




**WILLOWS**  
HIGH SCHOOL



**BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE**  
**PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO**

 Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

**Weekly Newsletter – 24.06.22**

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

**Believe:**

It has been a week of achievements at Willows High School. We have won the prestigious 'Debate Mate' cup at the Principality Stadium, our EAL class impressed the scientists on their trip to Cardiff University and all competitors have shone in the field events for Sports' Day! We continue to be extremely proud of our Willows community – Da iawn pawb!

Our **National Tests for Y7, Y8 and Y9** are scheduled over the **next two weeks**.

Please ensure your child continues to **attend school every day** so that this don't miss these important progress measures.

**Merits – 10.06.22 – 16.06.22:**

We respect 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	1900	7Curie	Sienna Robinson
Year 8	2703	8Farah	Amritpreet Singh
Year 9	1423	9Attfield	Lexi O'Meara
Year 10	1197	10Mozart	Shaida Tufiq
Year 11	/	/	/

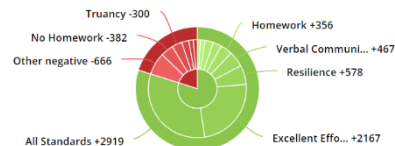
**School News:**

**Goodbye Year 11 (Class of 2022):**

Our Y11 Leavers' Assembly took place on Thursday. Pupils had a drinks reception, speeches, presentations and were treated to two amazing performances thanks to Lara De Castro and Ella Nicole Evans-Marnell. Thanks to our Year 7s who held a guard of honour and applauded as they left the building and to our creative Year 9s for their artistic goodbye 'chalk walk'. Our final goodbye to this year group will be at the prom on, **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June at the Park Plaza Hotel from 6.30 pm.**



Breakdown of the Week  
19/06/2022 - 23/06/2022



For this event Boomerang - 'pay it forward events' and 'Christ the King Primary school' have kindly donated chair covers and sashes. This is massively appreciated. We would also like to say a massive thank you to all the people that have kindly donated suits and dresses for our young people. They are going to look so smart for their big evening – we look forward to seeing you there!



**Sports Day Arrangements:**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the field events on Thursday. We are looking forward to seeing the filmed highlights soon. A reminder that the battle continues next Thursday:

**Day 2 -Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June L5 ONLY: The Track Events**

**Track events 100m, 200m, 800m & Relay**

**Athletes competing on the track will be allowed to wear their kit to school**

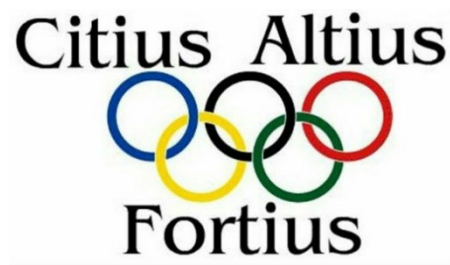
This is an amazing opportunity to show off your athletic ability. Every athlete will win points and the respect of their fellow competitors.

If you would like to take part please see your Welfare Officer who is your team manager. All there is left to say is ... Let the Games Continue!

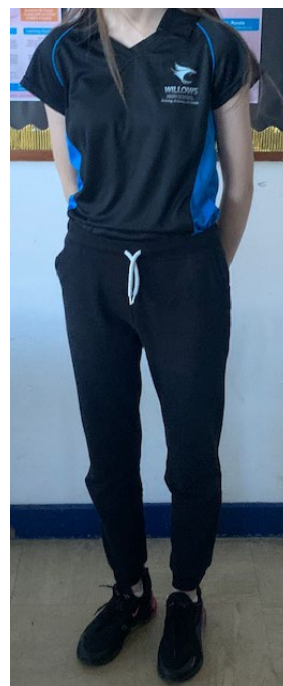
**PE Kit:**

Unfortunately, we are still experiencing problems with pupils turning up to school in PE kit on the wrong days and / or wearing PE kit that takes advantage of our rules. We will need your full support on this if we are to keep or non-changing system next academic year. The rules are outlined below:

- All pupils to wear the blue and black **Willows branded PE Top** either the round neck or V neck version is permitted. Pupils are allowed to wear a black base layer underneath if they wish to cover their arms.
- Only **black Bottoms** are allowed – shorts, sports leggings or tracksuit bottoms (see photographs). Shorts must be of an acceptable length, just above the knee is acceptable.
- Trainers preferable black.



