



Thorndon C of E Primary School

# Willow Class Newsletter

Happy New Year Everyone!



**CLASS EMAIL:** [willow@thorndonprimary.org.uk](mailto:willow@thorndonprimary.org.uk)

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. We are excited to welcome you all back to Thorndon for an exciting new year in Willow Class in 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries as the year goes on. 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 have got 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 *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The children will answer comprehension questions about this book each session and it will also be used to influence their writing.






**Geography: Sow Grow and Farm**

This project teaches children about the features and characteristics of land use in agricultural regions across the world, including a detailed exploration of significant environmental areas.

**Coffee farming in Peru**

 An estimated <b>1 million</b> people in Peru rely on coffee for their livelihoods.	 Peru produces approximately <b>4.5 million</b> bags of coffee per year.
--	---


Peru is an ideal location for growing coffee.

**Maths**

In Maths, our lessons will be on these topics -


- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions Decimals and Percentages
- area perimeter and volume.

**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**

**Historical Account**  
**Why Did the Shang Dynasty end?**



King Di Xin

This term we will be looking back on our history work in Autumn term and writing about Ancient China. An historical account tells your reader about events that happened in the past and then tries to explain why those events might have happened. It might also describe the consequences of that event.

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

**Yr 5 Human Reproduction and Ageing**

This project teaches children about animal life cycles, including the human life cycle. They explore human growth and development to old age, including the changes experienced during puberty and human reproduction.



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

## PE

PE will continue to be on a **Friday** morning, please come into school dressed ready for PE on this day. This will be followed by forest school in the afternoon.



## Art/Design Technology



### Eat The Seasons

This project is linked to Sow, Grow and Farm. This project teaches children about the meaning and benefits of seasonal eating, including food preparation and cooking techniques.



### Natures Art

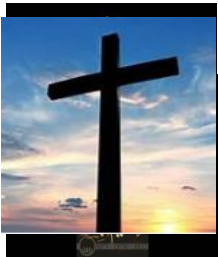
This project teaches children about the genre of land art. They work outdoors to sketch natural forms and explore the sculptural potential of natural materials before working collaboratively to create land art installations.

## RE Hindu

What spiritual pathways to Moksha are written about in Hindu scriptures?



- What is Moksha?
- The Hindu sacred texts?
- What is The Bhagavad Gita?
- What are the Yogas?
- Spiritual pathways.



## Christian

Why do Christians think being a Pilgrim is a good analogy for life itself?

- What is a pilgrim
- Christian Pilgrims
- Pilgrimages through time
- Camino de Santiago
- Pilgrims in the bible
- The pilgrim's progress
- Pilgrimage through life

## 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.

**4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> February  
And 4<sup>th</sup> March**

## Music

### Film Music



Exploring and identifying the characteristics of film music. Creating a composition and graphic score to perform alongside a film.

### Theme and Variations (Pop Art)



Children explore the musical concept of theme and variations and discover how rhythms can 'translate' onto different instruments.

## Databases



To learn how to search for information in a database. Children can search a database to answer questions correctly.

## Game Creator



To Introduce the 2DIY 3D tool. To begin planning a game. Children can review, and analyse, describe and design a computer game.

## PSHE

### Dreams and Goals



### Healthy Me



We are looking forward to another hard Working term.  
Mrs Walls, Mrs Sherriff and Miss West -Barker

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