintosh@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk

A new service has been launched by the Cardiff Youth Service support young people to flourish and thrive, building on their individual talents, skills and abilities. You can watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HuUfKKWV6Q>

Cardiff Family Help Team are an early intervention service offering high quality information, advice and assistance to children and young people aged 0 – 18 (and to 25 for vulnerable adults) and their families living in Cardiff.

Cardiff Foodbank:

Willows High School is a partner agency for Cardiff Foodbank.

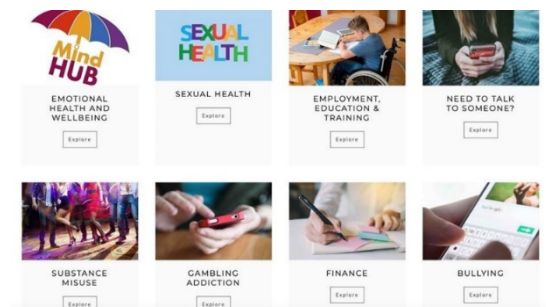
If you need a Foodbank Voucher please call Sam Watt (Family and Community Engagement Officer, Willows) in confidence on 02922 672744/07592 037937

Cardiff Youth Service:

Cardiff Youth Service can support young people on a variety of topics such as emotional health, housing, finance and help lines. More information can be found on their website:

<http://cardiffyouthservices.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:



The poster features a central title 'COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FAIR' in large blue letters, with 'FREE ENTRY' below it. Above the title is the phrase 'everyone welcome' in a curved font, accompanied by a holly leaf and berries. Logos for 'Oasis Cardiff' and 'GERODI RHEILFFORDD RAILWAY GARDENS' are positioned at the top. The event details 'AT OASIS, SPLOTT ROAD DECEMBER 11th, 12pm- 5pm' are enclosed in a double-line border. Two snowflake icons are placed on either side of the event details. The poster is framed by vertical bars of colorful geometric shapes on both sides.

Pupil Pick-ups and Drop offs:

We respectfully request that families do not park near the school at the end of the day. As you can imagine, with all of our pupils leaving through the single gate on Meirion Place at 3.30pm, it can get pretty crowded and the congestion caused by cars parked on both sides of the road means it's potentially an accident waiting to happen. We'd be grateful if you would park a couple of streets away and ask your child to walk to you. This will mean the area will be a lot safer for our pupils and your children will get an extra load of steps in every day.

Diolch:

As always, thank you for your support. If there are any problems, we would appreciate that you contact the relevant person in school straight away rather than using social media platforms. We will always try our best to reach a solution and this will ensure your concern is seen and avoid any misinformation and miscommunication.

A polite reminder that our teachers and Welfare Officers are very busy working with children throughout the day. To avoid disappointment, please ring or e-mail school to book an appointment with the relevant person rather than turning up at school reception.

By working together we can ensure your child's success.

Team Willows

Children's Book Cover Quiz:

We have removed the titles from the book covers (most are in our Literary Canon) – Can you name all 8?
E-mail Mrs. Bubbins,
Kelly.bubbins@willows.cardiff.sch.uk with your answers for the chance to win a praise card and a lolly.

