



READY
RESPECTFUL
SAFE

Newsletter

7TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear families,

Welcome to the new school year! To those of you who we know well: we have missed you and for those beginning your journey with us: we can't wait to have you join our wonderful community. 2026 is going to be our best year yet - we just know it! As the new year begins, we know it can be tricky for children (and their grown ups) to be separated, especially after such a long summer. Please be assured that your children's happiness and safety are our top priority. If there is anything you are worried about or would like a little support with, please come and speak to one of us: we are here for you, too.

We can't wait to get started with our exciting learning and events this year - check Parent Hub for the list of dates for families as we love for you all to get involved, too!



Our school rules are Ready, Respectful and Safe and we expect all children to demonstrate all three during their time in school.

Whilst we are very proud of our children and their behaviour, we leave nothing to chance. Our return to school will involve lots of explicit teaching on what these behaviours look like. Teachers will show children what is expected in the classroom and around school and we will discuss this further in our assemblies.

We are working on a behaviour curriculum, which will support our children to build up their skills as they move through school so that they can learn to be kind, respectful and well-rounded individuals., ready for life beyond William Rhodes.

We will share what we have been learning with you each week, as we know that we always get the best outcomes for the children when we work in partnership. Our rules are also applicable to lots of scenarios at home: so feel free to refer to them at home as well.

Following feedback from the behaviour parent/carer survey, we are going to be teaching children a whole variety of skills from using manners, to the importance of personal hygiene through out curriculum.

Our behaviour policy in school is centred around positive noticing: this means that we look for children demonstrating the desired behaviours and explicitly praise them for it.

For any children who are demonstrating behaviour 'over and above' our expectations, there are a number of rewards that they can achieve:



Over and above cards:

Look out for these coming home with your children. They will say what your child has done that has made us so proud.



Hot Chocolate with the Head:

Each week children are nominated by adults in school for Hot Chocolate with the Head. This is a gorgeous time where the children get a short time out of class and we chat whilst enjoying treats together.

Celebration Assembly:

Each week, two children from each class, Forest School and the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds are chosen to receive a certificate in assembly. Families are invited and will be told if their child will be receiving an award by 1:00pm on Thursdays. We love it when you can join us.

Awards Evening:

Each year, we hold an awards evening to celebrate the children who have impressed us all year round. This is truly a beautiful evening, which we all look forward to.





