

Spring 2024

Willow Class Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

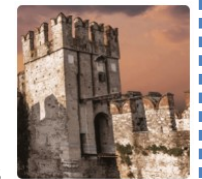
Happy New Year and welcome to a new term in Willow. We have lots of exciting learning planned for the term - much of which is highlighted below. We welcome two new children to our class—Molly (year 2) and Hugo (year 1).

Please continue to make any notes about reading in the reading records (including title, page number and comments) and any notes for the adults to read. Homework will start again next week (the same three key tasks every week). If you have any queries and questions please feel free to email me at cthomas@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk

Muck, Mess and Mixtures—Spring 1 Let's get messy. Muck and mess are good. In fact, they're marvellous. Dive in and get your hands and feet all sticky and covered in paint. Play with liquids, squish some dough and check out the slushiest and mushiest foods. Pour, mix, stir, splat. How does it feel to get your hands covered in goo? Make a wobbly jelly and draw with wibbly clay. Write recipes, instructions, riddles and poems – there are loads of scrummy words to describe messy mixtures. Work with paint and other squelchy stuff to create a new gallery space. What will you make? How will you arrange it? How will the gallery make you and your visitors feel? Don't worry about the mess – it'll always wash.



Towers, Tunnels and Turrets —Spring 2 See the castle ahead? Get ready to invade its mighty walls. Shoot a projectile with an archer's aim. Head across the drawbridge, over the moat and up to the top of the tower. Meet Rapunzel who lives in a tall, tall tower. Let's build a brand new one. Whose is the tallest? Can you measure it? Then dig deep, deep down, making burrows and tunnels, just like the animals who live underground. What's that sound? I hear little hooves going trip, trap, trip, trap, over the rickety bridge. Watch out for the angry troll underneath. He likes to gobble up little girls and boys. And finally, meet three little pigs who need your help to build a strong fortress. Inside its strong walls, they'll be safe from the big, bad wolf. No huffing and puffing will blow your fortress down.



English: A lot of our English learning will focus around the themes of the above topics. Children will develop their writing further through these tasks. We will build up the use of different punctuation including commas in lists, question marks and exclamation marks. Children will continue to read regularly in school—individually to an adult, in groups or as a whole class. Library books will be sent home weekly. Phonics and spelling happens daily following specific sounds or patterns. Homework words will link to these sounds or patterns.



Maths — Learning this term will look at the following topics:

- **Multiplication and Division** - making equal groups, learning the multiplication and division symbols, representing calculations.
- **Place Value for Year 1s**—numbers to 50
- **Statistics for Year 2s**—pictograms, tally charts and interpreting data.
- **Measurement (Length and Height)** - standard and non-standard units of measure, comparing measures.
- **Geometry**—shape and their properties, patterns from shapes, sorting shapes.
- **Fractions**—introduction to halves, quarter and thirds



PSHE—Learning in PSHE will focus around the theme of 'Living in the Wider World'. This will take in belonging to communities, safe use of the internet, money and work.



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



RE - Children will be learning about and from religions and worldviews through the topics: 'Who is Muslim and how do they live?' and, after half term, 'Why does Easter matter to Christians?'



Our two main topics will take in many of the other subjects such as art and science.

We look forward to a fantastic spring 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