

Willow Class Autumn 1 Curriculum Newsletter

A warm welcome to Willow Class especially to our reception students who have started this term! We're excited to begin a new year of learning and discovery together. This half term we have some wonderful topics planned, and we can't wait to see the children's curiosity and enthusiasm shine through. We hope they will enjoy sharing what they learn with you at home. For more details about our curriculum, class routines and useful resources, please visit the Willow Class page on the school website.

Mrs Gairy (Class teacher) Mrs Walker & Mrs Ryan (Teaching assistants)

English

Our core book this half term is *The Whale Who Wanted More* by Rachel Bright. Reception will learn how to identify the initial sounds in words and record these, before moving on to writing CVC words. Year 1 children will learn how to write simple sentences for wanted posters, speech bubbles, and letters.

The outcome will be a recount of the story that has been sequenced correctly. The children will be constructing clear sentences using capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces. They will also have daily phonics sessions using the Read Write Inc. Phonics programme to develop their reading and writing skills.

Maths

We will be following a mastery approach in maths lessons. This means topics will be studied in depth to ensure a secure understanding of mathematical concepts. We will learn about ways to make numbers to 5 (YR) and 10 (Y1) and use that knowledge to add and subtract within 10. We will also compare and order objects and numbers.

Religious Education

This term's topic is Being special: Where do we belong? The children will explore what makes them special and why Christians believe they are special God?

Science

In Science, the children will learn about what animals need to survive and what humans need to stay healthy. This will include the importance of eating a balanced diet, regular exercise and good hygiene.

Music

Music lessons will be delivered by the Shropshire Music service and will be held every Tuesday.

History

In History our topic is 'How have we changed over time?' The children will be exploring how people's lives have changed within living memory, by looking at entertainment, toys, food, clothes and school.

PE

PE lessons will be on Thursdays. Your child should come to school in their PE kit. This term's topic is dance - exploring the seasons.

Design and Technology

In this subject, the children will be exploring textiles by designing and making their own puppets. They will learn how to use a template to create a design, join fabrics together securely, and decorate their puppet according to a plan.

Computing

Computing lessons will focus on e-safety and learning how to use a computer system e.g keyboard and mouse confidently and for different purposes.

Home support

We encourage you to read with your child for at least 10 minutes every day. In Year 1, children will bring home a phonics book and a picture book each week. Reception children will take home picture books for now, and phonics books will be introduced later in the autumn term. You can also support your child with daily number practice using *1 Minute Maths* (a free app). For Reception, this is a great way to practise subitising up to 5. Year 1 children should focus on subitising for the first few weeks, there is a wide range of exercises up to 10 for this. From week 6 onwards, addition within 10 will provide a good challenge.