

# ULLESTHORPE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**WILLOW CLASS FOCUS**

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**FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

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**WWW.ULLESTHORPE.LEICS.SCH.UK**

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

**MRS J. ALLEN**

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Here at Ullesthorpe CE Primary School, we have continued with our excellent start to the new school year by re-focusing on our school vision statement: 'Learn together, Grow together, Shine forever'.

We have reflected on the importance of shining our light on others through the kind, positive choices that we make and in our first celebration worship assembly of the year, we have enjoyed seeing the different ways in which our children are shining.

It has been especially delightful to be joined by the newest members of our school community in Willow Class - read more about these superstars over the following pages.

Congratulations also go to the following children who were awarded certificates in today's Celebration Assembly: Libby, Jonathan, Jacob B, Rory, Poppy and Anabelle. Well done to them all!

Please do feel free to come and speak with me at the school gates, or make an appointment through the school office.



## UPCOMING DATES

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### **Phonics Info. Evening:**

Tuesday 17th Sept.

5:15pm

### **Y6 Warning Zone Trip:**

Wednesday 2nd October

### **Flu Immunisations:**

Tuesday 8th October

### **Parents Evenings:**

Weds 16th Oct. 4:00-7:00

Thurs 17th Oct. 3:30-5:30

### **Half Term Break:**

Mon. 21st- Fri. 25th Oct.



**Inspiring Primaries  
Academy Trust**  
Inspiring all to flourish and succeed



**Diocese of  
Leicester**  
Board of Education

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## **WILLOW CLASS** MRS HARTLEY

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What a fantastic start to school the new children in Willow Class have had! They certainly have had lots of fun learning to play and learn together. What has amazed us is how well they are already demonstrating some of our school values, particularly friendship and perseverance.

We have had some excellent construction projects, where the children have worked together to build super houses and a variety of vehicles - even rockets! In the water area there has been some brilliant problem solving with the drain pipes, jugs and boats.

The children have had lots of opportunities to be creative; painting and drawing some wonderful pictures. They have sung lots of nursery rhymes and have been learning to sing the alphabet.

We would like to thank the older children in school for being so welcoming and helpful towards our new pupils. We really do have a caring school community.

Well done Willow Class, for a super start to your learning journey at Ullesthorpe Primary!

## **UPCOMING DATES**

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**Secondary School  
Application Deadline for  
Year 6:**

Tuesday 31st October

**JS School Photographer:**  
Thursday 31st October

**Beaumanor Y4  
Residential**  
Weds. 4th-6th November.



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## WILLOW CLASS PHOTOS



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## WILLOW CLASS PHOTOS



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## WILLOW CLASS PHOTOS



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## FROM OUR SCHOOL PTA

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**Hi everyone,**

Hope your little ones have settled in well, just wanted to send a quick email to introduce you to the Ullesthorpe PTA. We are always looking for new members and of course help at events. Below is some more info with our email address at the bottom if you would like to contact us.

Look forward to meeting you soon.

- We are a Registered Charity, we have public liability and insurances.
- Re-established to build upon the school community outside of the classrooms and bring everyone together.
- Set up to raise funds for things that the school needs for our children, we believe it is important to explain where money raised is going, so parents understand where their pennies are going!
- With the Head of School, Mrs Allen, we create a wish list of things needed for the children that government funding doesn't cover.
- We run an event per term and fund raise during the year where we raise valuable money for the school which will benefit our children; the experiences they have, the environment they are in and the memories they share whilst at school.
- We are always looking for more people to join the PTA. It is a very relaxed, we are all working parents and juggling our families so organising can take up a lot of time and energy so the more of us that can help out the better really. There is no pressure but it really helps when there are proactive people that contribute and offer to help so any support you can give would be great and very much appreciated by all.

