

Willow 1 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn 2

We have had a great start to the year and are looking forward to the term ahead. This newsletter will inform you about the exciting things that the children will be learning in Willow 1 over this half term.

History

This half term we will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians. This will include:

- Who were the Ancient Egyptians?
- What was life like in Ancient Egypt?
- Learning about some key people in Ancient Egypt including Tutankhamun and Cleopatra.
- How the Ancient Egyptians used the river Nile to support their farming and how their use of the Nile changed over time.
- How Ancient Egyptians communicated using hieroglyphics.
- How the beliefs of the Ancient Egyptians impacted their way of life.



Design and Technology

In Design and technology we will be learning about "seasonal food" in the UK and other parts of the world and will discuss the benefits and problems of unseasonal food being available in shops all year round. We will be practising skills like slicing, dicing, beating, whisking, folding sieving, grating. When following recipes, for example making fairy cakes, fruit tarts, stuffed peppers or meatballs. We will also design a healthy meal and menu.

Music

This half term we will be answering the question 'What Stories Does Music Tell Us About the Past?' through listening and appraising a range of songs. We will also be focussing on improvisation throughout the unit.



Science

Our Science topic this half term is 'Light'. We will understand that you need light in order to see things and that darkness is the absence of light. We will also learn about the dangers of light and how to protect our eyes.



We will be testing which material reflect light and will investigate to find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.

"Children have the right to an education that should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest."

Article 29—United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

Reading

This half-term we will be focussing on making inferences about characters by using evidence from the text, summarising ideas and identifying themes within a story.

All children will be expected to read at home daily and this will be tracked using Boom Reader. Children will also be given opportunities throughout the week to read in school. They could read school books, books from home, subtitles, lyrics, recipes, instructions and anything else that they would like to read.



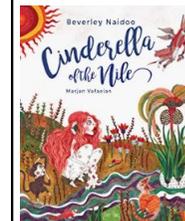
Maths

This half-term we will be focussing on formal written methods for addition and subtraction. Following this, we will be learning multiplication and division. The children will be learning:

- Adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers (crossing boundaries)
- Adding a 2 digit number to a 3 digit number
- Subtracting a 2 digit number from a 3 digit number
- Multiplying and dividing by 3
- Multiplying and dividing by 4
- Multiplying and dividing by 8
- The 2, 4 and 8 times tables.

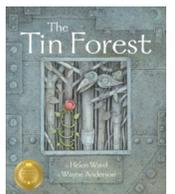
This will include number and practical problems, which will allow children to learn at greater depth and extend their appreciation of the four operations in Mathematics.

English



We will be reading a story from Ancient Egypt, 'Cinderella of the Nile' during our English sessions, which is the earliest known version of Cinderella. We will be writing character descriptions focussing on using descriptive language, including adverbs and adjectives. This will include planning, drafting and improving our own version of the tale.

We will then be reading the story 'Tin Forest', by Helen Ward where will learn about the features of persuasive writing and write our own leaflet to persuade people to come to the tin forest.



PE

We will have PE on Mondays and Fridays. Please can children come to school in their PE kits on these days.
On Mondays, we will be taking part in football lessons taught by some coaches from AFCB.
We will also be developing our basketball skills in our 2nd lesson of the week.

French

This half term we will be learning to recognise and say the names of different fruit in French. We will also be learning how to ask and give opinions about the fruits. Finally we will be learning to use the correct articles for each fruit, le/la/les, un/une.



Computing

We are continuing to learn about animations during in computing. This involves finding out what makes a good animation and then using ideas to plan our own. We will be creating characters with a storyline and then producing the animations using Scratch. We will be learning how the animations work using code and algorithms and using our knowledge to debug and improve our animations.



RE

In RE this term, we will learn about Christianity, in particular, asking, "What is the Trinity?" Here we will learn more about what Christians believe about God and baptism.

PSHCE

The children will be following the PSHCE programme of study, Jigsaw. This half term the focus is 'Celebrating Differences', focussing on understanding families and family conflict, as well as bullying.

★ Dates for your diary:
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★ 8th November—School photos
★ 14th November—Anti-bullying week
★ 22nd & 24th November—parents evenings
★ 23rd November—Athlete visit in school—please wear PE kit
★ 7th, 8th & 9th December—Scholastic book fair
★ 8th December—Christmas Fayre
★ 16th December—Autumn Term ends
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Home Learning

Home learning will draw on basic skills and we will never send home anything that we haven't covered in class. All children will be expected to use TT Rockstars for times table practice and Spelling Shed for spelling practice. If your child struggles to use these at home, please let me know so that time can be provided within school for them to complete their home learning.

I will send weekly home learning expectations, as well as updates about your child's achievements via marvellous me, so please check this regularly.

Home learning is set on a **Friday** and should be completed by **Wednesday**.

If you would like to come in and talk about any of our learning this term then please do not hesitate to come in and have a chat. I will always make myself available at the earliest possible opportunity. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the best possible outcomes for our children.

Mr James