




WILLOWS
HIGH SCHOOL



 Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO

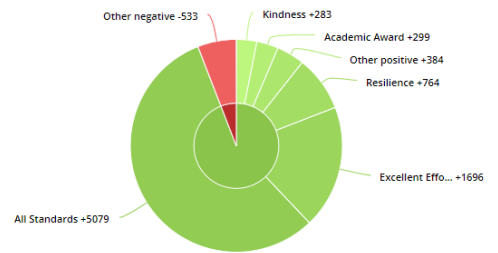
Weekly Newsletter – 19.7.24

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

Belong, Believe, Achieve:

As we reach the end of the school year, the opportunities and experiences keep coming for our pupils. This week our pupils have had a Willows Fun Day, attended Rewards Assemblies, took part in a lockdown drill and completed English NEAs. We also held our interviews for next year’s Pupil Leadership Team. Thank you to Mrs. Lo Celso for leading the summer term Academic Vocabulary Bees this week, well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to the winners.

Willows High School Conduct Overview
15/07/2024 - 19/07/2024



Merits –15.7.24 – 19.7.24:

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 | 2566 | 7Schumann | Nisa Noor |
| Year 8 | 1943 | 8Hepworth | Abbas Mohammed Ali |
| Year 9 | 2211 | 9Curie | Ore Eytayo |
| Year 10 | 1803 | 10Markova | Ethan Brittan |

Dates for your Diary:

- 22/7: INSET Day
- 22/8: Results Day
- 3/9: Year 7 start back to school
- 4/9: All pupils return to school



Our Valued Partners



School News:

Amazing Academic Vocabulary Bees

This term's Academic Vocabulary Bees demonstrated more than ever just how powerful our pupils are becoming! We were bowled over by how incredibly close the competition was between the teams, and also by the level of engagement by pupils in the audience. We are so proud of all of them, and especially of our winning teams from 7Mo, 8Hp, 9Dw and 10Fa. Bendigedig!

Over the summer holidays, please encourage your child to read for pleasure. The link between good reading habits and success at GCSE are proven, and every new word learnt increases both their confidence and opportunities.



Willows coffee morning

Thank you to everyone who made it to our Coffee Morning this week. It was a great opportunity to make new friends and make new connections. Thank you to the Into Work team for attending and giving a presentation. Look out for more of these next year.

School Essentials Grant

Registering as eligible for free school meals with your Local Authority unlocks access to the School Essentials Grant. It also means schools get more funding. With the introduction of free school meals for primary pupils, many parents/carers do not realise that schools will lose out unless they continue to register as eligible. Even if you don't need the grant, registering here: <https://www.gov.wales/get-help-school-costs> will mean schools get additional funding.



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School Prospectus 2024-2025

The school provides beneficial opportunities to enable more able pupils to realise their potential.
Estyn 2018

School Prospectus/Parent handbook (2024-2025)

Our document containing all of the information you'll need for next year is now available to view and download on our website [here](#). If you'd like to get your hands on a paper copy, they are available at the school Reception.

Bake sale

Three of our amazing Year 8 pupils, Sajel, Amelia and Ife organised and held a Bake Sale this week to support Cancer Research UK. They raised a fantastic £148.45. A huge well done!



CANCER RESEARCH UK

Exam Certificates

Certificates from the Summer 2023 examination season are still available to collect from school.

Please contact Leah at leah.maidment@willows.cardiff.sch.uk in the first instance, so they can be prepared for you to collect from Reception.

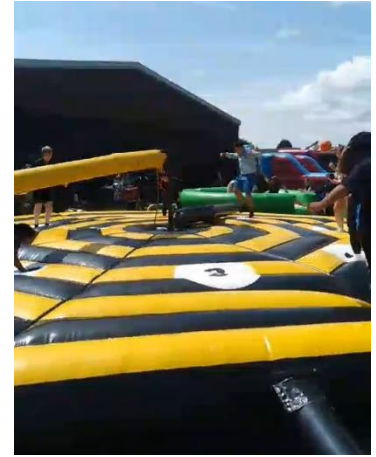
Results Day 2024 will be on Thursday 22nd August.
Year 11 can collect their results from 9am to 12pm
Year 10 can collect their results from 10am to 12pm



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Willows fun day

On Thursday we held our annual Willows Fun Day where all pupils had the opportunity to have fun on many huge inflatables and have free ice cream, slushies, candyfloss and other treats. Our pupils had an amazing time (so did our staff after school). Huge thanks to Miss Williams who organised the day and to all of our staff who helped supervise it and make it such a wonderful experience.



French / History Trip



Just before midnight on Tuesday 9th July the school car park was a hive of activity as 43 pupils and the accompanying staff gathered ready to head off on the French / History Trip. Parents waved us off and we were on our way!

After a peaceful overnight journey on the coach to Dover and then by ferry to Calais in northern France, the pupils had their first experience of French culture with a visit to a typical French market in Boulogne sur Mer. The stalls were selling a wide variety of French produce including cheeses, bread and fresh vegetables but, to the pupils' delight, some stalls were selling the most iconic French souvenir, the Eiffel Tower, which many bought.

Following the visit to the market, we spent the afternoon in Bagatelle, the oldest theme park in France with more than 35 attractions. The pupils (and staff) had great fun on the rides, the most popular ones being the water rides and the huge roller coaster.

For the second day, the pupils visited a number of World War 2 sites. They began at Dunkirk as they explored the beach made famous by the Operation Dynamo evacuation of 1940. This was followed by the Operation Dynamo Museum which tells the story of the evacuation and pupils really enjoyed seeing actual artifacts from the time. The pupils then visited two sites that are linked to the V2 Bombs that were fired on Britain in the later part of the war. These 2 sites are marvels of engineering skill. The massive concrete structures look like they have been lifted from a James Bond film and pupils enjoyed walking these sites and learning more about the V2 story.



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cowshed



ARUP





We finished the day at a beachside restaurant where we were treated to a delicious meal. Afterwards it was down to the beach for football, cricket and shell collecting. It was a lovely way to end the day.

