



# Willow Class



## Spring Term 2016

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Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed a great Christmas with family and friends. A busy term lies ahead...

### Topics

The topic for the Spring term is **'What a Wonderful World'** and the children will learn about physical Geography. The children will further their knowledge of the water cycle, coasts and rivers, mountains, volcanoes, earthquakes and climate zones. Our Art and D&T work will be linked to this topic.

Our Literacy and Drama lessons will also, where possible, be linked to this topic. The children will continue to use a range of different styles of writing, from narrative and poetry to report writing. Our **'Big Write'** will continue once a fortnight and we will be supporting the children during English lessons to plan their ideas for these writing sessions. This term we are looking for the children to continue to produce quality writing and to extend their ideas and increase the amount they write too. Please continue to support your child with the Big Write by discussing WOW ideas and vocabulary. It really does make a difference.

Children will continue to be taught Games by our Sports coach on **Thursdays**. Please ensure your child's **full PE kit is in school every day and that all items are clearly named**. Swimming lessons will begin after half term.

In Science, we will revise the three states of matter and properties of materials, such as solubility and thermal conductivity. We will separate materials using a range of methods and understand that some changes are irreversible.

After half term, we will revise another science unit: forces. We will look at a range of different forces: gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. Furthermore we will develop an understanding of balanced and unbalanced forces and their effects and we will investigate how mechanisms, like levers, pulleys and gears, help us to use smaller forces.

Our PSHE units in the Spring term are 'Going for Goals' and 'Good to Be Me'. In PSHE we will reflect on ourselves as individuals, we will identify positive things about ourselves, value our abilities, qualities, talents, strengths and achievements, so as to develop our self-awareness and build our confidence and self-esteem. We will set personal goals and we will identify strategies to achieve them.

As well as these topics, children will continue to take part in daily Maths and English sessions.

Home Learning will continue to be set as before. Encourage your child to use best presentation for all Home Learning tasks and to hand in work on time. Please do continue to encourage your child to learn their times tables regularly as this really does support many aspects of their maths work. There are many ways to learn times tables at home such as bingo, speed tables, flash cards, saying them together and online games. Remember the many great websites for extra practice (*'Hit the Button', BBC Bitesize KS2, funenglishgames.com, athletics, purplemash, serialmash...*)!

The **Royal Albert Hall** performance is fast approaching on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February**. For those taking part, we are excited about this fantastic opportunity and are sure it will be something you and your child will remember for years to come! Please encourage your child to practise their song words. A **'Musical Evening'** for all will be held on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.30pm**.

Please feel free to send in any items you think would support the children's learning this term such as books, photographs, posters, artefacts etc.

We hope you find this information useful. The term promises to be a busy but exciting one. We thank you in advance for your help in supporting your child so they can achieve their full potential.

Yours sincerely,

**Willow Class Team**

Mrs Tweedale, Mrs Sassis and Mrs Ogden

