



# Children's Hospital School

*'Better Together'*

Headteacher: Mr S Deadman  
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## October 2022 Newsletter



Welcome to The Children's Hospital School newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about all the latest news across all our settings, Willow Bank School, The Magpie Learning Centre, Leicester Royal Infirmary and The Beacon Unit.

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a really positive start to the new school year, with lots of activities going on and some brilliant lessons being delivered across all our sites. It was good to return to school and see the scaffolding had gone, and all building work completed. There has been a transformation of our four school sites over the past 3 years, including the opening of our newest provision – The Magpie Learning Centre.

Our staff continue to develop their teaching skills using the latest evidence-based practice. The exam results achieved by our Year 11 students in the summer were fantastic and show the hard work they put in over the time at school.

As a school, we strive to provide the same opportunities pupils would receive in any school, so it has been pleasing to see school trips going ahead, visiting workshops and our Year 11s completing work experience last week. There are some residential trips planned for later in the year and another group of students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

Each school site has its own Twitter feed so it is easy to see what is going on, wherever your child is based. It was good to meet those parents who could attend one of our MacMillan coffee mornings this term, and there will be other opportunities for you to attend events at the school in the near future.

I am aware that circumstances for some may be difficult at the moment, so please remember that we are here if you need anyone to talk to or need additional help. Our family support worker, Jayne Lister, is available to chat if required.

Many thanks to everyone for your support so far this term. I hope you have a wonderful half-term break, whatever you may be doing.

Best wishes

Stephen Deadman



### Elizabeth II, 21<sup>st</sup> April 1926 - 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Elizabeth II became Queen on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952. On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 12 noon we joined the nation to reflect on the life of Her late Majesty The Queen. We gave thanks for her service to communities around the world. Queen Elizabeth II's support to children and young people will never be forgotten. Staff and students remember their visit to London for the Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey in March 2020 at which Queen Elizabeth II and the Royal Family were present.

## FUNDRAISING, GRANTS AND DONATIONS NEWS

### THE BEACON – GREGGS FUNDING

We have been lucky enough to secure funding from Greggs to be able to run a Breakfast Club twice weekly on the ward. The young people have been treated to a variety of delicious treats, including crepes, crumpets, bagels, smoothies and waffles. The funding has been granted for two years, which is great news.



*Always Fresh. Always Tasty.™*

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### KELLOGGS

Thank you to Kellogg's for the kind donation of £1,000 for our breakfast club.



### OTHER DONATIONS

Thank you to BlueSpark Foundation for a donation of £368



We have received a donation of £20 from Thomas T W and P M, many thanks for this contribution to the school.

A donation of £253.41 has been received from Mrs Diane Owen, many thanks for this kind contribution.

Thank you to The Rotary Club of Leicester for a donation of £250, this is much appreciated.



### THE BEACON MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING 28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September we held our Macmillan coffee morning, the wider team here at the Beacon enjoyed an array of delicious delights baked by our talented young people. £97 was raised in aid of the charity.



### WILLOW BANK SCHOOL MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER

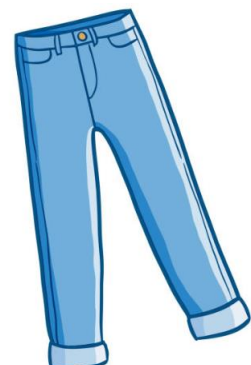
On the 23<sup>rd</sup> September Willow Bank School held a Macmillan coffee morning. A big thank you to everyone who baked cakes, those who brought cakes in to donate and everyone that purchased cakes.

A massive £200.50 was raised.



### JEANS FOR GENES DAY – 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Willow Bank School held their Jeans for Genes day on 16<sup>th</sup> September, there was a £2 donation for wearing jeans on this day.



This event raised £42.



**Children's Hospital School**

## NEWS FROM WILLOW BANK SCHOOL

### HINDUISM TALK

We were fortunate to have Kishori Kaps visit Willow Bank on the 29<sup>th</sup> September to talk about Hinduism. She shared her beliefs and gave an introduction to Diwali. She answered questions about what a Hindu wedding typically looks like. It was a brilliant talk and we are grateful for her time. Students were also able to sample some Indian snacks including samosas and Indian sweets.