After 2 days of sunshine, we woke to rain on Friday. We all made the most of the buffet breakfast and full with baguette, croissants, pains au chocolat and pancakes, cases were packed, rooms checked and we were on our way for some retail therapy at Cité Europe. Then laden with presents for friends and family, we headed to the ferry at Dunkerque and onwards to Cardiff.



The trip was a huge success and plans are already being made for our next trip in December 2025.

The picture on the right has the belongings that were left on the bus at the end of the trip, if you recognise anything, please get in touch.

Year 11 Opportunities

Please find below a QR code to explore post-16 courses with Cardiff City FC and two opportunities provided by Into Work for our Year 11 pupils and anyone aged between 16-25 in our community.

FREE 6 WEEK SEMICONDUCTOR SKILLS BOOTCAMP, 22nd JULY - 30th AUGUST 2024

Are you 16-18 and ready to amplify your career?

Learn the skills needed to become a Semiconductor Technician – an in-demand role with huge growth potential, in the world's most valuable and critical industry.

During this 6-week fast-track Skills Bootcamp, you will embark on an enlightening exploration into the intricate realm of semiconductor technologies – the fundamental technology behind 5G, Electric Vehicles, and space satellites, as well as our mobile phones and every other electronic gadget on this planet!

The Semiconductor Skills Bootcamp will take place in:
Cardiff Business Technology Centre,
Senghennydd Rd,
Cardiff CF24 4AY

More information or register today!

<https://iungo.solutions/semiconductor-technologies-skills-bootcamp-fast-track/>

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FURTHER EDUCATION

Study and represent Cardiff City FC with our BTEC Sport courses

@CardiffCityFCFoundation
@CCFC_Foundation @CCFC_Foundation

Scan here to find out more

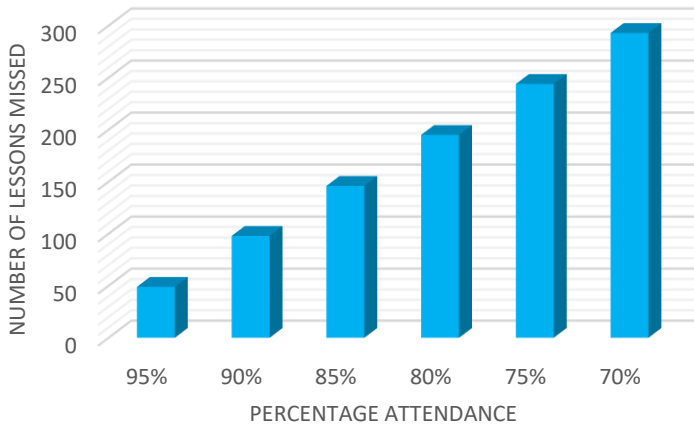
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Important information about attendance to school

In an exam, if you got 90% of the questions correct, you would probably think that this is a very good result.

Number of lessons Missed



Unfortunately, this doesn't translate to your child's attendance.

90% attendance for the school year means that your child has **missed 98 lessons**. How are they going to make that time back?

Even **95% attendance** which is the Welsh Government's threshold for good attendance means your child would have **missed 49 lessons** over the school year. This is a lot of work for your child to miss.

The chart above shows how quickly the number of lessons your child misses increases as their attendance drops.

The greatest gift that we can give your child is an amazing set of examination results at the end of Year 11. To provide the best possible conditions for this to happen, your child needs to have as high an attendance percentage as possible.

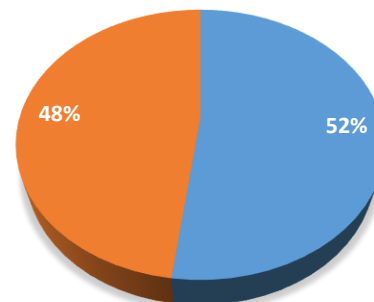
Pupils are in school for 190 days of the year, **they are not in school for 175 days of the year.**

We believe that this is plenty of time for the majority of appointments to be made out of school hours.

Please consider your child's education before making appointments during the school day, and if you have no option, please consider how they are going to catch up on the work they have missed and report the absence every day through Classcharts.

Every pupil who is not in school is a potential safeguarding concern if we have not been notified by you.

Days in School / Not in School




■ In School ■ Not in School

We would be grateful if families would take the information above on board and we look forward to your support.

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Year 11 Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) Applications

We know that many of our Year 11 pupils are going on to further education next academic year. If this is the case, they may be eligible for Education Maintenance Allowance to help them with the cost of travel, books and materials. This payment is dependent on your household income being below **£23,078**. If it is above this, there be other help available - please refer to the website below. The payment will not affect any benefits you already receive.


Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) 2024/25
The little book of EMA
All you need to know about EMA for academic year 2024/25




Keep an eye on www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/ema for updates

The website below suggests that pupils apply for this **before June 2024** in order to secure the best chance of obtaining the payment as they start college. However, it can be applied for any time during the academic year.

This is the link to the website and booklet for further information:

[How and when to apply for Education Maintenance Allowance, Further Education | Student Finance Wales](#)


[EMA Wales Little Book of Ema 24/25 \(studentfinancewales.co.uk\)](http://studentfinancewales.co.uk)

Here is the link to the application form:

[EMA Application Form 2024-2025 \(studentfinancewales.co.uk\)](http://studentfinancewales.co.uk)

The application form needs to be filled in by hand. If you are not able to print this out, please ask a member of school / college staff to do this for you. There will be some copies on the school reception if you or your child needs to pick one up.

Once completed, the form needs to be posted to: [EMA Customer Services, PO Box 5596, Glasgow, G52 9BR](#)





Measles

If you live in Cardiff and the Vale and are unsure if your child has had the MMR vaccine, you are encouraged to [check their personal child health record \(red book\)](#) in the first instance

If you remain unsure, other options include:
Contacting the Local Child Health Team on 02921 836926 or 02921 836929.
Contacting your GP Practice, avoiding peak times such as early mornings where possible.

Options for MMR vaccination include:
Your GP Practice
Your local Mass Vaccination Centre. Call 02921 841234
Phone lines are open Mon-Fri between 9am and 5pm

Having the MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent having measles and passing it on to others.
In some cases, measles can cause serious complications including pneumonia and meningitis.

Measles

We are working in partnership with Cardiff and Vale Health Board, enabling children who have missed their scheduled appointments for MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines to access this in school.