Please send us an email if you would like to be on the PTA and be added to the WhatsApp group or if you have any fundraising ideas. Also please get in touch if you can help with any of the following:

- Sponsorships/ Industry support/ match donations/ Amazon smile etc, if you have a business that can help pls get in touch.
- Email : [Ullesthorpepta@gmail.com](mailto:Ullesthorpepta@gmail.com)

**Look forward to meeting you soon,  
Helen & The PTA**



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**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

## ENCOURAGING ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CHECK-IN

**SUPERBLY WELL DONE TO THOSE CLASSES WITH  
100% ATTENDANCE!**

<b>Class:</b>	<b>Last Week: %</b>	<b>This Week: %</b>
Willow	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Maple	<b>91</b>	<b>97</b>
Birch	<b>96</b>	<b>100</b>
Oak	<b>91</b>	<b>92</b>

### **Year Group**

EYFS	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Year 1	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Year 2	<b>84</b>	<b>95</b>
Year 3	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Year 4	<b>92</b>	<b>99</b>
Year 5	<b>96</b>	<b>95</b>
Year 6	<b>87</b>	<b>90</b>

**School Overall  
(this year):**

**95%**

**National Average:**

**94.5%**

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Change can be hard for children to manage. Going back to school after a long summer break might cause them to feel uncertain about their friendships, school routines and relationships with new teachers. However, trusted adults play an important role in providing both practical and emotional support.

### 1 LEARN WHAT EQUIPMENT YOU NEED

Figure out a list of all equipment needed for the start of the school year, so you can comfortably get your hands on the necessary items in time. If children have any financial issues and receive free school meals, the school may be able to provide some monetary aid or offer other support.

### 2 COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL

If you notice that a child is feeling anxious about a change of teacher or school, arranging a one-to-one meeting with their new teacher can be a good way to alleviate some of the anxiety. Just knowing that they understand the child's worries and will be able to help them if the need arises can build the foundations of a good working relationship. Knowing that you can contact them with any queries can also be reassuring.

### 3 CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

There will be plenty of information about the start of term on the school's website to keep you updated. Furthermore, you should be able to find other useful information such as contact details for staff, important school equipment, clubs, and news about any special events on the school calendar for the year. It could be helpful to look through this with children for anything which might reassure them.

### 4 HELP TO MANAGE FRIENDSHIPS

If a child is feeling anxious about making new friends – especially if they're moving up to secondary school – it can be a good idea to remind them of what they could do or say when meeting new classmates. Investigating the extracurricular activities available could be a good way to open a conversation about their hobbies and pastimes, and joining such clubs could allow new friendships to be built on this mutual interest.

### 5 PLAN SELF-CARE

Talking to children about how they can manage their self-care can be an effective way of helping them understand its importance. This might involve playing a computer game they love with friends, a weekly visit to the library, getting to bed at the same time each night, or a range of other activities that support their wellbeing and provide the familiarity and safety of a routine that works for them.

### 6 MANAGE TRICKY FEELINGS

Explain that it's okay to have difficult feelings around returning to school. This can help reduce any shame or embarrassment a child might be feeling over these emotions. Emphasise that other children – even some of the teachers – will be feeling the same way. Consider practical ways to manage these feelings and help children feel more in control of their emotions. Some examples include fidget toys, breathing exercises or a notepad for doodling.

### 7 SECURE A SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents and carers should try to buy a child's uniform for the new academic year well in advance of the new term (although allowing for potential holiday growth spurts) and give them time to adapt to any changes. Make sure they can comfortably change into and out of it for PE lessons. Double check the requirements for PE on the school's website, as some schools will also have requirements for PE kits.

### 8 PREPARE FOR TRANSITION DAYS

Ensuring that children attend transition days is a vital step in preparing for the new year. Some schools also have transition evenings for parents and carers to attend, offering extra opportunities to reach out for any additional support.

### 9 READ THE MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

If a young person struggles with their mental health, it's important to understand their school's mental health policy and provision to know what support is available. This should be on the school's website. A range of aid is typically on offer – from individual timetable amendments to group sessions on emotional wellbeing. You can then discuss these options with the child to reassure them that help is there if they need it.

### 10 LEARN ABOUT SEN SUPPORT

If a child has SEN and receives help in school, try to confirm exactly what support is available, to ensure they'll be having their needs met. If they're moving up to secondary school, it's a good idea to meet with the SENCO to ensure that all teachers receive the most relevant, up-to-date information about the child's needs and have a contact to liaise with if these change over time.

## Meet Our Expert

Amy Sayer is a freelance mental health trainer for schools, an author and a content writer. She is an Associate for Diverse Educators, a fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and ITT wellbeing coach. Amy has previously been a SMHL coach, helping many different settings audit their mental health provision and support them to create and implement a strategic plan based on the specific needs of each setting.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College