

WILLOW CLASS SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back and happy new year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a big thank you from the EYFS team for all of the lovely Christmas gifts we received.

APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL PLACE

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 the deadline for applying for a Reception Year place at a primary school is Thursday 15 January 2026.

We would love for your child to join our thriving Reception class, where they will be welcomed into a nurturing, engaging, and supportive learning environment

If you have any questions, or would like to visit our school please talk to the EYFS team, Miss Lee or Mrs Butler.

MATHS

This term Reception will continue to develop their subitising and counting skills, exploring the composition of numbers within and beyond 5.

They will focus on identifying equal and unequal groups when comparing quantities, and begin to recognise when two equal groups form a double. We will explore the structure of numbers 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit', using finger representations and dice patterns, and begin to identify missing parts for numbers within 5.

Nursery and Reception will continue to develop their understanding of the counting sequence, linking cardinality (understanding that the last number counted shows how many there are) and ordinality (understanding the position of a number in the sequence). Children will be learning to order numbers and join in with verbal counting beyond 20, noticing the repeated patterns within the counting system.

PE

This term our P.E days are Tuesday and Friday. Please provide children in Reception with a P.E kit which can stay at school. This should contain jogging bottoms, a white or blue t-shirt and trainers or plimsolls. We ask that Nursery children wear comfortable clothing they can move freely in.

LITERACY

This half term, our literacy centres around retelling stories. We will be sharing *Look Up!* by Nathan Bryon, a joyful story about Rocket, a curious girl who encourages everyone to look up and discover the wonders of space, and *Izzy Gizmo* by Pip Jones, which follows an inventor who learns the importance of perseverance.

We will explore the characters, settings and key events in each story, and practise retelling them through pictures, talk, and role play. This helps build vocabulary, sequencing skills and confidence in sharing ideas.

At home, you could support your child by talking about stories together and encouraging your child to tell you what happened, in their own words.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

We explore outside in all weathers, so please send children with warm, waterproof coats everyday, and hats and gloves when the weather turns colder.

It is really helpful if children also have a pair of wellies which they can keep at school. Thank you.

