



Thorndon C of E Primary School

# Willow Class Newsletter

## Welcome Back...



I hope you all had a wonderful Summer break. We are excited to welcome you all back to Thorndon for an exciting new term in Willow Class in September 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries this term. Please find below the information about our learning this term in Willow class. Mrs Walls

### Reading



It is expected that all children in Willow class read **EVERY** school night for 20 – 30 mins.

Please record each evening what they have read in their diaries. The children will have 3 reading books in their bags:

- a book from the reading scheme
- a library book and
- a reading spine book from our classroom.

Our book for this term is Bronze and Sunflower by Cao Wenxuan. The children will answer comprehension questions about this book each session and it will also be used to influence their writing.

### Topic – History: Dynamic Dynasties



This project teaches children about the history of ancient China, focusing primarily on the Shang Dynasty, and explores the lasting legacy of the first five Chinese dynasties, some of which can still be seen in the world today.

Our class reading book that relates to this topic is called '**Bronze and Sunflower**' and is written by Cao Wenxuan



### Maths

In Maths we will be focusing on numbers and calculating using the four operations – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Children will practice using a formal method to calculate using these four operations and will learn to apply these methods to problem solving.



**TT Rockstars** is a compulsory home activity that Willow children are required to complete at least 3 times a week at home. Ensuring your child has regular practice, will make a huge difference to the children's calculating speed, confidence and ability.

### Literacy



We are spending the first two weeks of this term completing a piece of writing titled 'All about me' through our new Literacy scheme Writing for Pleasure. We will also be planning and writing our own short stories.



**Science** This term our Science topic is:



### Earth and Space

This project teaches children about our Solar System and its spherical celestial bodies. They describe the movements of the Earth and the other planets relative to the Sun, the Moon relative to Earth, and the Earth's rotation to explain day and night.

**HOMEWORK** – Willow class homework will continue to be topic based, to encourage creativity and independent learning, with a show case at the end of Autumn term to display the children's creations.

## PE

PE will continue to be on a **Friday** afternoon, please come into school dressed ready for PE on this day. This term we will be starting with Tag Rugby.



## RE



Why is the Gospel such good news for Christians?



What does the Qur'an reveal about Allah and his guidance?

## Music



Music will be on a Wednesday. There will be no Instrument lessons this year.

We look forward to a fun, hardworking new term in Willow class.

Mrs. Walls, Miss West-Barker and Mrs. Sherriff

## Art/Design Technology

### Tints Tones and Shades



This project teaches children about colour theory by studying the colour wheel and exploring mixing tints, shades and tones. They learn about significant landscape artworks and features of landscapes before using this knowledge to create landscape paintings.

### Colour in Landscapes



This essential skills and knowledge project teaches children about colour theory by studying tints, shades and tones. They learn about the features of landscapes before using this knowledge to create landscape paintings.

### Design Technology

#### Moving Mechanisms



This project teaches children about pneumatic systems. They experiment with pneumatics before designing, making and evaluating a pneumatic machine that performs a useful function.



Spellings will continue in school. No spellings to learn at home. The children will focus on a spelling pattern each week and complete activities to practice those patterns in class.

### Homework Club

I will be running homework club on a Tuesday evening this term on the following 4 dates only. This is for children who for one reason or another cannot complete their homework at home. Spaces are limited so please see me if you would like to attend.

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>  
October**

Dynamic Dynasties Homework Showcase 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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