Measles can be very serious for children, and is very easily passed between people who are not vaccinated. There are currently outbreaks of measles in Wales, so we would encourage families to take up the opportunity of their child getting their MMR vaccination if they are offered it by the Health Board. Please note that if your child is invited and you would like your child to have the MMR vaccine which does *not* contain gelatine (Halal), this will be an option you can choose.

For more information about the MMR vaccine please go to [Measles, Mumps and Rubella \(MMR\) - Public Health Wales \(nhs.wales\)](#)¹

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Uniform Reminder to Parents

Unfortunately, we are seeing a rise in the number of pupils who are attending school wearing the incorrect uniform, especially on days when they have P.E.

We would appreciate the support of families to ensure that pupils come to school appropriately dressed. On the right is the information in our Parent Handbook which sets out clearly the expectation for our pupils at Willows.

We have uniform for a reason, it is to act as a leveller for pupils. Everyone wears the same, so no-one can feel disadvantaged by those who might want to come into school wearing the latest brands and expensive labels. It is also there to ensure that the clothes that are worn are appropriate to the age of your child, not too revealing and suitable for walking around in throughout the day.

Pupils will be sent home to change if they are wearing inappropriate clothing, this will be the school's decision.

We would appreciate if you would discuss this with your child and take steps to ensure that they are appropriately dressed for school when they leave your house in the morning.

The school will make parents aware if there is any change to the school uniform due to increases in temperature, please do not send your child in P.E. kit if the weather is warm.

Crocs are definitely not part of the school uniform! Our Parent Handbook can be accessed on our website or by clicking the link below:

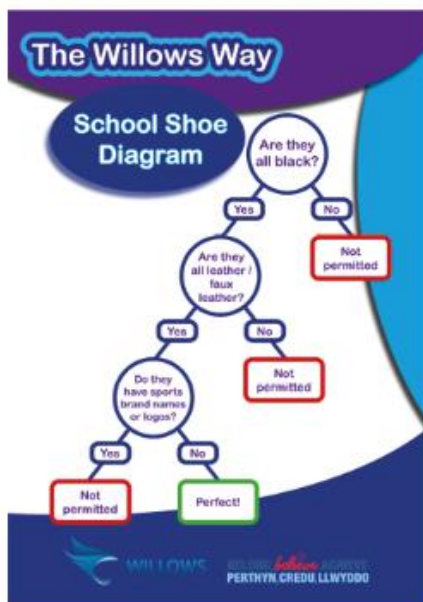
<https://indd.adobe.com/view/1dbf54a5-38cf-494f-9166-50b358b2e824>

If you are intending to buy new P.E. for next year, please remember that it is the Mid-Layer that is the compulsory item and must be worn. If you want to wear the old P.E. tops, they must be worn under the Mid-Layer

P.E. Kit:
 School P.E. midlayer top, plain black sport shorts, plain black tracksuit trousers or plain black sports leggings.
 No jeggings, tight fitting trousers, jeans, jean like trousers or low rise trousers.
 No hoodies

Currently if your child has P.E. they should wear their P.E. kit to school for that day.
 If you are concerned about the cold weather, pupils may wear their blazer as an extra layer of clothing.

Acceptable shoes flow diagram:



Uniform will be checked during the first line-up of the morning.

Pupils who are not wearing correct uniform will be sent home to either change or collect a part of their uniform that was missing



Hair:
 No extreme styles / non natural colours.

Shoes:
 Black leather or faux leather shoes or ankle boots only.
 No canvas, no trainers, no logos.

Black to go with the uniform.
 Leather to be weather resistant.

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Mobile phone use in school FAQs

What will happen if my child is using their phone on the school premises or during the school day?

Staff will request that pupils hand their device(s) in, these will be stored in a secure place, in a padded envelope and will be clearly labelled ready for collection at the end of the same day. In an attempt to discourage use of electronic devices we will operate an escalated approach:

- Initial offences - Device handed-in, pupil can collect at the end of the same day, Parent/Carer informed.
- Repeated offences – Device handed-in, parent/carer must collect.
- Continued offences – Device handed-in, parent/carer must collect. Parent/carer to attend a meeting.



In the event of an exceptional circumstance, your child's Head of Year should be made aware and an individual solution will be applied.

Can my child bring their phone/electronic device to school?

Yes of course, we ask that they are switched off and out of sight during the school day and when on the school premises.

What if I can't collect my child's phone/electronic device?

That's ok, we will keep any devices secured at the school until it is convenient for you to collect.

What will happen if my child refuses to hand in their electronic device/mobile phone?

This is something we all want to avoid and as such we will also have an escalated approach to this:

Discussion with Head of Year / SLT > time in the APC until handed in > exclusion

Please encourage your child to not use their device in school to avoid the above escalation, we are giving plenty of advance warning to avoid this.

What happens if I need to speak to my child during the school day?

There are rare occasions whereby you may need to speak with your child for emergency reasons, if this is the case, please contact the school via the main number (02920 414243) and we will endeavour to pass on messages or collect your child to use a school phone. If we feel that your child needs to speak with you, we will provide a private space using a school phone to contact you.

Can devices be used during breaks/lunches?

No, we want pupils to communicate with their friends, develop their social skills and be present with each other.

I really find it hard to separate my child from their phone, can you help?

Yes, absolutely, we want our pupils to use their electronic devices responsibly and in moderation. We can work with you to put in place plans to avoid overuse and misuse and will support you in ensuring your child is meeting the school expectations. We will also be educating pupils on how to use devices responsibly and sharing further information on how parents/carers can monitor their child's use.

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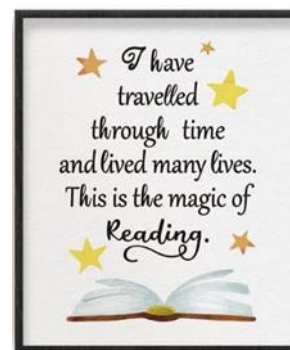
English Department

Reading is everything!

Did you know that there is a link between your child reading for pleasure and their GCSE success? At Willows, we take every pupil in KS3 to the school library once a fortnight to choose a new book. We STAR test the pupils every term to check on their reading levels – this should help them to choose books at the right level.

