



The Willingham Scoop

Welcome to our School Newsletter

Friday 30th January 2026

Issue 8

In this Issue:

- **Key Dates & Notices**
- **Young Voices at the O2**
- **Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)**
- **Busy Bees in Pre-school**
- **Friendship Games at Northstowe**
- **Online Safety - Roblox**



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

At WPS, we have always believed that reading is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children. It opens doors, fuels imagination and empowers every child to understand more about the world and their place within it. This year this message will come through even more, as January marked the start of The National Year of Reading 2026. The headline for this national celebration of reading is "Go All In".

The "Go All" In campaign is a UK-wide effort to reconnect reading with the things children already love such as music, sport, fashion, film and more. It recognises that reading isn't limited to traditional books; it includes stories, information and ideas in print, digital and audio forms. This ranges from graphic novels to podcasts, articles and song lyrics. When children see that reading connects to their passions, motivation naturally increases.

Last week in assembly, our Reading Lead, Mr Baugh, introduced how we will take part in this campaign alongside other schools. This starts small, but by the end, we will ask all your help to Go All In. The campaign has three stages:

- Spring term - In the room: all children reading in their classrooms.
- Summer - In the setting: building a visible whole-school reading culture.
- Autumn - In the community: taking reading beyond the school gates and involving families, libraries and local organisations.

This national campaign is designed to make reading feel relevant, exciting and part of daily life and we would like you to join us making this year a celebration of reading. So, let's "Go All In" and make reading a lifelong habit for all our children.

Have a fantastic weekend enjoying a book together!

Best wishes, Miss Paalanen



Key Dates & School Notices

School Calendar:

Fri 30th Jan: Newsletter Issue 8

Tue 3rd Feb: Years 5/6 trip to West Stowe

Tue 10th Feb: Years 1/2 Performance of 'The Stone Age' [Show starts at 2.15pm]

Wed 11th Feb: Years 1/2 Performance of 'The Stone Age' [Show starts at 2.15pm]

Volunteer's online safeguarding training with Mrs Hassan [4.30pm]

Thu 12th Feb: Years 1/2 Performance of 'The Stone Age' [Show starts at 6pm]

Fri 13th Feb: Last day of Spring 1 Term

Newsletter Issue 9

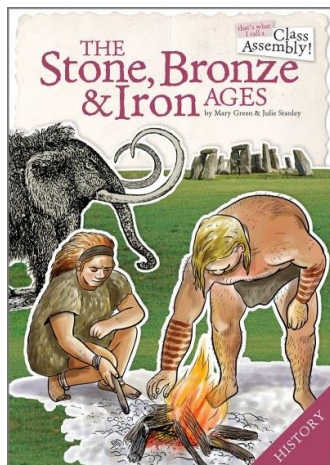
Mon 16th- Fri 20th Feb: Half Term Break [School & Pre-school closed]

Mon 23rd Feb: Start of Spring 2 Term [School & Pre-school reopen to pupils]

Tue 3rd - Thu 5th Mar: Years 5/6 Roots to Food workshop [more information to follow]

Thu 5th Mar: World Book Day Lunch [Menu change to Week 3]

Please use this link for dates of 2025/26 academic year - <https://www.willingham.cambs.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=164>



Notices:

Years 1/2 Performance:

With over a week to go, there are still tickets available for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon performances of 'The Stone Age'.

If you have any issues, please contact Georgia Warburton (gwarburton@willingham.cambs.sch.uk) from the School Office to assistance.

School Trends:

Is your child in need for more uniform? Our uniform provider are offering a parent pay day promotion offering 15% off, from Friday 30 January to Sunday 1 February (end 11.59pm) promotion code **FEB2615**.

Young Voices at the O2

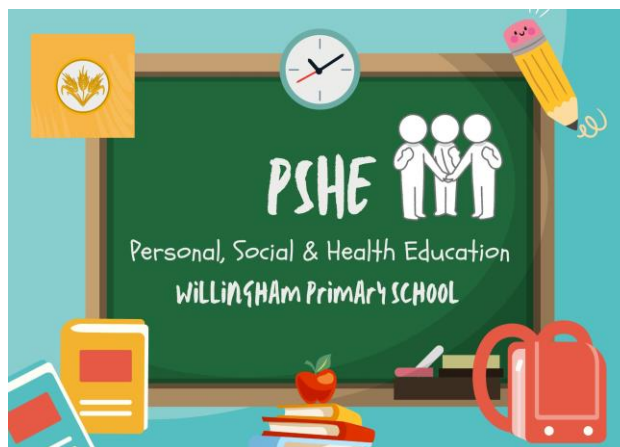
On Friday, 23rd January, 68 members of the Key Stage 2 choir set off to the O2 Arena to perform at a Young Voices concert.

The children had been learning the different songs and dance routines since July and were very excited to finally go and perform with over 8,500 other children. After rehearsing all afternoon, the arena began to fill up with family members and we were ready to perform to a sell-out crowd! We sang a range of songs; from a 'Wicked' Medley to Sea Shanties, as well as a Willingham Primary School favourite - "The Power in Me".

This year marked 30 years since the first ever Young Voices concert and it felt very special to be a part of the celebrations. A huge well done to the children who performed brilliantly and were great ambassadors of our school.



Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)



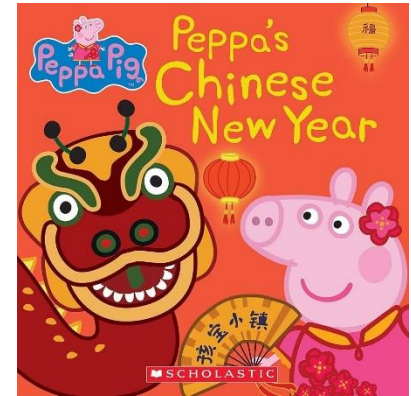
At our school, we aim to help all children learn to respect themselves and others, and to move safely and confidently from childhood, through adolescence, and into adulthood. We deliver much of this work through Relationships Education and Health Education, which are statutory parts of the broader subject, PSHE. As part of this programme, we also provide Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).

