

Willow Class Newsletter – Spring (1)

Our topic this term is, 'All Creatures Great and Small'

English:

This term, our English work will predominately be based around the story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

The children will be taught to:





- Read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter-sound correspondences
- Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences
- Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding
- Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text, some as exact repetition and some in their own words
- Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with the letter/s
- Write short sentences using words with known letter-sound correspondences

Phonics sessions remain a fundamental part of our English learning, therefore daily sessions will continue as part of our routine.

Reading:

Reception reading books will continue be changed every Tuesday.

As a school, we will be continuing our reward system. Children will need to have read on 4 separate days (in one week) for staff to update the register towards their reward (this will be checked on a Friday morning).

Week 1				
Day 1 ✓ Read 	Day 2 ✓ Read 	Day 3 ✓ Read 	Day 4 ✓ Read 	= staff update register in school
Note - These <i>do not</i> need to be consecutive days, just four separate days within the week				
End of Week 3				
If the above is repeated for three consecutive weeks = child wins a prize				
End of Week 6				
If repeated for a further three consecutive weeks = child wins an additional reward				

Maths:

This term, we will be focusing on:

- Comparing, representing and the composition of numbers to 8
- Combining two amounts
- Capacity and mass
- Time (2)

This learning will take place through whole class inputs, independent learning activities and small group sessions.

Physical Development:

In Spring (1), Willow class will be participating in P.E **every Tuesday and Thursday** afternoon. They will be joining in Born to Move (dance) and an outdoor PE lesson, focusing on mini team games. Both PE lessons will take place outside (weather permitting) and **all pupils are required to attend school in their full PE kit on these days**. Please could you ensure your child has suitable clothing for this, in accordance with the school's uniform policy.

Understanding the World:

As part of the topic, 'All Creatures Great and Small', the children will begin to explore animals from different countries and how these differ from English wildlife. They will also investigate a range of ways they can protect endangered wildlife by undertaking simple everyday 'Acts of Kindness'. Throughout this process, they will also reflect on their own experiences and develop a global awareness of wildlife.

Willow class will be visiting the outdoor classroom multiple times in Spring (1) to understand the impact of winter and how this season influences the weather, nature, and local wildlife.

As part of computing, they will explore E-Safety and the importance of being kind online, whilst simultaneously understanding potential risks. Please note, these sessions will be delivered in an age-appropriate way and linked to stranger danger through traditional tales.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

In SCARF (PSHE) this term, we will be looking at the topic 'Keeping Safe'. The children will be taught to:

- Talk about how to keep their bodies healthy and safe.
- Name ways to stay safe around medicines.
- Know how to stay safe in their home, classroom and outside.
- Know age-appropriate ways to stay safe online.
- Name adults in their lives and those in their community who keep them safe.



Expressive Art and Design:

In Spring (1), the children will be exploring music through the theme, 'Everyone'. They will begin this topic by listening and responding to a range of different types of music and each lesson will have the opportunity to share and perform their own pieces. These creative opportunities will be centred around well-known nursery rhymes.

A special cooking session will also take place this term to provide a first-hand experience for instruction writing...watch this space!

Communication and Language:

Communication and language skills are taught through all areas of the curriculum. Children are encouraged to:

- Listen to others - one to one and in small groups
- Listen to stories with increasing attention and recall the events
- Focus on a given task for increasing periods of time
- Use and respond to prepositions, for example: under, on top, behind etc
- Respond to a short series of instructions
- Question why things happen and begin to give their own explanations
- Develop vocabulary which reflects the breadth of their experiences

Religious Education:

Throughout Spring (1), Reception will be introduced to the story of 'Noah's Ark' to explore the key question...

'Should Noah trust in God?'

They will participate in a range of activities to allow them to creatively respond to the big question and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, for example: Big Construction – Can you build Noah's boat as a team?



Important Dates:

04.01.2024: First day of term (Spring 1)



16.02.2024: Last day of term (Spring 1)

As a class, the children will be attending our outdoor classroom multiple times this term to search for signs of winter and to discover firsthand how this season impacts the weather and wildlife.

A class PING will be sent to confirm these dates nearer the time.