



Willow Class Newsletter

Spring 1 2024

Welcome back! Hope you all managed to have some rest over the Christmas break and enjoyed many festivities. A big thank you to all the warm Christmas wishes, cards and gifts we were lucky enough to receive at the end of last term.

This half term, we are excited for all the new learning opportunity and skills we have planned. We will be enjoying our first school trip this year, with a visit to Audley End House at the end of February! More information about this will be following in our trip letter.

We move into gradually brighter mornings but there is still cold days ahead. The cold weather means we are all going out with coats for break-times still. Can we please ask that as children continue bringing in hat, scarfs and gloves that these are all named for quick return when needed.

Lastly, homework continues to be set on a Thursday and will expected to be completed by the following Wednesday.

Important dates for this half term:

-14th February- Willow Class Assembly

-WB 17th February – Half Term Week

-27th February – Willow Class Trip to Audley End

-6th March – World Book Day Share from 2:15pm

-WB 10th March – National Science Week
→ whole school trip to East Town park
11th March

-3rd April- Easter Service 2:30pm

For more information, please keep an eye out for pictures and updates on Class Dojo.

Reading

Please continue to ensure reading books and reading logs are in bags daily to assist in reading and changing books.

We aim to check for evidence of at least 3 ten-minute reads every week. Supporting adults should be recording this as a sentence or two explaining what they have read. Willow members who demonstrate this positive reading behaviour will be rewarded with dojo points and win extra reward time too!



PE

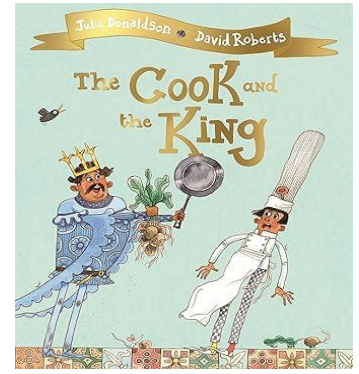
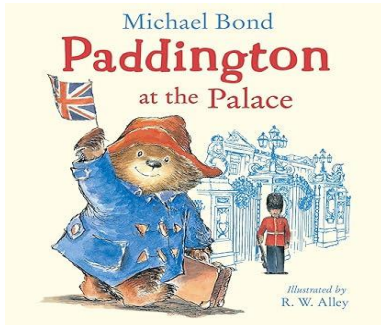
We will be participating in PE on Wednesdays and Thursdays each week this half term.

Your child will need their PE kit in school for both of these days.

On Wednesday, we will be doing dance skills and Thursday will be an outdoor session, where possible, on team sport skills. Therefore, children will need to ensure they are bringing in sensible kit for PE.

PE kit should include:

- A pair of trainers
- A pair of black shorts or plain sports bottoms
- PE t-shirt
- PE sweater
- Ear tape for pierced ears if required



Curriculum Learning

Here is some key information about what your children will be learning in school this half term. For our themed learning, we are moving onto a new theme topic 'Magnificent Monarchs'. This project teaches children about the English and British monarchy from AD 871 to the present day. Using timelines, information about royal palaces, portraits and other historical sources, they build up an understanding of the monarchs and explore and present their findings in practical exciting ways.

We will also touch on the DT companion project 'Push and Pull' which teaches children about three types of mechanism: sliders, levers and linkages. They make models of each mechanism before designing and making a greetings card with a moving part.

There is definitely lots of exciting fun in our themed learning to look forward to.

Across the rest of our curriculum, we have other skills and knowledge sessions to develop and inspire us. Computing will see us looking at the terms Programming of algorithms and debugging. In Music, we will be learning about Orchestral Instruments via the theme of Traditional Stories. BRAVE will develop our knowledge around areas of Judaism, where we will be investigating 'Why do Jewish families talk about repentance at New Year?'

In English, we will be writing a mixture of story writing, poems and comic strip narratives. 'Paddington at the Palace' text will be the first text to inspire some of our writing outcomes this term.

We will be consolidating and expanding our knowledge and application of addition and subtraction but with numbers up to 100, as well as moving onto understanding multiplication and division in Maths.



A final note...

We hope you are as excited as us for this fun-packed term and we look forward to sharing lots of it with you. For more information, please keep an eye out for pictures and updates on Class Dojo.

With best wishes,

Mrs Thompson and Mrs Shilling

Willow Teaching Team

