



Willow Class Newsletter

Spring Term 1



Here is a summary of what your child will be learning this half term:

The children will learn in a variety of ways during their time in Willow Class; they will be taught as a whole class for phonics, literacy and maths, they will learn through independent activities which are planned for and through small group work led by an adult. Throughout the term all seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum will be covered.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSED)

The children will be encouraged to show resilience and perseverance in a range of situations. We will spend time learning how to recognise right from wrong and will focus on how to behave appropriately in a range of situations. We will encourage the children to show sensitivity to the needs of others.

Communication & Language (CL)

The children will take part in whole class and small group discussions linked to our focus books. During our daily story times children will be encouraged to listen carefully to stories and respond to what they have heard. We will try to learn new words and explore the meaning of these as we read a range of books.

Physical Development (PD)

We will do a range of activities to improve and develop the children's fine and gross motor skills. PD activities will take place in the classroom, in our outdoor area and in the school hall. We will now have two PE sessions each week; Tuesday morning led by Mrs Sage and Wednesday afternoon led by Top Score coaches.

Please remove earrings on PE days.

Literacy

We are using the texts 'Ruby's Worry' by Tom Percival and 'Anna Hibiscus' Song' by Atinuke as our focus books in Literacy and will spend time exploring these books in a range of ways. The children will focus on developing their sentence writing skills during this term.

Thank you to those who are reading regularly with their children at home and writing in reading journals. Please ensure you are reading with your child as often as possible at home. We ask you to write in your child's journal at least once a week but ideally we would like a comment for each book that is brought home.

Maths

We will focus on addition with a particular emphasis on number bonds and subtraction where we will focus on finding the difference. We will also explore numbers 11-20 in more depth.

Understanding the World (UW)

We will spend time learning about and exploring our local area; our village and our nearest town. As part of this we will go on a walk around the village and will learn about Tamworth. If you have any photographs or information that you think might be relevant please bring them in.



Willow Class Newsletter

Spring Term 1



Expressive Arts & Design (EAD)

We will explore making and using props in role play and will encourage the children to develop their own stories through their play.

Phonics

This half-term we will begin teaching digraph sounds (two letters that make one sound) such as ch, sh, ai and ee. Each week we will put a sticker into your child's phonics / spelling journal for your information. Please continue to use these journals to practise the sounds and any words linked to them.

Explore Outdoors

The children are really enjoying our weekly Explore Outdoors sessions and they will continue to take place every Thursday afternoon during this half-term. Please ensure you send your child with a rucksack / bag with wellies, long trousers and a jacket or an all-in-one suit every Thursday. Explore Outdoors happens in all-weather so please be mindful of this when sending in their change of clothes.

Tapestry

Please can we encourage you to upload any photos or comments about things your child does at home such as swimming lessons, gymnastics, riding their bike, helping to prepare dinner. The children love to share things in school and often having a photo on Tapestry can be a helpful prompt.

Request

If you have any small world toys (cars, trains, dinosaurs, etc) that your child no longer uses at home or you need to make space for Christmas presents we would be most grateful for any donations!

Notes and Reminders

Children under 5 are entitled to free milk in school however you need to register your details online to ensure we receive the milk in school. If your child turned 5 during the autumn term you will need to pay for milk if your child would still like it. Visit www.coolmilk.com to set up payment.

Please label every item of uniform (including shoes) that your child wears and brings to school. This ensures that if we find an item of clothing we can return it.

This newsletter only gives a brief outline of our topics this half term – if you need any further information about any aspect of the curriculum or your child's progress please do not hesitate to speak with me.

Thank you!

Mrs Sage