



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

The session will take around 30-40 minutes and I anticipate starting at 9am.

All children at Great Wilbraham will be using the scheme so please come along and find out about it.

See you all in the school hall on 16th March at 9am!

Languages

The Language Leaders we had last week were excellent and Sara in the office put out a Facebook post so you could all enjoy some of the photographs of the event. The children had a great time and enjoyed learning about new cultures and countries. This is going to become a yearly event at Great Wilbraham and some of you may remember it happening last year. This is all part of my personal drive to develop 'Cultural Capital' and expose the children to as many opportunities as possible during their time at Great Wilbraham.



Safeguarding

I have attached to this newsletter information about keeping children safe online. I have done a lot of reading around this lately and it was surprising to me how little (if any) control parents have over this. Even if one's 'house rules' are tight, it takes one person with an image on a phone to put it under another person's nose and that image cannot be eradicated from their memory. I have listened to countless testimonials from children who have 'seen too much' and wish they could have their childhood back – in fact, it was a common theme amongst teens interviewed in the research I read.

Allowing children unchecked access to the internet may be what the children want – but is it the right thing to do? This is a question I believe all parents need to consider.

'With God, all things are possible' (Matthew 19:26)





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A Burrough Green parent bought me a book at Xmas called The Anxious Generation. It is a stunning, easy-to-read, eye-opening look at how modern childhood experiences are shaping mental health. Of course, online activities feature heavily. I have attended 2 safeguarding and behaviour courses since January and the book was recommended as an essential read on both!

For your reference here is a 2026 guide to age restrictions on social media sites: I have included the most popular ones – I am sure there are many more! I hope you find this informative.

Minimum Age for Social Media in the UK (2026)

Platform 	Minimum Age	Notes on Restrictions
TikTok	13+	Accounts for 13-15 year olds are private by default. Users must be 16+ to direct message and 18+ for live streaming.
Instagram	13+	New users under 18 are placed in "Teen Accounts" with strict settings. 13-15 year olds need parental approval to change settings.
Snapchat	13+	Offers "Family Center" for parents to see who their teens are messaging.
Facebook	13+	Requires users to meet the 13+ age requirement.
YouTube	13+	Users under 18 have stricter content recommendations, particularly around health/fitness.
WhatsApp	13+	Reduced from 16 to 13 in April 2024 to align with global standards.
Discord	13+	Requires user to be 13 or older.
Reddit	13+	Requires user to be 13 or older.
X (Twitter)	13+	Requires user to be 13 or older.

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Coffee Morning

This was well attended by parents and we discussed many things:

- Reading
- Book Bags
- The School Grounds
- Trips
- Communication
- More Experience Days – e.g. Art
- Staffing

It was a very positive meeting. All items were discussed openly and respectfully and what came across to me was how passionate and caring we all are about the school. We all want the same things for our children.

The next one will be in April – dates will be circulated before the end of term. Please come along to the next one (the biscuits were chocolate as well!).

Finally, it was good to see so many parents joining the children at our Bunny Hop dance session on the playground this morning – what a great way to start the day!



That about wraps this newsletter up.

Have a great weekend

David Sandford and The Great Wilbraham Team

Attendance expectations

Attendance whole school 2025-26: 96.5%

Best class attendance: Squirrel Class: 97.5%

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Dates 2025 – 2026

Spring term dates 2026

Monday 16th March – NO Outsiders launch 9am – all welcome

Monday 16th March – Hedgehog Class Parent Meetings

Tuesday 17th March – Class Photos

Friday 20th March – red Nose Day – dress in red and donate to Comic Relief

Tuesday 24th March – 9am – Spring Concert

Wednesday 25th March – LGB meeting

Friday 27th March - Easter Service

Friday 27th 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

Friday 17th April – Year 1 / 2 Multi Skills Festival - BVC

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 22nd May – School closes

Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May – Half term

Monday 1 June – School opens

Friday 5th June – Year 3 / 4 Invasion Games Festival

Thursday 11th June – Year 5 / 6 Bottisham Cup

Wednesday 8th July – LGB meeting

Thursday 16th July – School closes

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

