

Willow Park School

Newsletter: Autumn 1 Edition 2025-26



As we reach the end of Autumn 1, I'm delighted to reflect on what has been a fantastic start to the academic year. Pupils have settled back into school routines with enthusiasm, forming new friendships and making great progress in their learning.

This half term has been rich with experiences. Pupils have taken part in World Mental Health Day, explored important themes during Black History Month, and enjoyed some spooky fun with Halloween activities. Our Preparation for Adulthood curriculum has been in full swing, with pupils accessing a wide range of opportunities including swimming, visits to local parks and the Peak District, and sports coaching from the Sheffield United and Chesterfield Community Teams.



We also had our school photo day at the end of Autumn 1—details on how to purchase these will be sent home shortly.

Looking ahead, you may notice that trip letters will include requests for voluntary parental contributions. These help us provide enriching experiences beyond the classroom, and we're grateful for your continued support.

Autumn 2 promises to be just as exciting, with festive highlights such as the Christmas Fair and Santa's Grotto. Pupils will also be visiting a local mosque as part of our Beliefs and Ethics curriculum, among many other engaging activities.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to a joyful and productive half term ahead.

Please be careful over the half term and be safe if you are attending an organised Bonfire and Firework event.

Warm regards,

Jake Bower

Headteacher



Term and Bank Holiday Dates 2025-26

Autumn 1 term end date—Friday 24th October

Back to school—Tuesday 4th November

Autumn 2 term end date—Thursday 18th December

Back to school—Monday 5th January 2026

School closed to pupils for Training on:

Monday 3rd November

Monday 17th November

Friday 19th December

**Congratulations to this
half term's 100% star
attenders at Willow Park
School**

Kamryn

Ollie

Shayden

**River-
Blossom**

Logan

Hope

Jax

Elenor

Lexi

James

Karma

Mason

Zoltan

Blake

Leo D

Victoria

Rochelle

Bivins

Lee

Layton

Coming up this half term...

International Volunteers day



Bike-ability



Anti-Bullying Week



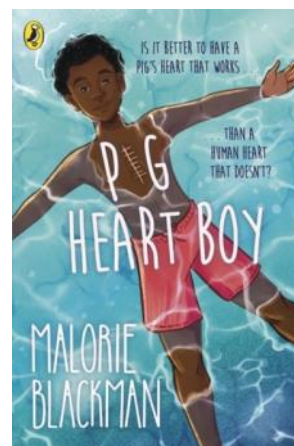
Children In Need

Armistice Day



Diwali Day

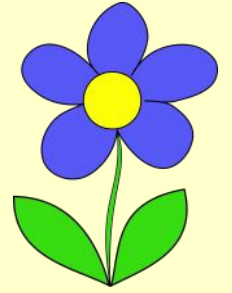
Rivelin 4 have been reading Pig Heart Boy in English as part of our submersive learning. We have linked this to our science learning and have dissected a pig's heart. Everyone enjoyed this "hands on" learning experience. Possibly the new generation of Consultant Cardiologists!!!





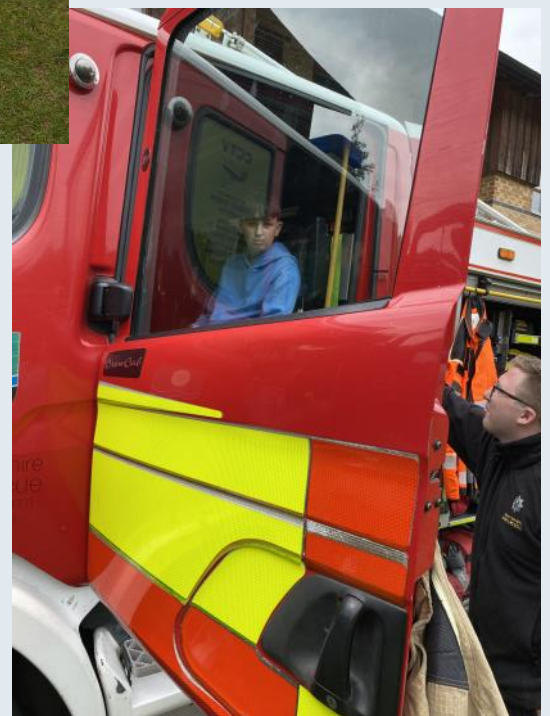
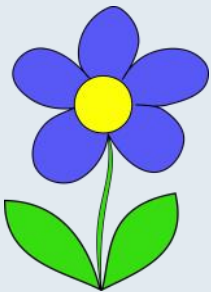
Ebony from Loxley 4 had her own stall at the Summer Fair. She sold her handmade earrings and bracelets. All her proceeds went to the Sheffield Children's Hospital. She raised a whopping £91.30!

