




WILLOWS
HIGH SCHOOL



BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO

 Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

Weekly Newsletter – 09.12.22

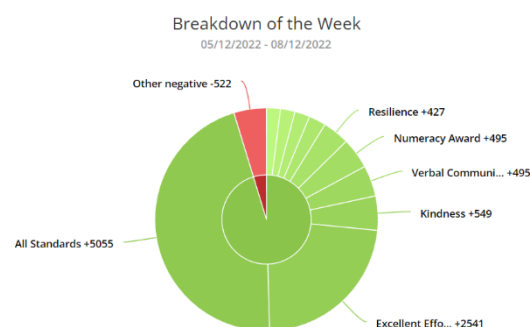
Hello! مرحباً! Ahoj! Ola! Dzień dobry! Salut! Hello!

Belong, Believe, Achieve:

This week, many of our pupils have enjoyed a residential school trip with Year 7 at Storey Arms in Brecon and pupils from all year groups on our French / History Trip to France. We are looking forward to hearing about their experiences!

Merits –02.11.22 – 08.12.22:

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	2183	7Darwin	Alaa Laksari and Maryam Naqshbandi
Year 8	2122	8Curie	Sultan Sanusi
Year 9	2493	9Edwards	Ethan Brittan
Year 10	2108	10Attfield	Katiba Laksari
Year 11	1621	11Schumann	Emerald Iloke

Dates for your Diary:

- 15.12.22 – ‘Willows Wonderland’ – School Christmas Show
- 22.12.22 – End of Autumn Term

School News:

Willows Wonderland – School Christmas Show:

Please come and join us for a Christmas show with a difference! Tickets are on sale for ‘Willows Wonderland’ which will take place on Thursday 15th December 2022 in the school theatre at 6.30 pm. Tickets are £2.50 and will be sold on a first come, first served basis on ParentPay. Featuring pupils and staff performances – acting, singing and dancing – it’s sure to be a night to remember!



School News:

Genius Hour and Careers and the World of Work:

It’s been another really busy few weeks with a host of Careers events taking place with a range of students throughout Willows High.

Genius Hour:

For the third year running, we worked with a company called First Give to raise awareness of social issues and charities in the area. This time, the year 8 groups worked to highlight the following issues and charities:

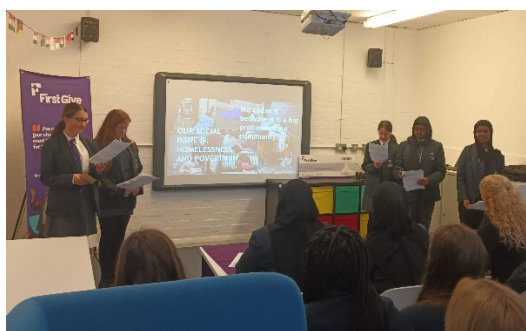
- 8DA - Boomerang Cardiff – who tackle poverty and homelessness.
- 8JO - Huggard – who work with homeless families
- 8GO – Cancer Research UK
- 8FR - Save the Children
- 8CU - Trinity Centre – who work with asylum seekers and refugees
- 8ME - Velindre Hospital – which is a cancer treatment centre

Each tutor class chose a small group to represent them. These groups then worked with Non, from First Give, to hone their presentation skills.



In the final all 6 groups presented their social issue very professionally and confidently. They highlighted some of the work that they did to raise money for their respective charity. This included wearing something blue, selling cakes and sweets at lunch and break, selling Christmas cards and a cross bar challenge

In total, the year 8 pupils raise over £300 for the different charities.





All 6 groups can be very proud of the way they presented their topic. In the end, the panel of judges, including Head of Year, Miss David, chose 8CU as the winning group. They received a cheque for £1000 which they will present to the Trinity Centre.



The group representing 8DA were given a special Judge's Recommendation award for the event they had put into their presentation.



It was another excellent project which the pupils really embraced. Congratulations to all the pupils and the form tutors for putting so much effort into it.

Deloitte

Pupils from 9BB recently enjoyed a visit (and a free lunch!) to the Cardiff headquarters of Deloitte. They were invited as the winners of the Diversity and Equality Film competition that took place in the Genius Hour lessons last term.



The pupils, who made a great impression on the people from Deloitte, were each rewarded with a £20 gift voucher for their efforts.

This is a quote from Elaine who works for Deloitte:

“I just wanted to say we’ve really enjoyed our time today with the students. They were all really happy with their edited film and they also had a video from our Head of Film, Simon Kramers, who congratulated them on their winning documentary.