Please find more information and presentation via our website ***Personal, Social & Health Education*** and keep an eye on your inbox for letter with even more details.

Busy Bees in Pre-school

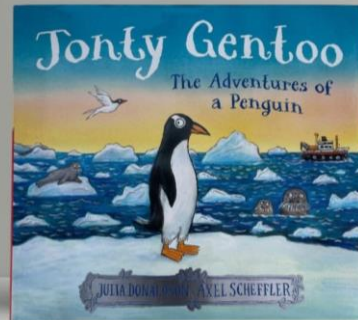
We will then begin learning about Chinese New Year, which we will be celebrating during the week before half term and continuing with activities in the week after we return. **Chinese New Year 2026 is the Year of the Horse.**

The children will take part in a range of fun activities to help them learn about this special celebration, including making dragon cupcakes, dragon masks, and enjoying the story Peppy Pigs' Chinese New Year.



Over the next few weeks, the children at Honey Pot Pre-school will be learning about winter animals, with a special focus on penguins. We will be celebrating **National Penguin Day on 20th February.**

Our story of the week will be Jonty Gentoo, which the children will explore through stories, play, and creative activities. We will also have winter-themed tuff trays set up with a variety of winter animals, including a fun matching game for the children to enjoy.



Friendship Games at Northstowe



On Wednesday, 28th January, Mrs Sutton and Mrs John took twelve children from Years 5 and 6 to take part in **the annual Friendship Games at Northstowe Secondary School**. This event was all about meeting new people and trying out some different sporting activities. The children had a great afternoon experiencing dodgeball, curling, boccia, speed stacking and archery as well as chatting to children from other local primary schools.

The Willingham Primary School children were fantastic representatives of our school and showed excellent sportsmanship.

Online Safety - ROBLOX

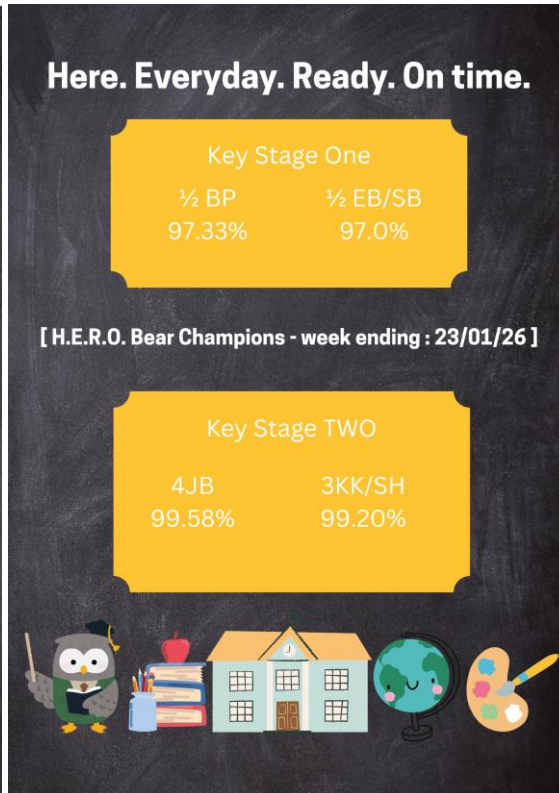
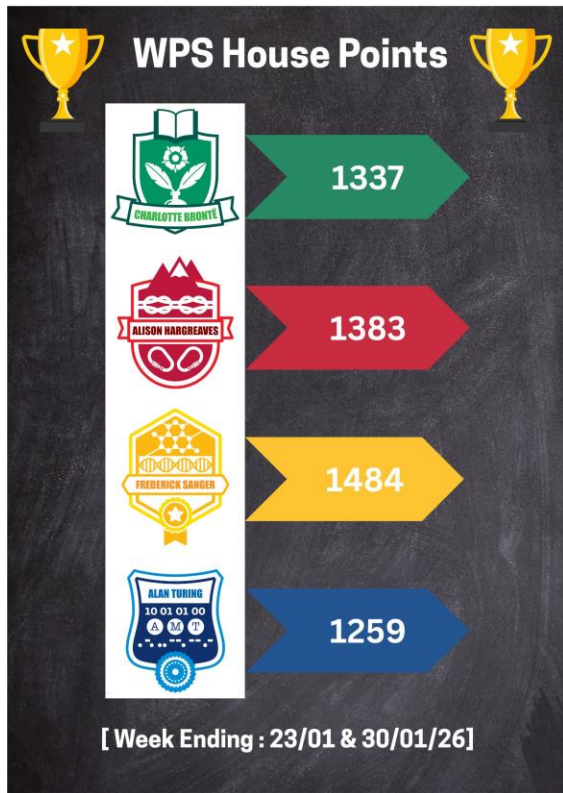
Roblox is an online platform where people can play games made by other users. It is very popular in the UK, and many children use it regularly.

Because so many people create and share content, it is difficult to control everything on the platform. This means there may be risks for children, especially if they use it without adult supervision.

Here are some helpful tips for parents



H.E.R.O. Bears & House Points



Contact Us

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Help is available if you are experiencing domestic abuse. Call the national domestic abuse helpline on 0808 2000 247. Or contact our Domestic Abuse Lead, Michelle Lenk in confidence via **email mlenk@willingham.cambs.sch.uk** who will be able to offer support and advice.

