

Weekly Newsletter

2ND OCTOBER 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,
Happy Friday! We hope you have had a great week!

Next week, we are looking forward to the Year 3 and 4 Bikeability sessions taking place. Please make sure your child's bicycle is in good working order and that they have a helmet so that they are able to take part.

We are very excited about our upcoming 'One Day Creative' immersive workshops taking place next Thursday. These will provide an amazing opportunity to deepen and enhance the learning of Beech and Maple Classes as they 'live out' their history learning: The Great Fire of London (Beech) and The Shang Dynasty (Maple). Mrs Brierley and Miss Layton can't wait to share some photographs with you!

Can I take this opportunity to remind parents to ensure that all food and snacks brought into school are nut-free. As part of our commitment to keeping all children safe, we take allergies and anaphylaxis extremely seriously. Earlier this week, our children took part in a Picture News assembly to support their understanding of how they can keep themselves safe and help to keep others safe around allergies. **We would really appreciate your support to:**

- Check that all ingredients in school lunchboxes and breaktime snacks are nut-free. This is extremely important.
- Ensure that your child knows not to share their food with other children.
- Help your child to understand the signs and symptoms of any allergies they may have, so that they can inform a member of staff immediately if they experience any of them.

Finally, please note that there will not be a Celebration Assembly next week. The awards for 'Pride' will instead be presented to our stars during the following week's assembly.

Have a FABULOUS weekend!

Mrs Nicola Green
Headteacher

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE DATA

We are incredibly proud of our children's attendance at Whipman Woods. Our children continue to demonstrate a fantastic commitment to coming to school every day, helping them to make the most of every learning opportunity and build strong friendships.

Thank you for your continued support in making attendance such a priority.

Willow	Cedar	Beech	Maple	Oak	Whole School
99.3%	98.7%	98.2%	97%	95.7%	97.83%

Well done to Willow class! You are this week's attendance winners!



SPOTLIGHT ON CEDAR CLASS

Cedar Class have had a fantastic week full of exploring, experimenting and discovering! We have been busy getting stuck into our learning and have loved having lots of opportunities to investigate things for ourselves.

Design Technology

This week, we became little engineers! We experimented with straws, pipe cleaners and tape to find out how we could make strong and sturdy structures. We tried different shapes and methods of joining materials together, testing our ideas and discovering what worked best. We are now ready for our very exciting next challenge, where we will design and build our very own model tree houses!

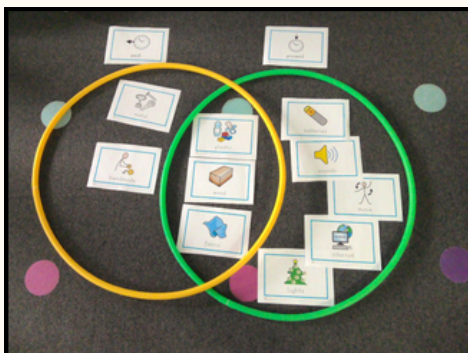
Science

We have been busy investigating materials in Science. We explored the properties of different materials and carried out an experiment to discover which materials are waterproof. Before testing the materials, we made our own predictions and were very excited to find out whether they were correct. We have also been thinking about why certain materials are better suited to particular jobs than others.

Enquiry – Is New Always Best?

Our big question, 'Is new always best?', has really got us thinking! We have been exploring toys from the past and comparing them with the toys we enjoy today, looking closely at what has changed and what has stayed the same. We have been spotting differences in materials and technology and using real toys and objects as clues to help us understand what life was like in the past. We have had some fantastic discussions and shared lots of thoughtful ideas.

We can't wait to see where our learning takes us next!



AUTUMN DISCO 🍁🎃

We're excited to announce that we will be hosting our Autumn Disco!

After being such a huge success last year, we can't wait to welcome our children for another evening of dancing, music and fun!

This year will be EVEN better with our disco lights now installed in the hall.

Tuesday 13th October
3.30pm-4.30pm (Willow, Beech and Cedar Classes)
4.45pm-5.45pm (Maple and Oak Classes)

Tickets are now available to purchase via the Arbor School Shop.

We'd love for as many children as possible to join us and make this year's disco just as special as the last!

We look forward to seeing everyone there! If you are able to volunteer to help at either disco please let Miss Martin know.



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to the stars of our Celebration Assembly! This week's assembly characteristic was **Confidence**.

Our definition is:

"We believe in ourselves and know that we can have a go, even when something feels difficult or new. We try our best, are brave enough to make mistakes and trust that we can learn and improve"

Stars of the Week	Readers of the Week	Kindness Awards
 Willow: Billie Cedar: Carter Beech: Callie Maple: Leila Oak: William	Willow: Roman Cedar: Thomas Beech: Micheal Maple: Maisie Oak: Daniela 	 This week's Kindness Awards go to: Jacob for taking his library responsibility seriously and showing care and concern for how the books in school are handled, looked after and Eva F for quickly getting to work on organising the reading resources for herself and others in her class when the photocopier went on strike!

DIARY DATES

Autumn Half Term 1

Tuesday 6th October - Maple Class (Years 3 and 4) Bikeability Training

Wednesday 7th October - Parents' Evening 1 - 3.30pm-6.30pm (booked via Arbor)

Thursday 8th October - Parents' Evening 2 - 3.30pm-6.30pm (booked via Arbor)

Thursday 8th October - Beech class and Maple Class History Experience Days - Beech: Great Fire of London and Maple: Shang Dynasty

Tuesday 13th October - Autumn Disco: Reception and KS1 3.30pm-4.30pm, Key Stage 2 - 4.45pm-5.45pm - Tickets available via Arbor.

Friday 16th October - Harvest Festival 9.30am

Friday 16th October - Last day in school before the Half Term break

Autumn Half Term 1

Monday 2nd November - Back to school

Thursday 5th November - Individual School Photos

Thursday 12th November - Oak Class Trip - Holocaust Centre

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th November - Assessment Week (Year 1-Year 6)

Thursday 3rd December - Christmas Fair

Tuesday 8th December - EYFS Parent Workshop on Reading 3.15pm-3.45pm

Wednesday 9th December - Elm and Willow Nativity Production 9.30am

Wednesday 9th December - Cedar and Beech Nativity Production 2pm

Thursday 10th December - Cedar and Beech Nativity Production 9.30am

Thursday 10th December - Elm and Willow Nativity Production 2pm

Friday 11th December - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 14th December - Elm (Nursery) and Willow (Reception) Christmas Party Day

Tuesday 15th December - Maple (Year 3/4) and Oak (Year 5/6) Christmas Carol Concert

Wednesday 16th December - Cedar (Year 1) and Beech (Year 2) Christmas Party Day

Thursday 17th December - Maple and Oak Christmas Party Day

Friday 18th December - Last day in school before end of Term break





AUTUMN DISCO

Tuesday 13th October



Tickets available on Arbor

£4 each



Drinks and snack
included!



Fancy dress optional!

Willow, Cedar
and Beech

3.30pm - 4.30pm

Maple and Oak

4.45pm - 5.45pm



Collection and drop off
to the school hall.