



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back and welcome to our new families! I hope that you all had a great summer break. The term started for staff with two inset days where we spent time focusing on the teaching of maths and ensuring that our children develop a passion for maths and an ability to apply maths skills in their everyday lives. We also spent time focusing on safeguarding and setting our goals for the year ahead. We have also had lots of work completed in school during the summer break to ensure the children have the best possible setting for them to learn and flourish.

It was really fantastic to welcome children back to school. Seeing happy and excited parents and children arriving from 9.00 am was a wonderful sight. As I walked around school during the week, it was brilliant to see our children actively engaged in their learning and generally delighted to be back to business. It also reminded me, being back amongst staff and children, what an amazing school I have the privilege to lead. Next week we have our 'Meet the Teacher' event for the Piper Centre. Hopefully, we have lots of parents / carers attend.

Our biggest focus this year is attendance at school. Without children's attendance being good we cannot make any of the other things happen. Our target this year is 97%. A big thank you to the majority of parents/carers who make sure their children attend school regularly!

We have begun planning for the academic year and on the events pages and on Class Dojo you will find all the events of the year that have been planned so far. If you are able to it would be great to see as many of you at these as possible.

I hope that you all have a great year and we can work together to achieve amazing things for your child. As ever, if you have any queries or questions then please do not hesitate to ask.

Pete Hales, Headteacher



Key Messages . . .

School Day

Just a reminder that we have adjusted the timings of the school day to ensure that we are providing more hours of education. In the morning that gates will open at 9.00 am and close at 9.15 am. The register will close at 9.15 am and any child arriving after this time will be marked as late. The end of the school day has been extended and is now 3.00 pm. Parents / carers should arrive to collect at 3.00 pm with the latest pick up being 3.10 pm. If you are persistently late collecting your child then we will follow this [policy](#).

Class Dojo

Please ensure that you signed up for Class Dojo. This is our main method of communication. If you have any issues with this please talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Parent Pay

Willow Primary Academy is now a cashless school and all payments need to be made via Parent Pay. This includes school lunches. School lunches need to be paid for in advance. We will be checking on a weekly basis and following the policy at this [link](#) if anyone is struggling to pay for their dinners. If you are not registered for Parent Pay then please contact Lucy Sullivan or Jo Hall who will be happy to help.

Accidents and Injuries

We have introduced a new system for recording accidents and injuries. The system will generate an email which will be sent to you. If the incident is more serious we will call. If it is a head injury there will be a phone call made and a head injury letter will come home. If you have any queries then please contact Deb Arthur.

Parking

I would like to remind all members of our school community to be mindful when parking. Families should not park on a yellow lines. This creates a hazard for other road users and then subsequently creates a hazard for our pupils. The school car park should only be used by families of children in The Piper Centre.

| Taking PRIDE in all we do |



Is your snack healthy?

It could be:

- Fresh fruit
- Dried fruit
- Vegetables
- Crackers
- Bread sticks
- Low fat cereal bars



Willow Primary Academy



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Is your lunch box healthy?

It should contain:

- One portion of fruit or vegetables
- A source of protein (e.g., meat, fish, lentils, beans)
- Some starchy food (e.g., bread, pasta, crackers)
- Dairy food (e.g., cheese or yoghurt)
- A drink (e.g., water, sugar free squash or fruit juice)



Willow Primary Academy



Dates for Your Diary

Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

Term 1 from Wednesday 6th September 2023 to Friday 27th October 2023

Term 2 from Tuesday 7th November 2023 to Friday 22nd December 2023

Term 3 from Monday 8th January 2024 to Thursday 8th February 2024

Term 4 from Monday 19th February 2024 to Friday 22nd March 2024

Term 5 from Tuesday 9th April 2024 to Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6 from Monday 3rd June 2024 to Friday 19th July 2024

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 th December 2023
	26 th December 2023
New Year Bank Holiday	1 st January 2024
Good Friday	29 th March 2024
Easter Monday	1 st April 2024
Early May Bank Holiday	6 th May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday	27 th May 2024
Summer Bank Holiday	26 th August 2024

