

# Willow Class Spring Newsletter



Welcome back to Willow Class. It has been lovely to see the children back in school and ready for another busy term of learning in Willow Class.

## Our learning this term

This term our topic is called "Earth Matters". It is a science led topic beginning with a look at the forces that surround us and continuing with an exploration of Earth and our neighbours in the Solar System. It is particularly exciting this year as it coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Moon landing.

The term will end with a mini-topic called "All Vote Now!" which looks at how we are governed and our voting system - also very topical this year!

Maths lessons continue to follow the new National Curriculum. Learning will include: constructing circles; angles; place value in 6-digit numbers and numbers with 2 decimal places; fractions; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division methods; 2-d shape, and measures. Most importantly, the children will be challenged to solve problems and reason in their maths lessons.

As ever, it is vital that the children know their *times tables* up to 12 x 12 by heart. This underpins so much of the fraction, percentage and division work we do.

## GAMES LESSONS

Please make sure the children leave their PE kit in school at all times. They should not take it home with them. It will be sent home for washing each half term.

It is really important that the children should have a **spare pair of socks in school** in case their feet get wet during outdoor games this term.

Also, they are welcome to bring in a tracksuit to keep themselves warm, but this should be plain dark blue or black.

## Pencil Case Reminder

If they wish to do so, the children may bring in a **small** pencil case that fits neatly in their drawer leaving room for school essentials! This can contain a pencil, blue handwriting pen, ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener. If room, they are welcome to add a few colouring pencils, highlighters, felt tips or a protractor if they would like. These last items are **not** essential.

## Spelling

Lists are generally sent home weekly. It's so important that the children practise these **throughout** the week – rather than as a one off - so your encouragement to do so is greatly appreciated.

## Reading

Reading is obviously an essential skill for the children to continue to develop. Please encourage your child to read their school reading book regularly, alongside all other the reading material and books they have at home and from the library.

The children are expected to continue to change their own reading books in Year 5.

Children will now be visiting the *library* on a *Thursday*, so need to remember to bring back any books they have borrowed, if they would like a new one, on that day.

We have quiet reading after lunch and children are welcome to bring in a reading book from home for that time if they wish.

## Homework

Both Maths and English homework will generally be set on a **Thursday or Friday** for return the following **Wednesday**. If your child is unable to complete their homework, there will be an opportunity to complete it on Wednesdays at lunchtime.

All homework will relate to and be a consolidation of class work.

Some homework will be computer based, so if your child does not have access to a computer, do let me know so that we can make arrangements for them to do it in school or to have an alternative.

Occasionally, there will be an additional piece of homework relating to our current topic.