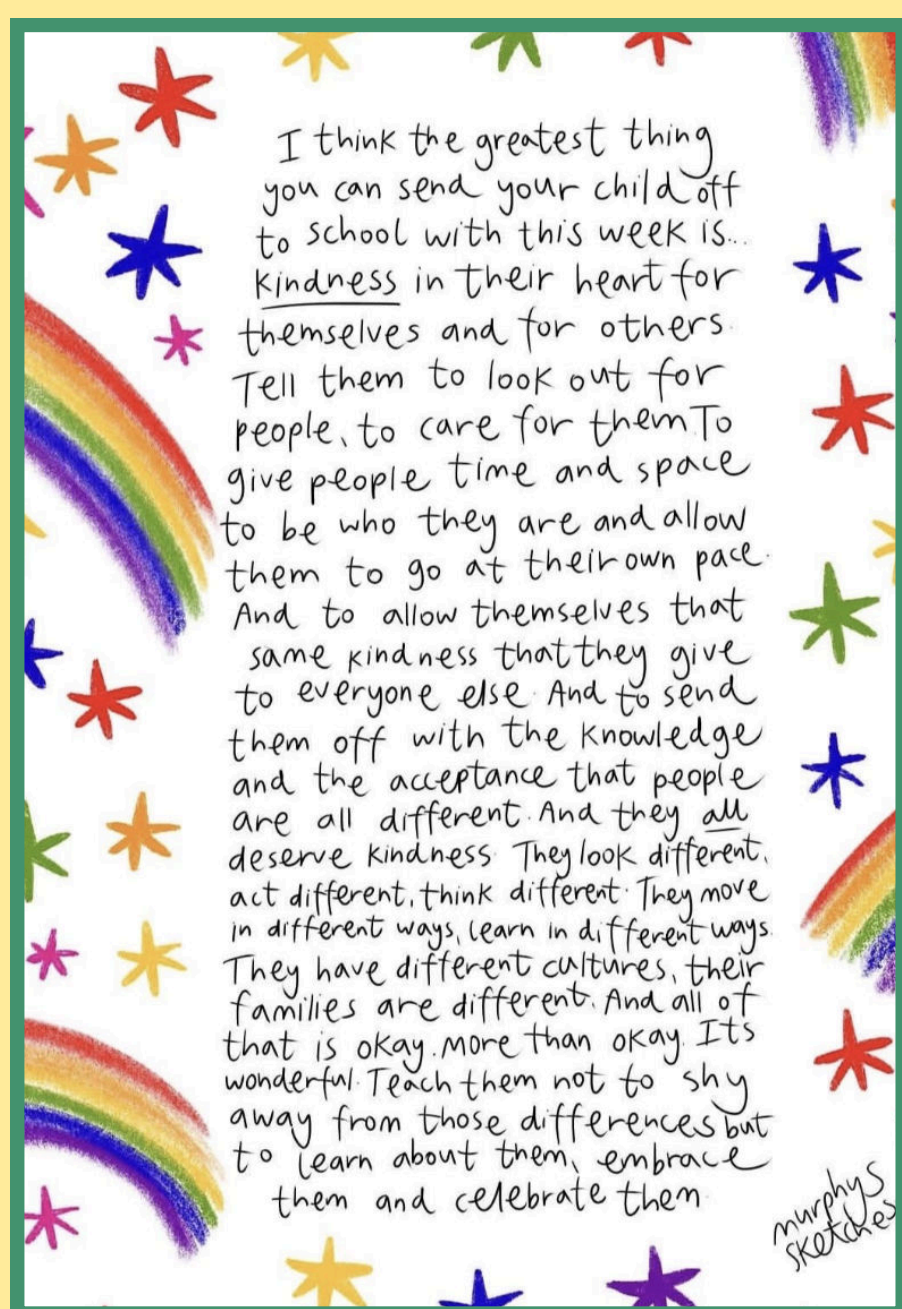
At William Rhodes, we are passionate about ensuring that everyone feels welcome and safe to be who they are, unapologetically. We are a No Outsiders school and our children have weekly assemblies around news to promote discussion about life in modern Britain and how to be a good global citizen.

We share what we have been discussing in our assemblies weekly, so keep your eyes peeled and join in the conversation at home.

Each class read a No Outsiders book on their transition day and the children created their own artwork linked to this. This artwork is up and ready outside their new classrooms to welcome them into school.

We teach our children about the Equality Act, 2010 and what this means for us. We all understand what discrimination is and why it is unacceptable. We will continue our learning around this as the academic year goes on.

If you are worried about your child, or any other child, facing bullying or discrimination of any kind, please speak with an adult in school. We take any concerns seriously and will investigate fully: bullying has no place at William Rhodes.



READING BOOKS

By 18th September, all children should have brought a reading book home with them, at their level.

It really does help your child, massively, if you listen to them read and share stories with them. Finding time can be difficult, but five minutes can make all the difference.

Please ensure that your child's book is returned to school each day as they will need it. Books cost a lot of money and we appreciate your support in keeping them well-looked after and returned to school.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Our team of Safeguarding Leads are here to help. Please come and speak with us if you have any worries or require any support for yourself or your family.

We have a wide early help offer and are willing to support our families, without judgement in any way. We are all vulnerable sometimes.

Look out for our coffee mornings with guest speakers from a range of agencies and come and join us. We love a cuppa and a catch up.



Remember, we work best in partnership. If you need us, nothing is too big or small. Pick up the phone or pop into school.

Thank you for reading our newsletter, as always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Please come and ask,

Mrs Wilkes