



Great Wilbraham Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher: Mr David Sandford

Great Wilbraham C of E Primary School, Church Street, Great Wilbraham, Cambridge, CB21 5JQ, 01223 880408

Our Vision: 'With God, all things are possible'

Our Core Values: Love, thankfulness, courage and wonder

Hello everyone,

Another productive week has come to an end. Everyone is working hard to get new systems up and running and the school is beginning to take shape after our summer clean.

Behaviour and Positive Relationships Policy

I want behaviour to be a focus of this newsletter.

Our behaviour policy needs to be reviewed and rewritten. It will be ratified at the November governor meeting. I am very keen to have the views of all stakeholders – parents, children and staff – before it is written. Behaviour in schools will, invariably, split opinion and I believe it is important to listen to (or read!) all views on this. **There will be an electronic form sent out for you to complete.**

A clear positive relationships policy is one of the cornerstones of an effective school and a successful one does many things:

- It will establish consistency and fairness so staff and students know what is expected, this will reduce ambiguity and 'personal interpretation'. It will ensure fairness and help build trusting relationships between school and the community.
- It can empower staff, giving them clear and consistent guidelines. Managing behaviour becomes less of an issue and allows them to focus on teaching and learning.
- It will improve the school culture, promoting a positive and respectful environment that encourages all students to take responsibility for their actions.
- It should strengthen relationships between staff and students, fostering a clear mutual respect. Parents are more likely to support the school when policies are transparent and consistently applied.
- It supports school improvement. Good behaviour is intrinsically linked to better learning outcomes and allows a school to focus on strategic leadership, teaching and learning and moving a school forward.
- A successful positive relationships policy will show that all stakeholders value a safe and orderly learning environment.

Gates

The main school gate (car park) will be closed at 8.40am. Cars that need access after this period will be let in by a member of SLT/staff on duty. Our reasoning is purely based on keeping the children safe. Too many cycles and scooters are not dismantled upon entering the school grounds. Thank you all for your cooperation with this.

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Trips

As some of you know, Year 6 have a history visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum planned next week and on 26th November both Burrough Green school and Great Wilbraham school will be travelling to Ely to visit the cathedral and surrounding area. Information about this trip will be communicated soon. We also have sporting events and cinema trips planned this term.

Speaking and Listening

As you know, I am offering a debate topic every week.

SHOULD IT BE ILLEGAL TO WALK WHILE USING YOUR SMARTPHONE?

I find it's always worth being informed before you 'debate'! 'Google' the question (other search engines are available - although I understand the word Google was added to the dictionary in 2006!).

I want to promote oracy and develop everybody's ability to speak, argue and listen. In the past, I have judged debates between schools and the level of confidence, oracy and ability on show has always been a joy to watch. I want that here.

That's all from me. Have an amazing weekend.

David Sandford and the GW Team

Attendance expectations

Attendance whole school 2024-25: 97.9%

Best class attendance: Hedgehog Class 98.2%

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Dates 2025 – 2026

Autumn term

Wednesday 1st October – Flu Vaccinations – R – Year 6

Thursday 2nd October – Badger Class trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum

Thursday 2nd October – 5.30 – 8.00 pm Bottisham VC Open Evening

Thursday 2nd October – 6.00 – 8.00 pm Netherhall Open Evening

Wednesday 8th October – Team of Year 4,5,6 to Tag Rugby

Friday 10th October – Individual and sibling photos

Monday 13th October – 2.15 pm – Harvest Festival – Little Wilbraham Church

Monday 20th October – Author visiting Hedgehog and Badger Classes

Tuesday 21st October – STEM Space challenge – Hedgehog and Badger Classes

Wednesday 22nd October – 3.30 – 7.30 pm - Parent Consultation meetings

Friday 24 October – School closes

Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October – Half Term

Monday 3 November – School opens

Wednesday 5th November – ISP meetings

Friday 14th November – Children in Need

Tuesday 18th November – Year 4 – 6 cinema trip

Wednesday 19th November – R – Year 3 cinema trip

Wednesday 26th November – whole school trip to Ely – more details soon

Wednesday 26th November – LGB meeting

Monday 1st December – PTFA funded pantomime to Years R - 6

Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th December – Year 5 and 6 residential trip to Flatford Mill

Friday 19 December – School closes

Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January – Christmas Holidays

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Spring term dates 2026

Monday 5 January – Professional Development Day – School Closed

Tuesday 6 January - School opens

Wednesday 28th January – LGB meeting

Friday 13 February – School closes

Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February – Half Term

Monday 23 February – School opens

Tuesday 17th March – Class Photos

Wednesday 25th March – LGB meeting

Friday 27 March – School closes

Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April – Easter Holidays

Summer term dates 2026

Monday 13 April – School opens

Thursday 16th April – National offer date for primary places

Monday 4th May – May Day Holiday – School closed

Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May – KS2 SAT's

Wednesday 20th May – KS2 scootering event

Wednesday 20th May – LGB meeting

Friday 22 May – School closes

Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May – Half term

Monday 1 June – School opens

Wednesday 8th July – LGB meeting

Thursday 16th July – School closes

Friday 17th July and Monday 20th July – Professional Development Days – School Closed

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