### LESSONS IN BUDDHISM

This week, the Year 10 group in personal development lessons have found inspiration in learning about Buddhism. With virtual reality headsets on, pupils dived deep into the ancient Buddhist temples and examined centuries old Buddhist artefacts in 3D. VR also brought to life Buddhist teachings in a more immersive way. The whole class enjoyed this activity, as it was a new and different way of learning about a fascinating religion.



## NEWS FROM THE LRI

### TWINLAKES FUN

We received some free tickets for Twin Lakes to share with some of our families and one of them sent some photos in as they were so chuffed to have been able to make use of them. Our student's name is Isla Huggins, she's in Year 6 and was with us for a couple of weeks. She had been in for the Summer holidays too so it was quite a long stay for her.



## BUILDING NEWS AND ROOM REVAMPS

### ROOF REFURBISHMENT

M&J Group completed the roof refurbishment at Willow Bank School.



### ICT SUITE REFURBISHMENT

The ICT Suite refurbishment is now complete at Willow Bank School, lots of new equipment now in place.



### ART ROOM IMPROVEMENTS

Much better stools and tables now in place in Art at Willow Bank School, thanks to Ellesmere College.



### WELL-BEING AREA

Our newly renovated well-being area at Willow Bank School is complete thanks to Seagrave Nurseries, Leicestershire, who donated plants. Now turned into an oasis of calm.



## THE NEWLY OPENED MAGPIE LEARNING CENTRE

Have you walked down Hillsborough Road recently? If you have then I'm certain you have seen the fantastic new site for Children's Hospital School! You can't miss the beautifully painted magpies, mushrooms, the enchanted forest and the fox! It's bright, bold and eye catching and is certainly the talk of Eyres Monsell! After months and months of planning (and a few set backs with a leaking roof) we were thrilled to open our fourth base of CHS in September.... Welcome to The Magpie Learning Centre!

So what is it? The Magpie Learning Centre is our KS3 CHS Base and home to two early intervention groups – KS2 and KS3. The early intervention placements are short stay (6 – 8 weeks) with students attending both The Magpie Learning Centre and their home school. Our aim is to provide a positive school experience with a quality education and exciting opportunities to build skills, knowledge and resilience so that our students can live and enjoy a better life.

We look forward to sharing how the base develops over the next half term...

**Nikki Cole**

Deputy Head Teacher



Partnering with community arts organisation Platform Thirty1, and the artist team from Graffwerks, who run the award-winning 'Bring the Paint' international street art festival in Leicester sought to bring high quality art work to the building nestled in the centre of our community.

We wanted local people to have say in how the artwork developed, so we used a co-produced approach with families at neighbouring schools, local residents and students at the school's other site nearby. Over 500 people shared their design ideas in our consultation and voted on their final design.

Whilst the artists spray painted the building people stopped to admire the process, commented on the elements they had voted for and said how fresh and vibrant the new look was.

The project has ignited an interest in the next phase of the building's life and a pride in the aesthetics of the community.



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**GRAFF  
WERK**

## NEWS FROM THE BEACON UNIT

### BUSY! BUSY! BUSY! AT THE BEACON!

We have had a productive month at the Beacon. Our young people took part in a collaborative art activity, incorporating Van Gogh and his famous painting "Starry Night". The young people explored mixed media and worked together to create their very own take on the painting



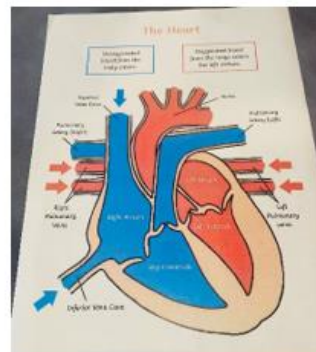
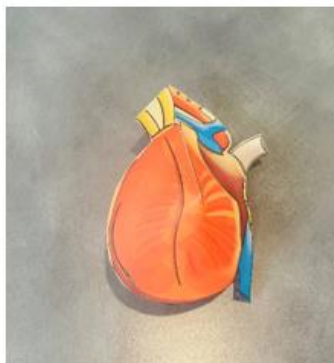
### ARTS AWARD EXPLORE

We are extremely proud of two of our young people who have completed and passed their Arts Award Explore. Here is a snippet of their amazing work...



### SCIENCE AT THE BEACON

In Science we have been studying Biology and have been looking at the structure of the heart and created 3D models to show how complex our hearts are. Next week we will be moving on to dissecting!



