

# Willow Class Summer 1 Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome to the Summer Term! We hope you had a lovely Easter break and that the children are feeling well rested and ready for a busy few weeks ahead. With the warmer weather now here, please ensure your child brings a sun hat to school each day. Sun cream should be applied at home before school and if you choose to send some in, children will need to apply it themselves. We're also looking forward to celebrating VE Day on Thursday 8th May and hope you can join us. A key focus for Year 1 will be preparing for the Phonics Screening Check in June—please feel free to ask if you have any questions. Reception children will have their vision screened on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

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

## English

Our core book this half term is *Someone Swallowed Stanley* by Sarah Roberts, and it will surely spark some brilliant conversations about caring for our oceans. Reception children will focus on embedding key writing skills by independently writing simple sentences with clear finger spaces and full stops. They will also use set 2 graphemes in their writing and write longer words. Year 1 will build on last term's targets and continue to use suffixes such as -ed, -ing, -er, and -est, as well as spelling a greater number of tricky words. There will be a focus on forming letters correctly. As this term is just four weeks long, this topic will continue into next term. Year 1 parents please note, a list of spelling words will be added to the website for the children to learn on a weekly basis.

## Science

In science, the children will begin their new topic for Summer 1 & 2 - all about *Plants*. They will explore the world of plants by identifying common types found in our local environment, growing their own plants from seeds, and making direct observations to understand what plants need to grow well.

## History

In history, the children will be learning about life during the time of Queen Victoria. They will use photographs, books, and census data to find out what everyday life was like, with a focus on how children lived and how homes and living conditions were different from today.

## Design and Technology

The children will explore how to make a moving picture for a storybook by using simple mechanisms like levers and sliders to bring their illustrations to life.

## Maths

Year 1 will focus on multiplication and division this half term. They will explore the concepts of sharing and grouping, and practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. You can support your child at home by encouraging skip counting using these multiples in everyday situations. Reception will be comparing quantities and amounts, including sets of objects with different attributes. They'll explore a range of number representations, including the 10-frame, and begin to understand how doubles can be arranged and visualised using it.

## Religious Education

Our topic this term is 'How Do We Celebrate Special Times?'. Children will learn about different celebrations like birthdays, weddings, Christenings, and baptisms, and explore how people mark special occasions in different ways.

## PE

In PE lessons this term, the children will learn how to play tennis. They will develop their basic racket and ball skills and build coordination and balance and confidence.

## Computing

In our computing lessons, the children will be introduced to digital writing and using the various menus in a word processing interface.

## Home support

Please remember to read with your child regularly and write a comment in and/or sign your child's reading journal. Also the links to RWI videos will be shared on ClassDojo to help your child revisit phonics learning taught in school. Please help your child practise their number facts daily using Numbots. Some parents have found *One Minute Maths* by White Rose a great app to use too. We use this app in school. Do speak to the class teacher if you have any questions about how you can further support your child at home.