Willow Park School Summer Fayre 2025





Continued...





Rivelin 2 have been making monsters to help us get started with our English story this term, A Monster Calls! The children have really enjoyed learning about the story and have completed their own fantastic story openings as part of this project.





Loxley 2 enjoyed a trip to Eckington Park as part of their preparation for adulthood lessons.

The boys enjoyed spending time out of school and played really well together. They all had lots of fun!



Staff Padel Match

Here you can see four of the staff team trying out a new sport called Padel. We are hoping to arrange some sessions in the future for the pupils at Willow to try this out. It is important to remember that maintaining a healthy lifestyle and having hobbies and interests is key to support your physical and mental health.

It was great fun however the current PE Teacher (Harry) and the former PE Teacher (Jake) need a bit more training as Will and Pat demolished them.





Black history month

Notable Black Scientists Who Changed the World

Black History Month celebrates incredible achievements — including those in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). These scientists' broke barriers, changed lives, and continue to inspire new generations!

- Dr. George Washington Carver. **Field:** Agriculture Turned peanuts, sweet potatoes, and soybeans into hundreds of useful products. His work helped farmers improve their soil and livelihoods. Fun Fact: He never patented most of his inventions — he wanted everyone to benefit.
- Dr. Charles Drew. **Field:** Medicine Created modern blood banks and methods to safely store blood — saving countless lives, especially in WWII. Legacy: His work still powers blood donation systems today.
- Katherine Johnson. **Field:** Mathematics / NASA Calculated flight paths for the Apollo 11 Moon landing. Her story inspired the movie Hidden Figures. “Girls are capable of doing everything men are capable of doing.”
- Dr. Mae Jemison. **Field:** Engineering & Space First Black woman in space (1992). She’s also a doctor, engineer, and dancer! “Never limit yourself because of others’ limited imagination.”
- Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson. **Field:** Physics Her research led to technologies like caller ID and fibre optics. First Black woman to earn a Ph.D. from MIT.
- Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett. **Field:** Immunology Helped design the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine — saving millions of lives. Proof that young Black scientists are shaping the future!
- Dr. Lonnie Johnson. **Field:** Engineering Invented the Super Soaker while working as a NASA engineer — showing that science can be seriously fun!

Why It Matters

These scientists didn’t just make discoveries — they opened doors for others. Black excellence in science is past, present, and future. Maybe you could be next!

Think About It

- Which scientist inspires you most — and why?
- What problems would you solve with science?
- How can we support more diversity in STEM?

The
Sheffield
College

VISIT AN OPEN DAY

Thursday

23RD

October 2025

Wednesday

12TH

November 2025

Thursday

22ND

January 2026

Why attend an Open Day?

- tour our campus
- find out about our expanding T Level qualification offer
- check out the facilities you will be learning in
- get involved in interactive activities
- meet your future tutors
- see the type of work you will be doing and meet some of our current students
- discover all your different study options
- speak with our tutors to access support with your maths and English qualifications
- speak to our award-winning in-house Careers Team

SCAN HERE



TO BOOK
YOUR PLACE



Neurodiversity Sheffield Early Help Drop-ins - Our informal drop-in coffee sessions are a chance to have a chat with other parents/carers who are experiencing similar concerns. You will also have the chance to meet staff from Neurodiversity Sheffield, Sheffield Family HUBS, Ryegate, and other agencies who support families with neurodivergence. No diagnosis or booking required!