- Any brand logos must be hidden, small or discrete e.g. under 3cms in size such a small Nike tick.
- During cold weather a plain black hoody which follows the branding guidelines above is allowed.
- The PE department will inform pupils if / when specialist equipment is needed e.g. football boots.



**English Department:**  
**We are the Champions!**

Some amazing news from Debate Club this week, who ... only went and won the Wales Debate Mate Cup 2022, becoming debating champions!

Willows were up against tough competition from schools across Cardiff who were all battling for the prestigious Wales Debate Mate Cup 2022 at the Principality Stadium. Willows entered three teams, all of whom were successful in all three debates.

Our pupils debated on topics such as living in a cashless society, should sports people influence key social policies, music that promotes crime should be banned and technology disconnecting rather than connecting. Both Mrs Cook and Miss Nelms were so proud of our pupils, it really was an amazing experience seeing our pupils speak so articulately on such key issues. Following the three rounds one of our teams made the final debate against Eastern High and won! A special mention to Rabec in Year 10 who also won an award for most improved speaker.



Our pupils were all exceptional and we received comments from companies and other schools present about how courteous and talented they were, they really did do us proud! Thank you again to Fintech Wales and Debate Mate for the opportunity and also to all the schools involved, it was a great day.

A massive congratulations to you all!

### **Talk the Talk:**

Pupils from 10SC excelled themselves this week in a day's Talk The Talk workshop. They demonstrated great teamwork and their wonderful vocabulary throughout the day. The workshop helped to build their confidence as they face their GCSE oral exams. Da iawn pawb! Here are some pupil comments on the experience:

*'It was fun because it took me out of my comfort zone'*

*'It helped with my confidence and helped me speak in front of people'*

*'It was educating and amazing as it helped boost our confidence'*

*'It was the first time I ever stood up and talked in front of people - twice!'*



### **Languages Department:**

We are now approaching the end of what has been a very busy exam season in the Languages Department. Pupils have sat GCSEs in French (our taught language) but also in Arabic, Spanish, Italian, Polish and Russian. Whilst we do not have formal lessons in these languages, we are able to enter pupils in Year 10 and 11 for a GCSE in languages in which they are already fluent. Pupils receive guidance on the exam requirements but must already be able to read, write, speak and listen to the language. Sadly not all languages are available at GCSE. Mrs Brace will usually meet with your child at the start of Year 10 to find out more about their language skills if you have informed us that their home language is one which is available as a GCSE.

You can help your child during Years 7-9 by ensuring that as well as continuing to speak and listen to the language that they also have opportunities to read and write it. If you would like to find out more or ask any questions then please contact Mrs Brace.

Which Languages are available? Click the link to find out the languages available in addition to French, German and Spanish.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/subjects/languages.html>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages>

### **EAL Department:**

#### **Trip to Cardiff University:**

On Monday, 10 of our newly-arrived Year 10 pupils were invited to Cardiff University as part of the University's outreach programme. The programme aims to show refugees and asylum seekers that higher education is accessible to them, and that there are many ways they can improve their chances of pursuing

higher education. Pupils were treated to talks on medicine, science, engineering and computer science, before a rooftop lunch atop the brand-new Centre for Student Life. They were then taken on tours of the main building, libraries and science labs. Finally, there was a quick visit to the University shop, where our students had the opportunity to spend the £25 vouchers which the University had kindly given them.