Your job as families?

- Check that your child has their book and is reading it every night!
- Ask questions about the book: about the plot or characters
- Listen to them read – check the book isn't too easy or too hard for them
- Make sure they are in the good habit of reading regularly



Remember, there is international evidence to suggest that this will help your child not just in English, but in *all* of their exams.

Most importantly...

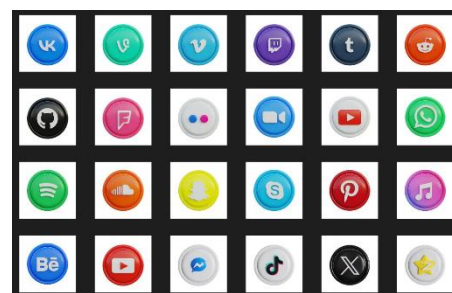
Don't let your child take his/her phone to bed – take a book instead!

Families, please remember that every pupil should be reading at least 20 minutes per evening as part of their homework. **Please give them a Reading Homework merit every time they do this.**

Social Media

Social media is increasingly playing a role in the lives of our pupils and for the majority of time, this is a positive thing. However, we are increasingly seeing how social media can have quite a negative impact on our pupils and in some cases, the impact has been quite significant.

We need to work together to harness all of the positive aspects of social media (and there are many) and to cancel out those aspects which can do harm. Whilst it is easy to focus on the fact that the age guideline for most sites is 13, it is also recognised how difficult it is to stop children from accessing these especially when all of their friends are using a certain platform.



Perhaps a more realistic place to start is to ensure that, if social media sites are to be used then they are set up in a way which helps to protect privacy. For example, most platforms allow you to:

- **set an account to private** (many of our pupils don't do this and some have been approached by people they don't know)
- **not allow friend requests** – again, some pupils have had friend requests from unknown users
- **hide the user's location** – worryingly, so many pupils share their location and with the development of ever more sophisticated software, it is becoming relatively easy to pinpoint exactly where the social media account is being used from (without sharing any address details).

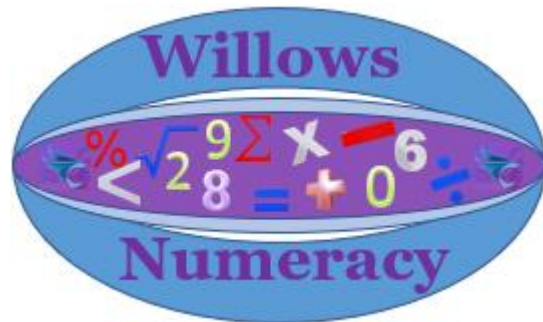
Changing the settings to not allow the issues to happen takes a few minutes and can significantly improve the level of online safety when accessing social media. The NSPCC site 'Keeping children safe online' really is excellent and I would urge all families to access this: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

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Mathematics Department

Numeracy Boost Session (NBS):

Using a variety of digital (e.g. TT-Rock Stars) and non-digital resources, all pupils in Years 7, 8 & 9 will benefit from using laptops in Numeracy Boost Sessions to enrich their Mathematics skills; they are delivered fortnightly by Mathematics teachers. It is a great opportunity to support pupils with skills gaps further and stretch high attaining pupils.



Internal Numeracy Competition results - KS3:

Congratulations to the pupils below who did their Tutor Group proud in the numeracy competitions last week:

| <u>Year 7 (7MO)</u> | <u>Year 8 (8HP)</u> | <u>Year 9 (9JO)</u> |
|---|---|---|
| DAVINA ALEXANDER EMILY CHAPMAN WESAAL HASMI DIVINE SOKUNBI | DEMILADE AYO ONIPEDE ISHAAN SHINE STEFAN DRAGHICI VIOLET NEALE | HANIA KHAN MARWA MAHMOUD MOHAMMAD MUTAIRU KATRINA KAUR |

Question of Week 37, starting 15/7/24:

To help our pupils boost their mathematical vocabulary and Numeracy skills, The "Terms of the week" will be emailed to them in a daily basis, and the "Question of the week" will be emailed in a weekly basis. Any questions, please email: halima.aitbrahim@willows.cardiff.sch.uk


The solution to the actual weekly question will be emailed to pupils on **Monday** with the new question.

Mathematics Terms of the Week

Question of the week
Week 37 – Starting 15.07.24

Counting Kits:
Squirrels have babies twice each year, usually in March or April and again in July or August. Baby squirrels are called kits and a group of kits in one birth is called a litter. The table below shows the number of kits a squirrel had over four years.

| Month and Year of Birth | Number of Kits in the Litter |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| March 2020 | 4 |
| July 2020 | 8 |
| April 2021 | 6 |
| August 2021 | 3 |
| March 2022 | 5 |
| August 2022 | 4 |
| April 2023 | 6 |
| July 2023 | 4 |



What is the average (mean) number of kits the squirrel had in a litter?

Terms of the week
Week 37 - beginning 15.07.24

Mean Average:

Averages Averages are measures of central tendency, they are values that can be used to represent a set of data.
An average is a number expressing the central or typical value in a set of data, in particular the mode, median, or (most commonly) the mean.

Mean To calculate the mean we find the total of the values and divide the total by the number of values.

$$\text{mean} = \frac{\text{total}}{\text{number of values}}$$
 E.g. Work out the mean
 5 8 10 11 13 $\text{mean} = \frac{\text{total}}{\text{number of values}} = \frac{5 + 8 + 10 + 11 + 13}{5} = \frac{47}{5} = 9.4$

Mean from table

| Number of people | Frequency | Number × Frequency |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1 | 5 | 1 × 5 = 5 |
| 2 | 6 | 2 × 6 = 12 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 × 3 = 9 |
| 4 | 2 | 4 × 2 = 8 |
| n = 16 | | Total = 34 |

When data is continuous, we use the Mid-Point of each class to represent data.