All term dates can be found on our website [here](#)





Dates for Your Diary

School Events

- Tuesday 12th September 2023 (2.45 pm to 3.00 pm) – Meet the New Teacher
- Tuesday 19th September 2023 (9.15 am to 9.45 am) – Reception Parents Phonics Session
- Thursday 21st September 2023 (9.15am to 9.45am) – Early Reading and Phonics for Piper Centre pupils
- Thursday 28th September 2023 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Headteacher and head of Piper Centre
- Thursday 5th October 2023 (2.15pm to 2.45pm) – Early Maths for Piper Centre pupils
- Monday 23rd October 2023 (2.15 pm to 2.45 pm) – Harvest Assembly Willow and Piper Centre
- Monday 23rd October 2023 (3.30 pm to 5.30 pm) – Parents Evening
- Wednesday 25th October 2023 (3.30 pm to 5.30 pm) – Parents Evening
- Thursday 26th October 2023 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Family Support Team
- Friday 17th November 2023 – Children in Need
- Thursday 23rd November 2023 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with SENDCo
- Friday 8th December 2023 – Christmas Jumper Day
- Wednesday 20th December 2023 (1.30 pm to 2.30 pm) – Piper Centre Christmas Performance





Piper News...

glosfamilies directory

What are you searching for today?

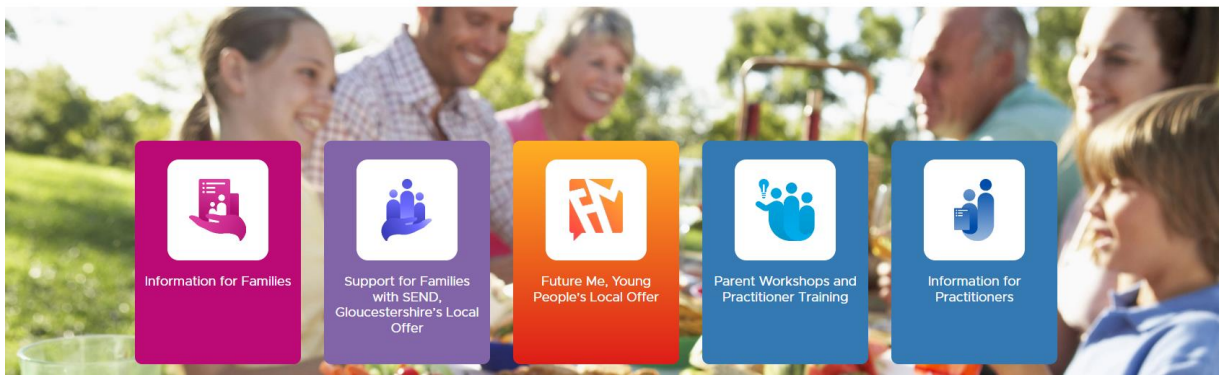


Saved list

Welcome to the glosfamilies directory

Welcome to Glosfamilies, an online directory bringing together information, services, resources, and things to do in Gloucestershire.

If you are a young person aged 0 - 19 years (or up to 25 with SEND), a parent, prospective parent, carer, or you work with children and families then read on to see what Gloucestershire has to offer you! For more information on how to use the directory please click [here](#).



Glos Families has been re-launched

Glos Families Directory is a great source of information for families. You can find it on:

<http://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/GloucestershireCountyCouncil/>





Battledown Family Fun Day
Saturday 23rd September 2023
12pm - 3pm
50p adults—children free

Raffle Prizes to include:

- £50 cash prize
- Family pass for 4 at Gloucestershire Steam Railway
- Voucher for afternoon tea at Bamaley House Cirencester
- Voucher for family pass at Sudeley Castle
- Cillon Photography experience vouchers x2
- Voucher for £20 at The Cheese Company
- Voucher for Cheltenham Wine Co £20.00



Stalls
Games
Bouncy
Castle

Pimms
Hotdogs
Ice-
Creams

Raffle
Tombola
Face
Painting

All welcome!