Children's Hospital School

Welcome back to the new academic year. This is our first newsletter piece this year and an introduction to who the Governors of The Children's Hospital are and what we do.

### **What is the role of the Governing Body?**

It is the Governor's responsibility to oversee the school in three key areas:

- Strategic direction
- Robust accountability
- Ensuring financial probity

Governors bring a wide range of skills and expertise from their professional lives to the governing board, working together to provide independent oversight of the management and operation of a school, with the aim of improving the quality of education provided and raising standards.

Governors meet throughout the academic year, at Full Governor meetings as well as Committee meetings. These enable the Governors to be presented with regular updates about the school, as well as the opportunity to challenge school leaders. In addition Governors undertake visits across the school, meeting staff and students, and ensuring priority areas are monitored carefully. Governors also enjoy visiting the school for social events such as MacMillan coffee morning and Christmas lunch!

### **Who are the Governors?**

Marie Bradley	Chair of Governors
Lynne Folwell	Vice Chair
Jill Townsend	Curriculum & Standards Committee Chair
Tony Jarvis	Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee Chair
Stephen Deadman	Headteacher
Christine Sullivan	
Chris Haydon	
Tracey Lawrence	
Nikki Igoe	
Hasina Fatima	

More details about the Governing Body can be found on the school website [here](#).

### **Contacting the Chair/Governors**

If you would like to make contact with the Chair of Governors then please contact the school either by:

- Emailing [WBadmin@childrenshospitalschool.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:WBadmin@childrenshospitalschool.leicester.sch.uk), who will be happy to forward on your correspondence.
- Write, using the Willow Bank postal address.

*We look forward to updating you with the Autumn Term's governance in the next newsletter.*



## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### FAMILY FUND

Family Fund supports families raising disabled and seriously ill children and young people. As well as their [grants](#), there are other ways that Family Fund can support you. You can find out about the other support available on their website:

[Family Fund Support | Family Fund](#)

**James Stafford**

Assistant Head Teacher and  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



### FAMILY SUPPORT

I support the Children's Hospital School and am able to provide guidance and advice for families at home. If you would like to get in touch with me please contact me using the details below

Jayne Lister  
Family Support Worker  
07525 313277

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your children may be eligible for free school meals if you receive:

- > income support
- > income-based jobseekers allowance
- > income-related employment and support allowance
- > national asylum seeker support
- > child tax credit (providing you're not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- > the guaranteed element of state pension credit
- > working tax credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit

Applying could also help your school get extra funding through the Government's Pupil Premium scheme.

Visit: <https://freeschoolmeals.leicester.gov.uk>  
[Free School Meals | Leicestershire County Council](#)

## TRIPS UPDATE

### PIZZA EXPRESS – 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

KS4 students had a fantastic trip to Pizza Express in the Highcross. The aim of this trip was for the students to experience a workplace environment, to learn about where food comes from and to make delicious pizza. The staff at Pizza Express were impressed with the student's behaviour and attitude. Everyone had fun and learnt new things about restaurant life. Well done all!



### LEICESTER UNIVERSITY – 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER

Willow Bank School students have been invited on a trip to Leicester University to experience what a university has to offer. This trip includes a 45-60 minute campus tour, a student life talk, question and answer session and a myth busting quiz. Students will also be involved in fun activities, which will develop their skills and give them a chance to explore future options and decision making.



University of Leicester

### LONDON – 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

A group of students from Willow Bank School will be going on a residential visit to London. They will be staying at a Youth Hostel Association accommodation at St Pauls. The trip will run from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> November.

The visit will include the chance to visit some landmarks and attractions within the city, including, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.



### TERM DATES 2022-23

#### Autumn Term 2022

Teacher Training Day: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
Half term holiday: 17<sup>th</sup> October to 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022  
Teacher Training Day: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
Last day of Autumn term: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
Christmas Holiday: 19<sup>th</sup> December to 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023

#### Spring Term 2023

Start of term for pupils: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023  
Half term holiday: 20<sup>th</sup> February to 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
Last day of Spring term: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023  
Easter Holiday: 3<sup>rd</sup> April to 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023

#### Summer Term 2023

Start of term for pupils: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
May Bank Holiday: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023  
Half term holiday: 29<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023  
Last day of Summer term: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023



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