



# Weekly Bulletin

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Dear Parents/Carers**

## **KS1 Visit to the Theatre**

Our KS1 children had a fabulous opportunity to visit Milton Keynes theatre yesterday to see a stage performance of the Disney Classic 'Bedknobs and Broomsticks'. We are incredibly grateful to Milton Keynes Theatre for making this possible for our children. The children loved the performance which was magical and exciting and for some children, this will have been their first visit to the theatre.



## **COVID-19 – Face Coverings will continue at the Willows School**

We are encouraging staff to continue wearing face masks when talking to parents face to face and would encourage you to do the same. COVID-19 spreads through the air by droplets and aerosols that are exhaled from the nose and mouth of an infected person. You should wear face coverings in crowded and enclosed areas such as the School Reception area where you come into contact with people you don't usually meet.



Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of a COVID-19 vaccine as it is still possible to catch and spread COVID-19, even if you are fully vaccinated.

COVID-19 will be a feature of our lives for the foreseeable future, so we need to learn to live with it and manage the risk to ourselves and others and keep the School safe.

**If your child has developed a cough we are urging parents to take them for a PCR COVID Test. We realise that this time of year we often get a spike in coughs and colds, however we just cannot take the risk and would like all children showing any symptoms to get tested.**

You can book a FREE PCR test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you are yet to book your COVID-19 vaccine you can do so online at:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

# Staying Safe when out and about

Now the children are back in school, this is an opportunity for you to talk to them about staying safe when they are outside. Children at the Willows School are too young to be out and about on their own, but it is never too early to help them learn about personal safety. Here's some information that might help you.



## 1) WHO'S WHO?

A stranger is anyone that your child doesn't know or know very well. It's both common and dangerous for your child to think that 'strangers' look scary or sinister, like villains in films or cartoons. Play a game with your child and ask them to draw a stranger, it will help you reinforce that a stranger can look like anyone. Tell your child that they won't be able to tell if a stranger is nice or not, so all strangers should be treated in the same way.

## 2) DON'T GO - SAY NO!

If your child is approached by a stranger, encourage them to raise the alarm by saying 'NO' to draw attention. They should not be scared to do this and be told that it is the right thing to do. For children aged between 3-4, be careful not to scare them too much but start with "there are bad people so it's very important you never..." All children should ask for help from other adults. Teach them to look out for people in uniforms such as police officers, or teachers and traffic wardens if they're at the school gates.

## 3) PLAN AHEAD

As obvious as it seems, please stress to your child that they should NEVER talk to a stranger, NEVER accept gifts or sweets, and NEVER walk off or get into a car with one. This is important if your child is between 5-8 as they are at their most vulnerable. This situation might arise if you are late collecting them from school for example, so agree a plan with your child that they know you will stick to if you are late. For example, teach them that you would only ever send a friend's parent, that they recognise to collect them if you aren't able to.

## 4) TIME TO TEACH

Tell your child that even if they are not sure if someone is a stranger they should always behave in the same way and not take risks. Teach them stock phrases to help give them confidence. For example: a child offered money or sweets should respond, 'No thank you. Please leave me alone' It's important children don't think that talking to a stranger is ok if they're with a friend. Teach them they should only talk to someone they don't know if you are there by their side.

## 5) PRACTICE MAKES...

One way you can prepare your child is by practising scenarios. Try planning a game called, 'What if?' Discussing and thinking about what to do is often more helpful than having the 'right' answers. Ask them what to do if a stranger approaches them to help reinforce the advice 'DON'T GO, SAY NO'

By practising these strategies in a fun way, your child will be as equipped as possible should difficult situations arise. It's important to have this conversation regularly.

We are really pleased that our Local Police Officer Colin is coming into the School weekly to read a story to the children. This will help familiarise them with people who can help them.

If you ever see someone that is behaving suspiciously outside the School we urge you to come in and let us know, or if there is a serious incident please do not hesitate to call the police by dialling 999.

## Morrisons – It's Good To Grow Voucher Scheme


For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help your school get everything they need to get growing.




Please download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose The Willows School.

We will be able to exchange your Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment to get kids growing.

## Diary Dates

Tuesday 21st September	3pm – 4pm	KS1 Multi Sports Club Block 1 (Every Tuesday for 5 weeks) Parents will be informed if their child has a place
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>3.15pm – 5.15pm</b>	<b>Don't forget there is No 326 Club because of staff training</b>
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> October		Individual Pupil Photographs 
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October		Harvest Assembly for children
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	3pm – 4pm	KS1 Multi Sports Club Block 2 (Every Tuesday for 5 weeks). Parents will be informed if their child has a place

## Attendance.

W/C 6 <sup>th</sup> September		
Year	Class Name	% Attendance
Rec.	Badgers	99.0%
Rec.	Hedgehogs	95.7%
KS1	Squirrels	97.5%
KS1	Rabbits	97.57%
KS1	Owls	100% 
<b>Total attendance</b>		<b>98.0%</b>

Well done **Owls** with an attendance of **100%** for the week beginning **6<sup>th</sup> September**.

The whole school attendance for the week of 6<sup>th</sup> September was **98%**.

Good attendance at school is important for your child's development & progress. Please ensure your child attends every day and not take holidays in term time.

We want every child to be a H.E.R.O every day, **H**ere. **E**very day. **R**eady to learn. **O**n time.