**Community:**  
**Railway Gardens Launch Event:**

SecWillows and the Young Entrepreneurs Club had a delightful time meeting our community at the grand opening of the Railway Gardens in Splott. We spoke not just about our respective clubs but also the other fantastic projects that we offer to all students at Willows High School and also the wider community.

On behalf of SecWillows and YEC we would like to take this opportunity to thank the community not just for supporting our clubs but also for supporting our school.

**NHS Opportunities for Young People:**

If you know any young people aged 13 to 25 who want to make a difference in health services locally and have something inspiring on their CV / Uni applications, please direct them to our webpages for more information

<https://cavuhb.nhs.wales/our-services/voluntary-services/youth-volunteering/youth-board-volunteering/>

**Contact Cymru:**

Contact Cymru are a charity that help families of children with an additional need – with and without diagnosis:

**Contact Cymru 5 FREE Virtual workshops June – July.**

For Parent Carers of children with additional needs living in Wales – with and without diagnosis.

- **Speech, Language and Communication [Secondary Age] Wednesday 22 June, 7.30pm**  
For parents of children with communication difficulties associated with hearing impairment, language impairment and autism. (with and without diagnosis). <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/345575685177>
- **Does your child suffer with Anxiety? Thursday 23 June 2022 10am**  
Anxiety can be difficult to manage. This workshop discusses what anxiety is and gives you strategies to help your children recognise and manage their anxiety. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/supporting-parents-of-children-with-anxiety-registration-337339179567>
- **Does your child have difficulties with Sensory Processing? Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 12pm**  
Sensory information includes things we see, hear, smell, taste, or touch. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/341740423807>
- **Money Matters – overview of benefits Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 10am**  
Could you be entitled to additional benefits for your child? or are you getting the right amount of Disability Living Allowance?  
Money Matters benefits overview (£) DLA, Carers Allowance, PIP, and other financial support...  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/money-matters-registration-337341406227>

To find out more or book any of our free events in Wales – follow the link below

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/contact-cymru-37573807333>

**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](mailto:Danielle.Mackintosh@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk)

**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

**Citizen's Advice Bureau at Willows:**

A reminder that the Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) is in Willows every other Monday. CAB can help with all sorts of issues such as benefit claims/checks, PIP claims, housing, employment issues, debt advice, divorce and other problems.

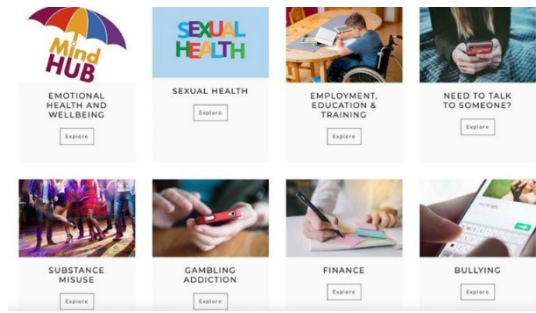
To make an appointment, please contact [Samantha.watt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Samantha.watt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) or 07592 037937.

**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](mailto:Kelly.Bubbins@willows.cardiff.sch.uk) if you need feminine hygiene products and we’ll do our best to help.

**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





Well done to Hope Allen, Kayden Allen and Noah Roberts for their correct answers to the Cardiff History quiz. This week's quiz is taken from the famous 'Kids' Lit Competition.' Remember to e-mail your answers to Mrs. Bubbins for a praise card and treat:

1. Who is the big huggable giant in the Harry Potter series?
2. How many labours did Heracles have to perform?
3. Amelia Bedelia would often misunderstand tasks. What was her job?
4. Who guarded the entrance to the Gryffindor Common Room?
5. How did the kids learn about the Mysterious Benedict Society?
6. The scarab beetle was an important symbol in what ancient culture?
7. What is the name of Mickey Mouse's dog?
8. Which boy's mother (his name is in the title) won a complete set of Burrell's Build-It-at-Home encyclopedias? He pored over every edition
9. What fictional Marvel superhero magician wore a cloak?
10. Who caused three bears a great deal of grief?

