

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year to all parents, carers, staff and children – old and new! It has been wonderful to see the eagerness of the children as they return after the Christmas break and a delight to hear the stories that they have shared.

The weather has definitely turned wintery, with ice, sleet, snow flurries and rain. Please ensure that your child has a suitable coat to combat the varied elements, as the children do go outside during break and playtimes to get some fresh air and body movements.

We are delighted to welcome Ms. Seeley back to Willow Class – and the children were all excited to see her back in class when they returned on Tuesday.

On Monday 12th January, we have an exciting short promotional film opportunity that will be created to celebrate Dr Walker's CE School and will be shared on our website. The film will highlight the many aspects that make Dr Walker's special – including our welcoming atmosphere, dedicated staff team, well- resourced learning spaces, resources, the wide range of enrichment opportunities and of course our prime asset – our lovely children! Our aim is to showcase the school to encourage more families to consider joining our school community. Your child may appear in short clips of everyday school life. As always, we will be mindful of safeguarding and will follow our usual permissions and procedures.

Also on Monday 12th January, Open the Book will visit for our Family Collective Worship at 10:25am. We welcome parents, carers and extended family members to join us, should you wish to. Please arrive by 10:20am.

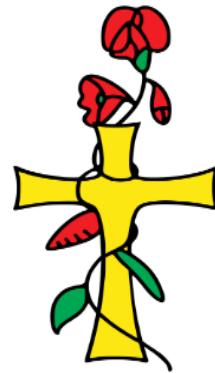
Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Hafise Nazif (Executive Head Teacher)
Mrs Jenny Dean (Head of School)

OUR THEME: COURAGE

This week we have been looking at: Stepping out of our comfort zone

Home school values – explore the value at home. Click the link [here](#)



**"Though your beginning was small,
your future will flourish indeed."**

TERM DATES:

Upcoming Dates and Events

19th Dec—Last Day of Autumn 2

5th Jan—INSET Day – School closed for children

6th Jan—First Day of Spring 1

WC 12th Jan – After school clubs' resume

13th Jan – PSC Meeting for Parents (Year 1) – 3pm

13th Jan – MTC Meeting for Parents (Year 4) – 3pm

13th Jan – SATs Meeting for Parents (Year 6) – 3pm

26th Jan – Year 6 After School Boosters commence

WC 9th Feb – Children's Mental Health Week

10th Feb – Fairy Tale Day - EYFS (info to follow)

10th Feb – Parent Consultation Evening (info to follow)

13th Feb – Ancient Greek Day – Maple Class (info to follow)

13th Feb – Break up for half term

23rd Feb – INSET DAY – School Closed for Children

24th Feb - Children return to school

27th Mar – End of Term

13th Apr - Children return to school

22nd May – Break up for half term

1st June - Children return to school

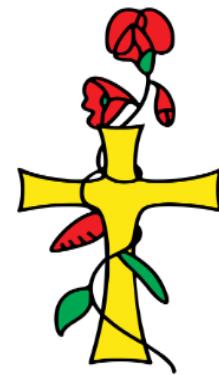
Monday 20th July: End of academic year – 1:00pm finish (after registration)

Dear Lord,

I don't feel very brave today,
But I know that you are with me
along the way,
I know that I am never alone,
whether I feel worried or not.
With your help,
I know I can accomplish a lot.
You are greater than any problem or
obstacle I face.
And you are with us each day in
every place.
Help me to remember that courage
isn't the absence of fear,
but it's doing the right thing no
matter what.

Amen.





National: 95% Our School Target: 96%

	WC 05.01	WC 12.01	WC 19.01	WC 26.01	WC 02.02	WC 09.02	
Willow	92%						
Sycamore	91%						
Maple	90%						
Whole School	92%						

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The effect of absence on progress					
No absence	9 days absence	11 days absence	18 days absence	27 days absence	36 days absence
100%	95%	94%	90%	85%	80%
Very Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress.		Your child will find it very difficult to make progress	

At Dr Walker's, and LIFE Education Trust, we have a shared understanding of what we mean by spirituality.

Spirituality is about ensuring that everyone flourishes. It involves each of us understanding ourselves, relating well to others, appreciating the beauty in the world and reflecting on the deeper meaning of life. It also involves us contributing to the flourishing of others and the world around us. Each day, the children and staff reflect on how they can flourish spiritually, using our four dimensions of spirituality:



Self



Others



World



Meaning

Self – Spirituality involves **understanding ourselves** as unique individuals, what we are and what we want to become. It includes what we choose to believe and value.

Others – It also captures our **interactions with others**, how we choose to see them and relate to them, how we show humility and compassion and how we embrace equity. When we're spiritual, we're filled with optimism and creativity, and we collaborate creatively with others.

World – Spirituality also involves **appreciating the beauty in the world**, whether found in nature or in created things and how we contribute to making the world a better place.

Meaning – it also extends beyond our everyday experiences, helping us to **reflect on the deeper meaning of life** and the universe.

Self	Others	World	Meaning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who am I, beyond my job or roles? • What are my deepest values and beliefs? • How do I respond to my own emotions and suffering? • What brings me true happiness or peace? • How do I listen to my intuition? • What kind of person do I want to become? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I connect with other people and beings? • What does love mean to me? Why do we love? • What is my responsibility to others? • How do I deal with conflict, forgiveness, and judgment? • What does it mean to be part of a community? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What moments fill me with awe or wonder? • How does nature reflect something greater than me? • How should we care for the environment? • Why do natural disasters and suffering exist? • What is the purpose of the Earth and the Universe? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the meaning of life? • Is there a God, a higher power, or something beyond the universe? • What happens after death? Is there a soul? • What is worth striving for, or even dying for? • Do things happen for a reason? • How do I find purpose in my everyday life?

