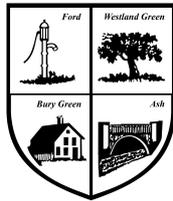


School Year
2016 ~ 2017



Willow Class



Welcome to Willow Class. We hope you have had an enjoyable summer with your children and managed to catch the sunshine.

Topics

The topic for the Autumn term is '**Upstairs, Downstairs**' and the children will learn about the events of Queen Victoria's reign. Our Art and D&T work will be linked to this topic.

Our English and Drama lessons will also, where possible, be linked to this topic. The children will be using 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. Please continue to support your child with the Big Write by discussing WOW ideas and vocabulary. It really does make a difference.

PE this term will focus on Gymnastics & Dance and outdoor Games. Children will continue to be taught outdoor Games by our Sports coach on Thursdays and indoor PE on a Tuesday. They will also have some gymnastics coaching after half term with Mrs Peart on Mondays. Please ensure your child's **full PE kit is in school every day and that all items are clearly named**.

In Science, our first unit will be 'Evolution and inheritance biology'. We will discuss fossils as evidence of life millions of years ago and we will study the life of Mary Anning. We will compare offspring with parents and see how plants/animals are adapted to habitats. Furthermore, we will look at Darwin, Wallace and Mendel's contributions to our understanding of evolution.

Our second science unit will be 'Chains and webs'. We will revise the conditions needed for plant growth and discuss plants as living things, concentrating on plants producing food by photosynthesis. Finally, we will investigate the interdependence of plants and animals using food chains and webs.

In RE we will learn about different religions such as Christianity and Judaism, their symbols and sacred texts, rules for living e.g. the 10 commandments, leaders in religious communities, creation stories and the ultimate questions they raise.

For the first half term in our PSHE lessons we will explore New Beginnings. Children will consider how it feels to do or start something new and they will explore feelings associated with new challenges. They will also explore ways to make the class welcoming to others and engage in the process of reviewing how successful they have been.

In computing children will have the opportunity of weekly ICT lessons with Miss Todd. Children will be learning coding and using logo. Children will also have the opportunity to use the internet to research information and they will practise presenting their findings using Microsoft Word or Powerpoint. Some work will be linked to our Science and RE topics.

As well as these topics, children will continue to take part in daily Maths and English sessions. Home Learning will be set as outlined in the 'Welcome to Willow Class' notes. Encourage your child to use best presentation for all Home Learning tasks and to hand in work on time. Remember the many great websites for extra practice too ('Hit the Button', Purple Mash, SPAG.com, funenglishgames.com, athletics...)!

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. We are excited to work together with you over the coming year to offer your child the very best learning experiences. The term promises to be a busy but interesting and 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