$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\text{total}}{n} = \frac{(1 \times 5) + (2 \times 6) + (3 \times 3) + (4 \times 2)}{16} = \frac{34}{16} = 2.125$$

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Answer of the week
Week 36 – Starting 08.07.24

Pumpkin Patch:

The mass of a standard carving pumpkin is approximately 12kg. Nadia plans to sell the pumpkins she has grown at the farmer's market. The table she has to display the pumpkins can support 224kg. If the mass of each of her pumpkins is 12kg, what is the largest number of pumpkins that Nadia can put on her table?



Solution:

We can make a table to calculate the total mass of various quantities of pumpkins.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Number of Pumpkins | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Total Mass (in kg) | 12 | 24 | 36 | 48 | 60 | 72 | 84 | 96 | 108 | 120 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of Pumpkins | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Total Mass (in kg) | 132 | 144 | 156 | 168 | 180 | 192 | 204 | 216 | 228 |

The total mass of 19 pumpkins, which is 228 kg, exceeds the capacity of the table. So, the largest number of pumpkins Nadia can fit safely on her table is 18. Having to make a table counting from 1 to 19 takes quite a bit of work.

Alternatively, we could try to reduce the work by narrowing the search area. We can use easier numbers such as multiples of 10 to find a narrower range to check. We see that $10 \times 12 = 120$ and $20 \times 12 = 240$. From this we know that the answer must be between 10 and 20 pumpkins. So instead of starting our table with 1 pumpkin, we could start it with 10 pumpkins. We might also notice that the number we are looking for (224 kg) is much closer to 240 than 120. So rather than counting up, we could count down from 240 in a table.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of Pumpkins | 20 | 19 | 18 |
| Total Mass (in kg) | 240 | 228 | 216 |

Again, from this result we can conclude that the largest number of pumpkins she can put on her table is 18.

MathsWatch

All of our students' weekly Mathematics homework is accessible on MathsWatch (<https://www.mathswatchvle.com/>). They must be completed by their given deadlines. Each set homework is open for a month, so that students can keep improving their scores. This will also help your child to revise and to practice the mathematics and numeracy skills, knowledge and understanding that they have been learning in class. There are videos available to each topic and interactive questions that they can try. Please ensure your child completes and submits their homework on time. Any outstanding homework must still be completed, and they should all aim to achieve 100% on them.

Welsh Department

Why not practise 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 thirty eight

| Welsh | Phonetic | English |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| gemau olympaidd | gem-eye ol-imp-ithe | Olympic games |
| athletau | ath-let-eye | athletics |
| rhedeg | red-egg | running |
| seiclo | say-claw | cycling |
| Ffrainc | fr-inke | France |

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Attendance

Contact Details - Willows High School

To Report an Absence:

Year 7, Year 8 and the first half of Year 11 – (Surname - A to Jon)

Contact Donna Whitney using Classcharts (see how to below)

Year 9, Year 10 and second half of Year 11 – (Surname - Jones to Z)

Contact Clare Davies using Classcharts (see how to below).

Please do not use the old mobile numbers or email.



LET'S GET ATTENDANCE
BACK ON TRACK

NEW TERM - FRESH START

#EveryDayMatters
www.cardiff.gov.uk/schoolattendance

CARDIFF
CAERDYDD

Important Information for All Parents and Guardians

Please be aware that **Fixed Penalty Notices** are now being issued by Cardiff Council again.

If your child has more than 5 days of unauthorised absence since September 2022 or takes an unauthorised holiday, then you are at risk of a Fixed Penalty Notice Fine being issued.

Fines are **£60** at first, then rising to **£120** and **£180** - if the fine is still not paid then you will be summoned to court and the fine and costs will rise again. **Please note these fines do not go away.** Please make sure to read any correspondence carefully.

To avoid being fined, please ensure that your child attends school every day - if there is a valid reason for absence, please contact the Attendance Team giving evidence where possible.



Our Valued Partners

cowshed



VOCO | St. David's
Cardiff



ARUP | Taylor
Wimpey



JOHN
LEWIS
& PARTNERS



Lateness to School: Fixed Penalty Notices

Fixed Penalty Notices are already being requested for **poor attendance** and for **term-time holidays**.



After the Easter holidays we will be looking to request Fixed Penalty Notice fines for **lateness to school**. We ask that you speak to your child and discuss the importance of **arriving at school on-time for 9:00am line-up every day**. Your child is missing hours of education if they are consistently late to school.

If your child is regularly late to school then a request for a Fixed Penalty Notice fine will be actioned to the Education Welfare Service. The fine for this is £60, rising to £120, leading to a court summons & increased fines imposed. We **do not** want to have to request this – we would much rather your child be in school on time.

If your child is late to school because of an appointment then please provide evidence to the Attendance Team in the form of an appointment card or letter, etc.

Please help your child to arrive at school in good time. The main gates close at 9am – after this time your child is considered to be late and will need to sign in through Late Gates in the Learning Lounge, and then main reception.

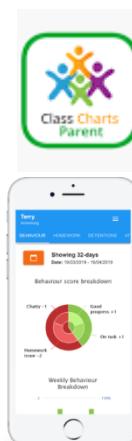
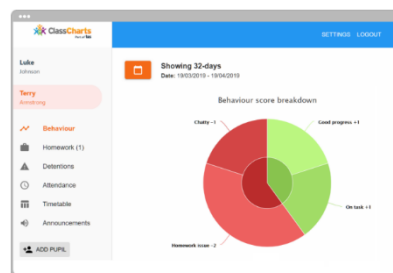
Thank you for your support in this matter.

Class Charts

What is Class Charts?

Class Charts is an app that can be downloaded to your phone. You can use it to:

- keep track of your child's behaviour
- view attendance records
- access your child's weekly timetable
- be informed of and track detentions
- award your child merits for completing their home reading tasks
- view announcements from school.



We would like all parents to sign up to Class Charts, as we are also going to be using this as the main way of sending all messages to you. Likewise, from after half term this will also be the main way that you can report your child's absence to us.

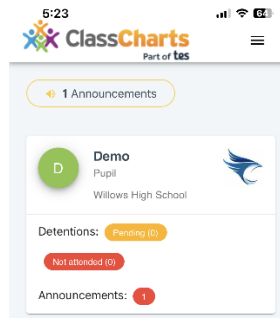
Thank you to all parents who have signed up to Class Charts this year and to those of you who continue to use it.

Please let your child's Head of Year know if you need a login code.

