



## NEWSLETTER 58 – 22nd June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for supporting us with the hot weather this week – please send your child to school with a sunhat, bottle of fresh water and apply suncream before school. The forecast for Wednesday and Thursday is over 30 degrees. We will take all precautions to keep the children safe; this may mean the children have an extra early morning play and spend lunchtime in the classroom with activities.

### Sports Days



Awaiting new date – Nursery  
New date – Year 2 - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 9.30am  
New date - Reception Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 9.30am

### Mrs Bueno-Ballantyne

Congratulations to Mrs Bueno-Ballantyne and her husband. Baby Bueno-Ballantyne will arrive in November. Our whole school community is thrilled for them both.

### DSL Photography - Whole school photograph

The Whole school photograph proof should be in school around the end of the week with details on how to purchase. DSL photography was very impressed with our children's behaviour and said we had been the best school he had been to this year!

Reminder if your child is in Year 6/Reception/Sports teams and had their class photo taken, if you wish to place an order final day for free delivery to school is **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July**.

### Move up Morning – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July am

Move up morning has been planned for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July in the morning. This will give your child the opportunity to spend some time with their class teacher for next academic year.

### Breakfast and afterschool clubs

Due to staffing and ratio's, we are limited to the number of children the wraparound care clubs can accept.

Breakfast club is becoming very busy, so please book your child/children on beforehand to avoid any inconvenience to yourself in the event they arrive and we are fully booked. If you require any assistance with the booking system, please contact the office and we will be able to help you.

### Leavers Lunch – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

We would like to celebrate the final day for our Year 6 children with a special lunch. Please see menu poster below, we would love it if all Year 6 children could enjoy this meal together. Year 6 children will have their lunch first on the day and then afterwards the rest of the school can also have this menu.





On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July we will be sampling a meal from next year's menu which will be sausage roll, mash and vegetables and a vegetarian option instead of the pizza option.

### **School Residential Visits and Day trips**

As the school year is now coming towards an end please can you ensure that if you have any outstanding balances for trips and dinner balances that they are paid in full before we break up.

Reception – Blue Planet Aquarium		Full Payment by 26 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 1 (Year 2 next year) Hartington trip	Deposit	Deposit by 26 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 2 (Year 3 next year) Anglesey	Deposit	Deposit by Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> July
Year 6 – 2 day trips		By 5 <sup>th</sup> June

**Please see the message below to inform our families about the summer holiday support from the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF).**

#### **Summer holiday support is available for families**

Families who receive Free School Meals and need help with essential food costs during the summer holidays can apply for support through the Council's Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF).

Applications for summer holiday payments will open on Tuesday, 30 June 2026 and close on Monday, 31 August 2026.

**Apply online:** <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/benefits-and-welfare-help/cost-of-living/crisis-and-resilience-fund/school-holiday-support-payment>

### **Changes to the CRF from September 2026**

The Crisis and Resilience Fund replaced the Household Support Fund in April 2026. It ensures that financial support is available for families who need it and gives longer term support to boost income and manage debt.

To support families during the transition to the Crisis and Resilience Fund, so far payments have been awarded to all applicants who were in receipt of FSM and provided requested evidence. The same approach will apply during the summer holidays.

From September 2026, however, the Crisis and Resilience Fund will solely be there to help people who experience an unexpected financial crisis. Applicants will need to explain the financial shock they have experienced and how this has placed them in crisis.

### **Expanded Free School Meal eligibility from September 2026**

From September 2026, all pupils in households receiving Universal Credit will become entitled to free school meals (FSM).

Pupils who already qualify because their household earnings are £7,400 or less will continue to qualify. The change will extend entitlement to more families, meaning more children will be able to apply to receive Free School Meals.

To find out more, visit:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals>

#### **Not just school holidays**

If you aren't in receipt of Free School Meals, the [Crisis and Resilience Fund](#) can still help you with various costs. Visit the webpage for more information about support with:

- [Crisis payments](#)
- [Help in Emergencies for Local People \(HELP\)](#)
- [Housing Payments and Discretionary Hardship Payments](#)
- [Heating oil support](#)

#### **Other support**

There is also information and support available on the Council's cost of living webpages, which bring together resources about financial help, advice services, and emergency assistance:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/benefits-and-welfare-help/cost-of-living>

### **Please see flyer from Willow Wood**

HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) Camps are now available, offering both fully funded spaces for eligible families and paid places for those who may also wish to attend.

Families whose children are eligible for benefit-related free school meals, or who may be considered vulnerable, can access fully funded places. Our camps provide a fun, engaging, and educational experience, along with a free hot meal each day.

Activities include sports, arts, crafts, games, and much more, ensuring there is something for every child to enjoy.

