

# Willow Class Summer Newsletter



Welcome back to our last term in Willow Class. Here is a brief guide to the highlights this term. If you have any queries at any time, please do ask me.

## Our learning this term

This term our topics will be focusing on both history and science. Our science topics will cover the properties of materials, where we will be doing lots of hands-on science, and the life cycles of plants and animals. Later in the term, our final Year 5 topic will be *Ancient Lives* and we will look at some of the great civilisations of the past - including *Ancient Greece*. In *RE* we begin by looking at the *Easter Story* before finding out about the events of the *Pentecost*. In *Literacy* we have begun by reading a wide range of *mystery stories*, which the children are enjoying enormously. Later, we will work on a unit called *Dramatic Convention* - which, of course, leads us into our summer performance. In *Maths*, lessons continue to follow the National Curriculum. It is essential that the children have quick recall of all times tables up to 12 x 12, as this is vital for so much of the fraction, percentage and division work we do in Year 5. They all know their targets and we have a progress check each week.

## Pencil Cases

As you know, the children are very welcome to bring in a small pencil case that fits neatly in their drawer leaving room for school essentials! This can contain an HB pencil, handwriting pen, colouring pencils, ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener. They are also welcome to bring in a protractor if they wish. I would be very grateful if you could ensure that they limit themselves to these items.

## Reading Books

The children continue to enjoy the wide range of books now available in our school reading scheme. Please encourage your child to read their school reading book regularly, alongside all the reading material - books, comics etc - that they have at home.

In many cases, the children will now be reading silently to themselves, but your support for and interest in their reading is vitally important. Just after lunch each day, we now have a period of silent reading for pleasure. If your child would like to bring in reading material from home for this - books, comics, magazines - anything they enjoy - they are very welcome to do so.

**Homework Reminder ...** *Maths* and *Literacy* homework will generally be set on a **Friday**. Both should be returned the following **Wednesday**. A spelling list will also usually be sent home on Mondays for a test the following Monday. All homework will relate to and, generally, 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. Occasionally, there will be an additional piece of homework relating to our current topic.

## GAMES LESSONS

### WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

With the better weather, the children are regularly enjoying outdoor games. Please could you make sure that they have a spare pair of socks in school in case their feet get wet during outdoor games - the grass is still very damp. Also, they are welcome to bring a tracksuit for outdoor PE but this should be plain dark blue or black.

Please make sure the children have their PE kit in school at all times. It will be sent home for washing each half term.

We look forward to Sports Day in the second half of the term.

## Summer Performance

Both Rowan and Willow Classes are very much looking forward to the end of year performance. This is always a real highlight of the year.

**The date is the 12<sup>th</sup> July.**

The play we are presenting is still a secret, but this will be revealed to the children before half term!

The children will be immersed in many writing opportunities, as well as having the chance to build props, design parts of the set, make costumes and, of course, act!