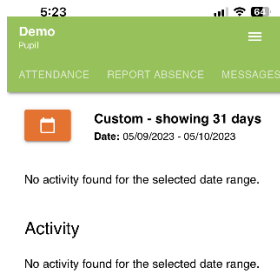
Our Valued Partners

How to report an absence on Class Charts

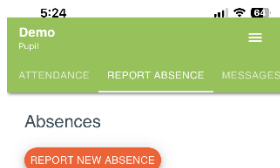
1. Click on your Class Charts app and click on your child's name.



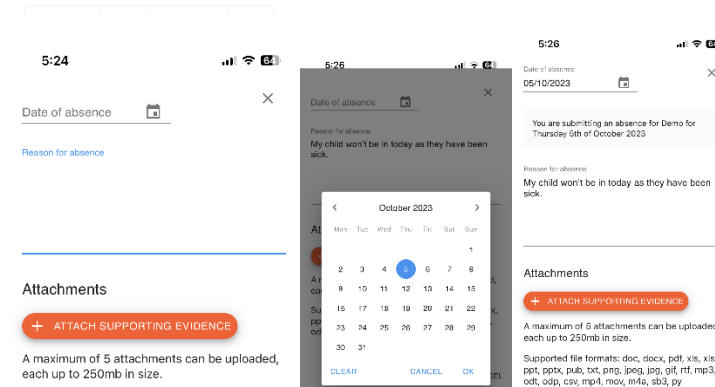
2. Scroll across the green band at the top and click 'report absence'.



3. Click on 'report new absence'



4. Tap the calendar for the date, type in the reason and attach any pictures of medical evidence, such as letters, emails or texts from the doctors, dentist or hospital.



5. Click submit...it's as easy as that!

Please contact your child's Head of Year if you have any problems logging on and they will be happy to guide you through the process.

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Community

You will find plenty of information on community and local goings-on at:



[The Community Noticeboard » Green Squirrel!](#)

[Inksplott | Community Is Everything](#)



The Splott Community Volunteers run a community breakfast on Thursday Mornings 8am – 10am in The STAR Centre, Splott Road, Splott CF24 2BZ.



If you have any of the following spare, please drop them off at the school reception so that we can help Splott Community Volunteers provide food for those in need:

- **Tins: rice pudding, custard, tuna, chopped or plum tomatoes, soup, any meals in tins**
- **Cereals: corn flakes, bran flakes, rice crispies, shreddies, weatabix**
- **Dried items: pasta, rice, noodles**

The Tremorfa Community Pantry

The amazing Tremorfa Community Pantry are always busy finding ways to support the community. You can find them at:

Tremorfa Community Hall, Tweedsmuir Road, CF24 2QZ.



Splo-down

[Splo-down](#) is a member-run community food cooperative open to residents of Adamsdown, Splott, and Tremorfa. They buy food in bulk and use sliding-scale pricing so they can make good quality food accessible to everyone. They currently run a weekly stall 5-7pm every Wednesday where they sell veg boxes and run a zero-waste shop selling other food and household products such as rice, lentils, pasta, spices, and washing up liquid. They try to source our products from sustainable and ethical suppliers as much as possible. For any questions, please email them at: ask@splo-down.org



Our Valued Partners



Settled

Settled is organising an advice surgery with an accredited EU Settlement Scheme adviser at the Grangetown Hub in Cardiff!

We offer **FREE** advice on the EU Settlement Scheme applications.

WE CAN HELP IF:

- You have pre-settled status and want to apply for settled status.
- You haven't applied yet, but you were in the UK before 31.12.2020.
- You want to bring your close family members to the UK.
- Your application has been rejected.
- You have problems accessing your digital status.

MAKE SURE TO HAVE ACCESS TO YOUR:
Identity document, e-mail address, phone number and information and documents related to your status application.

When and where?
Tuesdays 10am to 12pm @ Grangetown hub,
Havelock Place
Grangetown
CF11 6PA

To find out more, email us:
applyeu@settled.org.uk



parent line

If you're a parent or carer of a 5-16 Year Old
Text your school nurse on
07312 263178
For confidential advice and support

This will be a text in service for parent to access their school nurse to help with a wide range of health problems. This won't be a diagnostic service but we can give advice on...



Available during school holidays

Available Mon - Fri
8.30am - 4.30pm



emotional wellbeing
sleep day and
healthy night time
eating wetting
soiling wetting
substance misuse
relationships
behaviour bullying
online safety puberty

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 message back to confirm we received your text. Tests will not be seen outside normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your GP, nearest walk in centre or dial 111. 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 masking' mobile apps). To prevent the health professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.

ChatHealth
GIG NHS
Bristol School of Public Health
Cardiff School of Public Health
Cardiff and Vale UHB
University of Health & Life Sciences

Eastmoors

WHAT'S ON AT EASTMOORS?

Every other Monday
Mind Hub 5:30pm-7:30pm

Tuesdays & Fridays
Senior session
Cooking
Trips
Pool 6.15PM-8.45PM
Xbox
Table tennis NO YEAR 7 & 8
Make up FRIDAYS!
Issue base workshop

Wednesdays
Football with Cardiff City Kicks
Juniors 5pm-6pm
Seniors 6pm-7pm
Umbrella Allies
6:15pm-8:45pm
Creative session
5pm-7pm sky up

Thursdays
Junior Session
Cooking
Trips YEAR 7 & 8
Pool 5.15PM-7.45PM
Table tennis
Make up
Issue base workshop



FREE
GAMING TOURNAMENT
EASTMOORS YOUTH CENTRE

23 July
2024
13:00-17:00

EASTMOORS YOUTH CENTRE!
Canolfan Iauhectio Eastmoors

FORTNITE 3X3
FIFA 1X1
PS5 XBOX 1X1
(VR) 1X1

Eastmoors Youth Centre
Address: Penarth House, Youth Centre, Barchard, Llanedeyrn, Cardiff, CF11 9PA
Phone: 01495 21000

Creative Sessions at Eastmoors!
Wednesdays 5PM-7PM

Editing, Filming, 3D Modelling, Podcasting, Graphic Design, AI, and Photography
Ages 11-17



Our Valued Partners



Cardiff City FC Community Foundation

Fit Bluebirds is a free is a FREE health programme, led by expert staff for men and women aged 35-65 who are looking to lose weight, get fitter and lead a more active life. We are currently delivering cohorts at Cardiff City Stadium, in Barry and Llanrumney and have spaces available in each area.