Neurodiversity Sheffield

2025 July - Dec: Early Help Support Sessions

No diagnosis or booking required

July							August							September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10*	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7*	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							31																					30													

Session type

All our drop in sessions are café drop ins unless marked with an * which indicates a drop in information session.

A **café drop in** is an informal session for parents/carers to meet professionals and other parents/carers for help and support. Discussions are parent/carer-led.

A **drop in information session** is a 90 minute ADHD training session led by a project worker.

For venue addresses and more information please refer to our drop-in flyers.

Locations:

- Scotia Works
- Lowedges
- Sharrow
- Graves Park Animal Farm

Session details

Thursday 10th July: 10.00am-11.30am
 Tuesday 22nd July: 9.30am-12.00pm
 Tuesday 12th Aug: 11.00am-2.00pm
 Wednesday 3rd Sept: 10.00am-11.30am
 Wednesday 17th Sept: 9.30am-12.00pm
 Tuesday 14th Oct: 9.30am-12.00pm
 Friday 7th Nov: 10.00am-11.30am
 Thursday 20th Nov: 9.30am-12.00pm
 Wednesday 10th Dec: 9.30am-12.00pm

t: 0114 2412733 | e: neurodiversity.sheffield@family-action.org.uk

family-action.org.uk

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Trans Pennine Trail ®



Children's Activity Packs

Latest Activity Pack – October Half Term

We're excited to share a fantastic **free resource** from the **Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) National Office** that encourages children to get active outdoors and explore the natural world around them.

The **Children's Activity Pack** is packed with fun, nature-based activities suitable for **Key Stage 1 and 2**. It's designed to inspire outdoor adventures along the Trail or in your local green spaces.

📄 **Download your free pack** by visiting:
<https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk>

This is a great way to support learning in **geography, science, and PE**, while promoting **health, wellbeing, and environmental awareness**.

Enjoy becoming **young TPT Explorers!**



**magic
breakfast**
fuel for learning



Magic Breakfast supports your child's school to provide nutritious breakfasts each morning.

We're pleased to let you know that your child can enjoy a free, healthy breakfast at school every day.

A well-balanced breakfast can positively impact learning, well-being, concentration, friendships and much more.

And with breakfast on offer each morning, you can be confident your child has access to the food they need to start their day fuelled and ready to learn.

Ask at school how your child can access their **free Magic Breakfast!**

Did you know?

Young people who regularly consume breakfast each morning achieve nearly two exam grades higher than those who don't.*

*Based on research carried out by the University of Leeds

**Find out
more**

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Did you know?

Children who enjoy a Magic Breakfast every morning are on average 2 months ahead in their reading, writing and maths.*

*Based on research carried out by the Institute for Fiscal Studies when comparing children at KS1 over the course of a year

**Find out
more**



Be active, eat well



Book your child's spot today for

OCT HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES 2025 @ ELEMENT SOCIETY

Primary HAF for ages 4 - 12 | 28/10 - 31/10
(10am to 2pm)

Teen HAF for ages 13 - 16 | 28/10- 31/10
(3pm to 7pm)

Arts | Crafts | Indoor Games | Outdoors sports | Cookery Workshops

Yorkshire House, 66 Leopold St, Sheffield City
Centre, Sheffield S1 2GZ

Book on through the iPal system with your HAF
code, or reach out to us to register and for more
information!



BOOK NOW!

www.sheffieldhealthyholidays.org

mohammed.a@elementsociety.co.uk

(+44) 0114 2999 210



* Please note children must be in receipt of benefits related/income assessed free school meals