



Willow Class News

Friday, 16th September 2022



WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

It has been so wonderful to have all the children back after the long summer break. It has been a very smooth start, with children settling in well to the new Willow Class routines. Mrs Austin will be teaching the children Monday to Thursday and Mrs Bodlovic will teach the children on Friday. We are very lucky to have Mrs Payton, Mrs Hurst and Mrs Hale supporting the teaching and learning at different times during the week too. 😊

CLASS ROUTINES

Water: Every child needs to have a water bottle at school so that they can have a **drink of water** throughout the day.

Reading: Please continue to read with your child as often as you can and record this in their reading diary. The children will bring a book home but feel free to read and share other books that your child is interested in. Children need to remember to **bring their reading diary and book into school every day** so that we can read with them, change their books or record something in the diary. Don't forget, if your child reads **4 or more times in a week they will be rewarded with a jellybean!** Please use the diary to message us if you need to.

Uniform: Please ensure uniform, **including PE kit is clearly labelled** to help children look after their belongings.

Outdoor Shoes: The children need a pair of shoes to play outside in which will also be used for PE.

Forest School: Willow will have Forest School on a **MONDAY in Year groups**. Dates for this half term are:

Year 1 - 12/9, 26/9 and 10/10.

Year 2 - 19/9, 3/10 and 17/10.

The children **must come into school wearing their school shoes and Forest School clothes** which should include a long-sleeved t-shirt, old jumper/fleece and old joggers/leggings. They should also have waterproofs, sturdy boots/shoes, hat and gloves if cold.

TIMETABLE REMINDERS!

PE: Tuesday and Thursday afternoons with Mrs Austin. Lessons will take place outside as much as possible, so do have jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt top in your PE bag- **NAMED** - when the weather cools down. **Coats:** Remember to have these in school for cooler/rainy days too.

GETTING IN TOUCH

We are always here to offer help or support. If you have any queries or concerns about your child, do not hesitate to get in touch as even minor things can cause concern and affect everyone's enjoyment and learning at school. You can always contact us on willow@astley.worcs.sch.uk or leave a message at the office and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Here's to an exciting term of learning and fun!

Mrs Austin, Mrs Bodlovic, Mrs Payton, Mrs Hurst and Mrs Hale. 😊

OUR LEARNING

Reading: This is always our main focus at school, encouraging and inspiring the children to want to read and give them a love of reading. We will split for Phonics groups in the morning to make the learning more individualised. As with all reading these groups will be flexible and children will move as and when they are ready. Willow will still have a reading book to bring home and we would encourage you please, to read a little every night with your child to build on the learning at school.

English: We will use some great texts, both fiction and non-fiction to fit in with our history, science and environmental topics. We will encourage the children to use exciting vocabulary and help them to write effective and correct sentences. We will practise letter formation, making it neater and legible

Spelling: The Common Exception Words that the children meet in Phonics will be our focus this term. The more words they can spell, the easier it is to write correct sentences and then add exciting vocabulary. Later in the term, Year 2 will meet our Word Wizard to help us with spelling patterns, encouraging the children to become curious, excited spellers and 'practically perfect spellers!'



"Anyone who dares to treat spelling as an adventure will find the journey rewarding."

Maths: Maths begins with **Place Value** followed by **addition and subtraction**. We will also be looking at **Times Tables** to link with multiplication later in the term.

History Topic: The Question this half term is '**What has changed within my living memory?**' We will be looking at games, schools, pastimes - you may be quizzed about what school was like when you were in Y1/2 to compare with today. The popularisation of materials such as plastic and how it is now affecting our world will be investigated - Willow will become Eco Warriors! We have some fabulous texts to explore and we know the children are really going to enjoy it.

We also have a trip planned to ENVIROSORT - more details to follow!

Science: Mrs Bodlovic will teach - **Seasonal Changes** - linking it to the Year 1/2 maths curriculum too.

Art/DT: Children will be exploring a range of media to illustrate our topic, using collage and paint and making models out of waste.

RE: This topic asks the question '**What makes some places special to believers?**'

Music: We will be learning new songs and playing percussion, thinking about dynamics, rhythm and beat linked to our topic.

PHSE: Our topics are '**Me and My Relationships**' and '**Valuing Differences**'

Computing: We will be looking at '**IT all around us.**'

Plenty to engage everyone and have some fun too!