Sessions run on:

Mondays

6 to 8pm

Llanrumney Hall, CF3 4JJ

Tuesdays

12.30 to 2.30pm

Castleland Community Centre,
Barry, CF63 4JZ

Tuesdays

6-8pm

Cardiff City Stadium, CF11 8AZ

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION **EFL TRUST FIT FANS**

IT'S 12 WEEKS THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

Be healthier. Be a FIT BLUEBIRD.

Join the 1000s of football fans who've already lost weight with FIT FANS.

Scan the QR Code or visit cardiffcityfcfoundation.org.uk/our-projects/project/fit-bluebirds to register your interest

Tuesdays, 6-8pm at Cardiff City Stadium, CF11 8AZ

South Wales Police - Sextortion

We have been informed that South Wales Police are concerned about the rapidly growing number of 'sextortion' cases involving young people across Wales.

This is where individuals are targeted and threatened that inappropriate images of themselves that have been previously uploaded will be shared unless money is sent. This is obviously extremely worrying and the first action must be to ensure that no such photographs or videos exist – and, if they do so, they must be deleted immediately.

The advice to families from South Wales Police is as follows:

- Don't pay, do stop contact and block: you may be tempted to pay, but there is no guarantee that this will stop the threats. As the offender's motive is to get money, once you have shown you can pay, they will likely ask for more and blackmail may continue. If you have paid, don't panic but don't pay anything more. Help your child to stop all communication with the offender and block them on any accounts that they have been contacted on.
- Avoid deleting anything: try not to delete anything that could be used as evidence such as messages, images, telephone numbers, and bank account details.
- Report to the police or CEOP: call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child. Or you can use the [CEOP Safety Centre](#) to report any online blackmail attempts.

The NSPCC website is also a very good source of information and support should you require it.

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VOCO | St. David's Cardiff



ARUP | Taylor Wimpey



JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS



Learning Lounge & Families

Citizens Advice

A reminder that members of our community can make appointments with staff from the Citizens' Advice 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 the school using karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk



citizens
advice

Wellbeing in school

At Willows High School, we aim to promote positive mental health and wellbeing for our whole school community; pupils, staff and families, and recognise how important mental health and emotional wellbeing is to our lives in just the same way as physical health. We recognise that children's mental health is a crucial factor in their overall wellbeing and can affect their learning and achievement. All children go through ups and downs through their school career/life and some face significant life events.

Our aim is to help develop the protective factors which build resilience to mental health problems and be a school where:

- All pupils are valued
- Pupils have a sense of belonging and feel safe
- Pupils feel able to talk openly with trusted adults about their problems without feeling any stigma
- Positive mental health is promoted and valued
- Bullying is not tolerated

Pupils

If you feel you need some support with your wellbeing we want to help and there are many places to go: Staff in the Learning Lounge are here to look after your wellbeing so please come down for a confidential chat.

If you are a young carer and feel you need more support or would like to know about more opportunities out there for you, Ms. Mackintosh, our Safeguarding Officer, can provide information on what is available.

Your Head of Year or any member of the Welfare Team are there to support you. You can find them at line-up time, in the welfare office or anywhere around the school.

A member of staff you trust. All members of staff will be there for you. If you want to confide in someone please do and they will help get you the support you need.

Parents and Families

We want to help you as best we can and there is a lot of support out there for parents and families. Please contact the school using karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk if you need any information on who you can turn to.

Your child's Head of Year and the Welfare Team can also help. Please do not suffer alone. Reach out to us.

Our Valued Partners

 | St. David's
Cardiff

Healthy Relationships

YMCA Here for young people Here for communities

YMCA HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS SUMMER DROP IN

THE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP SERVICES INVITES ALL YOUNG PEOPLE AGE 13-25 TO DROP IN AND CHAT WITH US ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUAL HEALTH. WE CAN ALSO HELP WITH SUPPORTING TO THE SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC FOR: CONTRACEPTION AND STI TESTING.

WE CAN ALSO OFFER C-CARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 13-25

YMCA PLAS, 2 SHAKESPEARE STREET, CF24 3ES

TUESDAYS, 1PM-4PM
 23RD JULY
 30TH JULY
 6TH AUGUST
 13TH AUGUST
 20TH AUGUST
 27TH AUGUST

YMCA Here for young people Here for communities

FAMILY & YOUTH WORK HEALTH & WELLBEING HOUSING TRAINING & EDUCATION SUPPORT & ADVICE

YMCA Here for young people Here for communities

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS GET IN TOUCH, EMAIL: SHOT@YMCACARDIFF.WALES PHONE: 02920 465250

WHO WILL BE THERE TO MEET YOU?

AMANDA AMY MEG

LIZ FAYE VICKY

YMCA Here for young people Here for communities

FAMILY & YOUTH WORK HEALTH & WELLBEING HOUSING TRAINING & EDUCATION SUPPORT & ADVICE

Allergies

At Willows, we are very conscious of pupil and staff sensitivity to the 14 food allergens. The food that our canteen produces is clearly labelled and the pupil information displayed at the tills identifies any allergies that the pupil in front of them has.

We do have a number of staff and pupils who have strong reactions to certain allergens, **particularly nuts**, so we ask for the support of all families to be aware of what your child is bringing into school and be sympathetic to the sensitivities of our school community.

We cannot 100% guarantee that the school is nut free, it is not possible to check what food is brought into school by every pupil, every day. We ask for your support in ensuring that the risks of allergic reactions are minimised.

For more information on allergies, please visit <https://www.allergyuk.org/>.