Every single one of the students had impeccable manners and they were an absolute credit to the school. They did so well, it’s been a pleasure to host them today along with their amazing teachers who are clearly doing a great job with the students. We were thoroughly impressed by everyone.

It was clear to see that they had learned a lot about diversity and inclusion from making the film and it was great that they all felt comfortable speaking up about things. They should all be very proud of their efforts as they really can change things for other people in the future by being open and honest about their experiences. Diversity and Inclusion plays a huge part in life at Deloitte and it’s so important to get young people to speak openly about this important subject.”

BBC:

Another really exciting project started recently. A group of pupils recently visited the set of the BBC show ‘Casualty’. The pupils will be writing a script for a scene in the show. Over the next few terms, they will be developing the script and in the Easter holidays next year, will be filming the scene that they wrote!

Hannah Williams, the Talent Manager at BBC Studios commented on the pupils who visited Roath Lock Studios. She said in her email,

“The school should be proud about how well they represented Willows High. They were engaged, respectful and extremely polite.”

Well done to everyone who was involved.

In addition to that, the year 10 Media Studies students recently visited the BBC studios at Central Square.



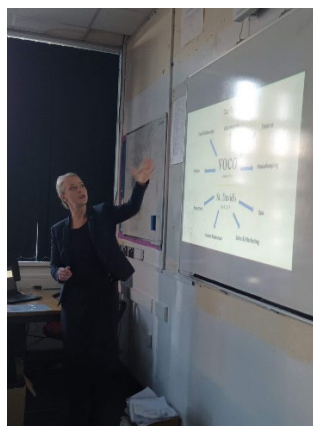
Cardiff and Vale College

Year 11 pupils were recently engaged in an event with Cardiff and Vale College. The theatre was turned into mini-Open Day, with people from a host of different departments highlighting the various courses and options they offer. Over 2 lessons, the whole of year 11 attended the event, which proved to be a really productive and lively activity. Many thanks to Jo Tanner for organising the visitors. It is definitely something we will repeat in the future.



Employer visits

In recent weeks we have hosted several employers who have spoken to year 11 pupils about their industry and the range of roles and jobs within that industry. The industries highlighted were the Ministry of Justice, St David's Hotel and the School of Thought who do automotive and body repairs.



Mock Interviews

Year 11 pupils recently took part in a mock interview with a host of different employers. The employers who attended were:

- Link Financial

- BAM Construction
- Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
- Taylor Wimpey
- Willmott Dixon
- Aldermore Bank/Motonovo
- Wates Construction
- British Telecom
- Knight Frank

During this activity, the pupils followed the whole process from completing an application form, to sitting the actual interview to then receiving feedback from the employer. To prepare for the interview, the various employers visited a range of year 11 lessons to give them advice on how to conduct themselves and what to expect when the interviews were taking place.



We received tremendous feedback on how the pupils performed and presented themselves on the day. Some examples were:

“It was fantastic meeting year 11 pupils today. I hope their experience meeting employers supports them to prepare for their next steps and entering the world of work or further education. I really enjoyed speaking with Willows students learning about their plans post year 11, ambitions and aspirations. I sincerely hope students feel more confident and prepared as a result. Lots of pupils spoke about the classroom work they have been doing with teachers helping them identify their strengths which is something I know many of us can struggle with. Thanks. **Nicola Millard, Senior Social Value Manager, Willmott Dixon Construction Limited**

“I must say, the pupils were an absolute credit to the school. Each pupil I saw today, had impeccable manners - all so polite and professional. I do hope the children found the day useful. Willows High certainly have some very talented and inspirational pupils. I very much hope that we will see some of these individuals joining our organisation in the future. Kind regards”. **Liz Rees, People Resourcing Project Coordinator, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board**

A huge thank you to Adrian Cole for all his work co-ordinating the employer visits and to the employers themselves for giving up a full day to work with the pupils.

Also, a huge well done to the pupils themselves for the way they conducted themselves during the interviews and to how much effort they put into the project. It will certainly hold them in good stead in the near future.