**SUMMER  
ACTIVITY CAMPS**

**NO COST  
\*\***

**WILLOW WOOD  
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**JULY 27<sup>TH</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup>,  
AUG 3<sup>RD</sup> - 6<sup>TH</sup>, 10<sup>TH</sup> - 13<sup>TH</sup> & 17<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**5-13 YEARS  
10AM - 2PM**

**DELICIOUS LUNCHES  
AND SNACKS**

**FUN SPORTS LIKE  
FOOTBALL,  
DODGEBALL, AND  
MORE!**

**SUMMER CRAFTS**

**BEST  
START  
IN LIFE**

**Funded by  
UK Government**

**pro-reading**

**BOOK ONLINE AT [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/MWNC3BVH](https://tinyurl.com/mwnc3bvh)  
OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK**

**\*\* NO COST FOR THOSE ON BENEFIT RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

Please see message below from the Winsford Library Service

The Summer Reading Challenge - a FREE, UK-wide programme – will be launching this year on Saturday 4 July. You can make a huge difference by encouraging your child to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge. It's the UK's biggest reading for pleasure programme for children aged 4 to 11, delivered via public libraries. Children can sign up for free at their local library or online.

In 2025, over 575,000 children took part. Together, we can make 2026 even bigger and get even more children fired up about reading! Last year, in Cheshire West and Chester, 4 699 children joined the Challenge.

- During last year's Challenge, children read almost 12 million books
- It's simple and free for every child to take part, and libraries run free activities for families throughout the holidays the wider community

For children who took part in 2025:

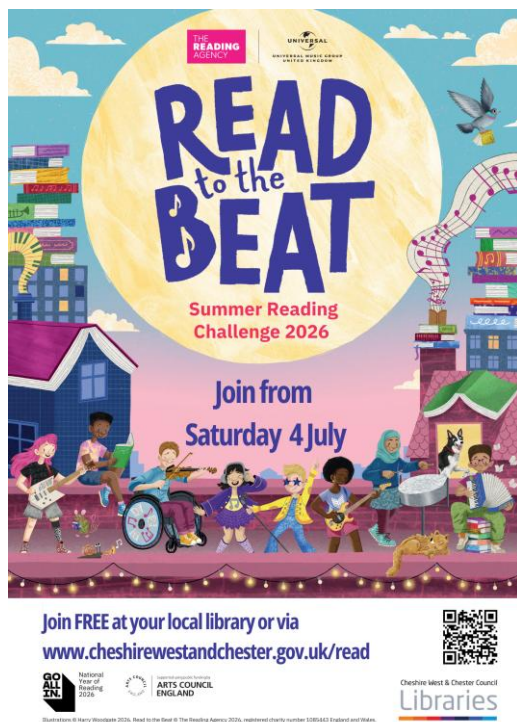
- 97% of participants increased or maintained reading enjoyment

- 73% read more over the summer – and 98% are now reading every day or nearly every day
- 62% of families talk more together about books and reading

How it works:

- Children can sign up at their local library from Saturday 4 July, where they will receive a special sticker booklet, or online via [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/read](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/read).
- They set a summer reading goal and choose books, eBooks, or audiobooks of their choice – logging their reading with the library will earn stickers.
- Libraries will be running a programme of free themed events and activities such as animal handling, music sessions, a mini planetarium and a storyteller. These can be booked via the relevant library from Saturday 4 July or via Ticketsource from Monday 20 July.
- Children who complete their goal are presented with a certificate and/or a medal. All who complete will be entered into a prize draw for a karaoke machine (one machine per library).

Combining FREE access to books at local libraries with creative activities to take part in during the summer holidays, the Summer Reading Challenge is the perfect way to support your child's learning during the holidays, ensuring they return ready for a great start to the new academic year.



Diary Dates – New Dates\*

Date	Information
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 6 Lake District Residential
23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	World Cup Lunch menu
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Reception trip to Blue Planet Aquarium
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Year 6 trip to Mr Joule's farm
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Move up morning for all children
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026*	Year 6 Leavers special lunch menu
	School closes for the Summer break at 3.15pm (The HUB will

	be open for paid sessions as usual until 5.50pm)
Wednesday 22nd July 2026	Inset Day 5 – school closed to children
	<b>2026 - 2027</b>
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	Inset Day 1 – school closed to children
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026	School opens for the new term
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	Individual photographs for Years 1 to 6
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	Nursery and Reception individual photographs and siblings
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2026*	All school flu immunisations
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	October Half Term
Monday 2nd November 2026	Inset Day 2 – school closed to children
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2026	School opens for the new term
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2026	Year 5 & 6 New Vic Theatre Trip – more details to follow
Monday 21st December 2026	Half Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	Inset Day 3 – school closed to children
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	School opens for the new term

Should you need to make contact with school, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Joule on: [head@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk) or [returns@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:returns@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk) and please remember the year group emails if you need to contact your child's class teacher.

However, please note that all email accounts will not be monitored as regularly after 5.30pm each evening or during the holiday, to ensure a work life balance for the staff.

Kind regards,  
Mark Joule,  
Head Teacher