THE 14 FOOD ALLERGENS

- MOLUSCS**: Including land snails, whelks and squid.
- EGGS**: Can be found in cakes, sauces and pastries.
- FISH**: Found in pizza, dressings and Worcestershire sauce.
- LUPIN**: Lupin can be found in bread, pastries and pasta.
- SOYA**: Various beans including edamame and tofu.
- MILK**: Butter, cheese, cream and milk powders contain milk.
- PEANUTS**: Can be found in cakes, biscuits and sauces.
- GLUTEN**: In food made with flour such as pasta and bread.
- CRUSTACEANS**: Such as crab, lobster, prawns, shrimp and scampi.
- MUSTARD**: Can be in liquid or powder form as well as seeds.
- NUTS**: Including cashews, almonds and hazelnuts.
- SESAME**: Found on burgers, bread sticks and salads.
- CELERY**: Including stalks, leaves, seeds and celeriac.
- SULPHITES**: Found in dried fruit like raisins and some drinks.

Period Dignity

A reminder that pupils can collect free period products from school at any time. Pupils can ask any trusted adult for these or can access them in the school office, from Mrs. Bubbins or from the Welfare Office.

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Safeguarding:

A reminder that the school safeguarding lead is Danielle MacKintosh. If you are worried or concerned about a child and any time (including over the holidays) then please e-mail her on Danielle.MacKintosh@willows.cardiff.sch.uk If you are a pupil that needs help, please also contact Danielle via this e-mail address.

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 is a teal-colored poster with a hand holding a smartphone on the left. The phone screen shows a text message: "Text anytime. We reply Mon - Fri 9.30am until 4.30pm". To the right of the phone, it says "We help young people with all kinds of things like...". The main text in the center reads: "IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE ON 07520 615718 FOR CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT". On the right side, there is a list of issues: "BULLYING SMOKING EMOTIONAL WELLBEING FEELING SAD OR ANGRY STRESS", "HEALTHY EATING CHANGES TO YOUR BODY DRUGS ALCOHOL RELATIONSHIPS". Logos for ChatHealth, GIG NHS, and Cardiff Health are at the top right. A small disclaimer at the bottom right states: "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 on school still can be seen by other staff/teachers who work within the same organisation/department. We are not ready to give advice on anything else and you should get an independent counsellor to talk to if you are worried about your life. We'll not tell you about your personal details/health. If you are worried before you hear back from us, contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not accept voice calls or WhatsApp messages. We support messaging from all mobile numbers only which includes not including messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some number masking mobile apps. Except the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting 0161 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 contact the school in using karen.hunt@willows.cardiff.sch.uk. Where we can help, we will do so confidentially.

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/>

Key Services

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.

Our Valued Partners

Diolch:

All of you mathematicians out there, we couldn't let you wait six weeks to get the answer to this week's question, so here it is.

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.

Please could parents refrain from turning up at the school reception without an appointment. Heads of Year, Teachers and Support Staff are incredibly busy during the school day looking after our pupils. If there is a problem, please arrange an appointment with your child's Head of Year in the first instance. To organise this, please ring the school reception on 029 20414243.

Alternatively, you can e-mail the relevant member of staff, details below:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Headteacher | Mr. Christopher Norman | Christopher.Norman@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Welfare Manager | Miss. Kimberly Williams | Kimberly.Williams@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 7 – Head of Year | Miss. Marcella Sansom | Marcella.Sansom@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 7 – Leadership Link | Ms. Lucy Williams | Lucy.Williams@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 8 – Head of Year | Mrs. Roisin Cherrett | Roisin.Cherrett@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 8 – Leadership Link | Mrs. Kelly Bubbins | Kelly.Bubbins@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 9 – Head of Year | Mrs. Tara David | Tara.David@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 9 – Leadership Link | Mrs. Suzie Warren | Suzie.Warren@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 10 – Head of Year | Mrs. Catherine Watkins | Catherine.Watkins@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 10 – Leadership Link | Mr. Simon Thomas | Simon.Thomas@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 11 – Head of Year | Miss Savannah Reed | Savanna.Reed@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Year 11 – Leadership Link | Mr. Jack Smith | Jack.Smith@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Edison | Ms. Helen Amos | Helen.Amos@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Tesla | Ms. Jane Crawshaw | Jane.Crawshaw@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |
| Family Engagement Officer | Mrs. Karen Hunt | Karen.Hunt@Willows.Cardiff.sch.uk |

Thank you for everything you've done to support us and your child this year. Have an amazing summer break and we look forward to a great new academic year in September. By working together, we can ensure your child's success.

Team Willows

Our Valued Partners



The Willows Menu

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| Meal of the day £3.40 | Butternut squash, courgette, feta and basil pasta Focaccia garlic bread Pomegranate salad pot | Halal chicken sausage with vegetable mash and gravy | Oven baked lemon chicken Herb roasted new potatoes and Mediterranean vegetables Alt: Rice | Jerk chicken with Mediterranean vegetable rice and peas | Fish, chips and beans Salmon fishcake Alt: ½ Jacket potato |
| Vegetarian option | Butternut squash, courgette, feta and basil pasta Garlic bread | Vegetarian sausage bake with vegetable mash and gravy | Vegan meat balls with lemon cream sauce | Asian influenced lentil and chickpea dhal with pitta bread | Pitta kebab with mint yogurt |
| Salad of the day | Pomegranate salad | Salad of the day | Salad of the day | Salad of the day | Salad of the day |
| Dessert | Toffee and banana sponge with custard | Vanilla cheesecake | Orange jelly fruit pot | Brownie | Apple and berry crumble |
| Hot snack | Cheeseburger (£1.75) | Southern fried chicken burger (£2.75) | Calzone (£1.75) | Hotdog (£2.60) | Pitta kebab with mint yogurt (£2.50) |
| Hot wrap | Cheese burrito (£3.00) | Reggae Reggae chicken (£3.00) | Garlic mayo chicken (£3.00) | Nandos chicken (£3.00) | Sweet chilli Chicken (£3.00) |
| Everyday snack | Jacket potato (£2.50) Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80) | Jacket potato (£2.50) Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80) | Jacket potato (£2.50) Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80) | Jacket potato (£2.50) Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80) | Jacket potato (£2.50) Tuna mayonnaise Cheese Beans (£2.80) |

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VOCO St. David's Cardiff

BBC

CANOLFAN MILLENIWM CYMRU
WALES MILLENNIUM CENTRE

ARUP

JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS

STOWE
FAMILY LAW

Taylor Wimpey