

WILLOW Class Newsletter

TERM 5 2025/26

WELCOME

Welcome back, everyone. We hope you all enjoyed a restful Easter break and some time together. Term 5 has begun with bright weather and even brighter smiles, and the children have returned full of energy and curiosity. It's been wonderful to see them settling straight back into routines and diving into their new learning with such enthusiasm.

This term is always a busy and exciting one, with plenty of opportunities for the children to build on their progress and develop new skills. Over the coming weeks, we'll be exploring new topics across the curriculum, taking our learning outdoors whenever we can, and continuing to nurture the children's growing independence and confidence. We're looking forward to a purposeful and joyful term ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

29

Willow class parents Evening

MAY

5

3pm Year 1 Phonics Screen
parents meeting

7

Year 1 Multi-skills event

22

FEWS Go Crazy day

REMINDERS

- Please name all clothing, **especially PE hoodies** — several unnamed items cannot be matched to their owners.
- Children need a water bottle and book bag every day.
- In warm weather, children may want to bring a sun hat to school.
- Water only in classroom bottles; an additional juice drink may be sent for lunchtime.
- Please ensure earrings are taped before arriving on PE days.
- Check book bags regularly for notes, reading tasks, or new reading books.
- Keep book bags free from extra items/pictures so letters and reading materials can be easily added.

PE DAYS

PE days are Tuesday and Thursday.

Willow class will have their Tuesday PE session with Mr Giles from JB Sport every week this term.



ENGLISH

Read, Write Inc – Continue to learn set 3 sounds and read words containing these. Develop speed with reading more words by sight.

Writing – Independently write sentences. Extend sentences by adding detail - using adjectives, adverbs. Continue to apply knowledge of plurals, suffixes and simple punctuation. Writing descriptions, instructions, letters and non-fiction reports.

MATHS

Length & Height - compare / measure lengths & heights

Statistics- tally charts, tables, block diagrams, drawing and interpreting pictograms

Money – recognising coins and notes, counting money, comparing amounts, calculating with money

PE

Striking & Fielding

Explore underarm throwing and catching, throw overarm, hit a ball, collect a ball, learn how to get a batter out, understand how to score points.

Sending & Receiving

Develop rolling and throwing towards a target, send and receive with your feet, develop throwing and catching skills over a short and longer distance, apply skills to a small game.

DT

Structures: Stable structures

Explore the stability of structures and design / make a stable pencil pot for a specific user.

MUSIC

Dynamics (Seaside theme)

Make links between music, sounds and environments. use percussion, vocal and body sounds to represent calm or stormy seas

RE

What are sacred texts and why do they matter?

Sacred scriptures: origins and how they are regarded and used by believers.

SCIENCE

Plants: Plant growth

Investigate seeds, bulbs and plants and recognise the conditions required for germination and healthy plant growth.

GEOGRAPHY

What is it like to live in Shanghai?

Explore physical and human features, use maps to locate countries and continents, compare and contrast different locations.

COMPUTING

Skills showcase

Developing keyboard and mouse skills by designing rockets, creating digital materials lists, using drawing software and recording data.

PSHE

Economic well-being

Explore what money is and how it helps us, consider ways to keep money safe, understand differences between spending and saving, identify different jobs.

EYFS

Big Wide World

This term our learning is centred around our new project, Big Wide World, where the children will explore nature, growth and the world around them. We begin with some very exciting arrivals in the classroom — living eggs and caterpillars — giving the children the chance to observe real lifecycles up close. Through stories, planting activities and outdoor exploration, the children will learn what plants and animals need to grow, how to care for living things and how to notice changes over time. As our garden area develops, the children will plant potatoes, pansies, lettuce and cress, becoming “plant monitors” and taking responsibility for looking after what we grow. Later in the term, we will investigate sunshine, shadows and reflections, helping the children explore light and dark, transparency, and how shadows are made. Creative opportunities run throughout the project, including flower art, scarecrow making, sun-themed crafts and observational drawing, all inspired by the natural world around us.

In Literacy, the children will continue their daily Read Write Inc. phonics sessions, building confidence in reading simple words and using new vocabulary in their talk and play. They will enjoy a range of stories linked to our project and will have opportunities to answer questions, retell events and compose simple sentences of their own through shared and guided writing.

In Maths, the children will deepen their understanding of number through subitising, counting and exploring how numbers are made. They will represent numbers to 10 in different ways, recall doubles and begin building numbers beyond 10. Shape work continues this term as the children rotate, flip and combine shapes to create pictures and patterns, with lots of practical, hands-on activities to support their learning.

PE

Striking & Fielding

Explore underarm throwing and catching, throw overarm, hit a ball, collect a ball, learn how to get a batter out, understand how to score points.

Sending & Receiving

Develop rolling and throwing towards a target, send and receive with your feet, develop throwing and catching skills over a short and longer distance, apply skills to a small game.

RE

God / Creation – Why is the word ‘God’ so important to Christians?

Explore what the Bible says about God through the Creation story.