Welsh Department – Cymraeg Campus:

At Willows we are proud to be Welsh and will be working hard to achieve 'Campus Cymreig' status. We'd really appreciate your help at home with this so why not practice your Welsh at home? We will provide a variety of terms and phrases weekly. Use the phonetic column to see how it should be pronounced. Send any queries or questions to: willowswelsh@willows.cardiff.sch.uk



Welsh Terms of the Week

Week Eight

Welsh	Phonetic	English
Ofnadwy	Ov-nad-oy	Awful
Hwyl	H-oil	Fun / Bye
Ddiflas	Dd-iv-lass	Boring
Ardderchog	Ahh-there-ch-ogg	Excellent
Anobeithiol	Ann-ob-eighth-'e'- ol	Hopeless

willowswelsh@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Community:

Railway Gardens Community Christmas Fair:

Here is a message from Hannah at Railway Gardens:

Our [Community Christmas Fair](#) in Splott is just a day away on December 10th - it's shaping up to be a really great day! We've got a lot planned, from circus and storytelling to choirs, crafts, and food as well as a local makers market and a toy, book and board game exchange. We'd love to see you there!

The event is free to come in, there will be warm and low-cost food and drinks available from Things on Toast, the Library of Things will be open for borrowing, and visitors can pick up free children's toys and books as well as free trees, so we hope to offer a fun and welcoming afternoon without the need to spend money.

For more information, follow this link: [Green Squirrel » ❄️ Let it Splo, let it Splo, let it Splo ❄️ – the Railway Gardens Christmas Fair is BACK!](#)

Citizens' Advice Bureau at Willows:

A reminder that members of our community can make appointments with staff from the Citizens' Advice Bureau at our Learning Lounge. They can provide advice of a range of topics such as housing, benefits and legal matters. To make an appointment, please e-mail Lewin Thomas on Lewin.Thomas@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Health and Well-being:

SilverCloud:

Silvercloud, a series of free to access online CBT programmes funded by NHS Wales, has extended its provision.

A selection of 12 week online programmes are now available for parents and carers with children and young people aged 4-18 with mild-to-moderate anxiety, as well as teens aged 16-18.

Parents/carers and teenagers can sign up online and don't need a referral from their GP. Teens can sign up without needing adult consent.

You can read more about the programmes offered on our website here: [Silvercloud - Children, Young People And Families \(cavyoungwellbeing.wales\)](#)

Chat Health:

A reminder that all secondary school pupils can text the school nurse service for any medical support and advice. This may be useful if your child is too anxious or embarrassed to talk to a doctor in the first instance. Please chat about this with your child and make them aware of the service and number (below):



The graphic features a teal background with a hand holding a smartphone. The phone screen displays a text message: "Text anytime... We reply Mon - Fri 8.30am until 4.30pm". To the right of the phone, the text reads: "We help young people with all kinds of things like...". Above the phone, it says: "IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE ON 07520 615718 FOR CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT". To the right of the teal box, there are logos for ChatHealth, GIG NHS, and Cardiff School Nurses. Below these logos is a list of issues: BULLYING, SMOKING, EMOTIONAL WELLBEING, FEELING SAD OR ANGRY, EXAM STRESS, HEALTHY EATING, CHANGES TO YOUR BODY, DRUGS, ALCOHOL, and RELATIONSHIPS. At the bottom right, there is a small disclaimer: "We do not usually inform your parents, teachers or anyone else if you contact the school nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate response back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back, then do contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some number making mobile apps). Prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting STOP to our number. Please respect your school's mobile phone policy. Messages are charged at your usual rate."

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.

Diolch:

Thank you to everyone who has given feedback on our journey to get rid of single use plastics in the school. We aim to stop selling bottled drinks in the canteen as water is freely available from water dispensers during break and lunchtime. If you haven’t let us know your thoughts yet, please do as we want to hear the views of as many people as possible. Let us know using contact@willows.cardiff.sch.uk.

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.

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

Team Willows

Congratulations to Hope and Kayden Allen for their correct entries in last week's General Knowledge Quiz. Why not enter this week's quiz below for a chance to win a praise card and a treat. E-mail your entries to Mrs. Bubbins.

1. Which film's main character is called Buddy?
2. Who played British Prime Minister in 2003 film 'Love Actually'?

3. Which comic actor played Ebenezer Scrooge and all three ghosts in the 2009 Hollywood version of 'A Christmas Carol'?

4. 'Let it Snow' famously plays out at the end of which 1988 action-adventure film?

5. The film 'White Christmas' features the classic song of the same name. But which film does this song originally appear?



6. What is Father Christmas known as in 'The Nightmare Before Christmas'?
7. George Bailey is the main character in which classic Christmas movie?
8. In the Christmas hit film 'Home Alone' which city did Macaulay Culkin's family visit, leaving him behind?
9. How many roles does Tom Hanks play in Polar Express?
10. What is the missed present that Arthur Christmas must find a way to deliver to a little girl?