

HOME COMMUNICATION LETTER

23rd April 2018

Dear Parents of Children in Willow Class,

The children have made a fabulous start back after the Easter holiday and thank you for all of the super 'Wow' moments and the Technology booklets received so far - please keep them coming! 'Wow' moments do not have to be major events - it is just as important to celebrate the small, but significant, achievements that the children make.

Topic: Our topics this term will be varied and led by books and the children's interests. We also hope to have great fun designing and planting our vegetable garden. Hopefully we will continue to be able to take full advantage of the outdoor space, the school grounds and the summer weather! The themes will, once again, lend itself beautifully to classwork based on the Early Learning Goals, for example:

- Literacy - phonics, stories, rhymes, poetry, reading, writing
- Maths - reading & writing numbers, counting, addition, subtraction, shape, measures
- Understanding the World - living things, our environment, similarities, differences, patterns and change, using technology
- Expressive Arts & Design - music, art activities, dance, learning songs
- Communication and Language - listening attentively and giving an appropriate response, answering 'how' and 'why' questions, speaking clearly and using the correct tenses, developing narratives and explanations
- Physical Development - control and co-ordination in large and small movements, jumping, throwing, catching etc
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development - confidence to try new activities, working as part of the class or in a group, showing care and respect towards others,

Literacy: The children are now developing in to such confident readers. Please keep up the super work you are doing at home as your support with reading practise is making all the difference to your child's progress. Your comments in the Reading Book are extremely useful so again, many thanks. We will be starting Guided Reading groups in class to further the teaching of reading and comprehension.

We will continue to work on the sounds that letters make in words, with lots of work on the tricky long vowel sounds e.g. -ai, -oo etc. The children are now much more confident at segmenting words into separate sounds for spelling and we are working on increasing the children's independence when writing simple phrases and sentences including the use of full stops and spaces between words. Any practise of spelling and writing at home will really help!

Tricky Words and high frequency words have also been added to the children's home learning in the yellow Sounds book so please help with these as much as you can at home and please ensure these are kept in their book bags. You might like to start asking your child to spell these words but only once they are truly competent at reading them.

Maths: This term the children will be building on the skills that they have acquired; they will be developing their understanding of counting, adding and subtracting through practical activities, games and discussion, problem solving, investigating shapes and working further on aspects of measure.

R.E: We will continue thinking about our Christian Values of Love, Hope and Courage plus we will include work on special occasions and celebrations. Our Worship theme is based on Creation. Our RE topic is Special Clothes.

P.E Our PE day with Coach Tom will continue to be on a Tuesday. The children will also be working on control, co-ordination, movement and spatial awareness through Games, Dance and Gym activities with me.

Finally, in preparation for the children's move to Year 1 in September we will be giving lots of different transition opportunities over the coming term. Mrs Price and I will be working together, along with the current Year 1s, to provide positive and appropriate activities and sessions to ensure that your child has a smooth adjustment in to the new school year. One aspect of our Early Learning Goal in Personal, Social and Emotional Development is that the children take changes of routine in their stride and we will do our utmost to support them with this at such a crucial stage.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Catherine Hall