

Autumn 2023

Willow Class Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to a new term and a year in Willow class. It's been lovely to see all the children again after a summer break. We've had an exciting (short) week and the children have settled brilliantly. Below are the highlights of the things that the children will be learning this term.

If you have any queries you can, of course, talk to me or alternatively email me at cthomas@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk.

Movers and Shakers In the Movers and Shakers project, your child will learn five statements from Dawson's model that will help them identify people who are historically significant and use the words year, decade and century to describe dates and times. They will study the life and impact of a significant person in the locality and of 10 significant individuals from around the world. They will complete in-depth studies of significant explorers Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong, and significant activists Emmeline Pankhurst and Rosa Parks and think carefully about the impact of their actions. The children will also carry out an independent study of a significant person from the past and learn about people who are significant today. They will also learn how significant people are commemorated and design a memorial for a person they have studied.



English: Over the course of the term children will develop their understanding of simple sentences. Year 1s will be working on building up their writing skills to create simple sentences whereas year 2s will be developing sentences further with greater detail. Children will begin developing and understanding of noun phrases. We will continue thinking about the story 'Bonting' and describing our own days out. Phonics will happen daily, along with regular handwriting and spelling.



Maths — Nearly all learning in maths this term will focus on number—this will start with work on place value and counting. We will move on to look at addition and subtraction strategies including one or ten more/less. Year 2s will look at crossing boundaries while year 1s will build up their knowledge of number bonds. Children will use lots of concrete materials to support their learning (e.g. beadstrings, counters and numberlines). We'll explore maths through investigations and interactive activities.

PSHE: PSHE will have a focus on families and friendships, safe relationship and respecting ourselves and others.



PE will be on a Monday and children are asked to wear their PE kits to school for the time being.



RE - This term children will be learning about what it means to belong to a faith community. After half term, children will learn why Christmas matters to Christians.



Art & Design Some of our other learning will incorporate building bridges and learning about structure, some healthy cooking and, of course, a number of walks in the wood.



We look forward to a wonderful autumn term. It's always great to hear what children get up to and achieve out of school too, so please let us know so that we can share in their achievements/interests.

Mr Thomas and Miss Marks