



Autumn Term 2 Overview—Willow Class-Year R— 2023/24

Communication and Language

Communication and Language is a huge priority as it form a basis for much of the children’s learning. This term, we continue to focus on developing confidence in conversation, asking questions and forming answers. We will practice talk partners which enables the children to actively take part in discussion and promotes high levels of interaction during key learning times.

An area for development this term will be ‘following instructions’, developing the ability to hold two part instructions. You can help at home by giving instructions with two parts, e.g. *Get your book bag and then your water bottle.*

Developing vocabulary is always a huge focus in school, giving children new words and ensuring that they understand the meaning. Listen out for new words being used at home!

Understanding of the World

We have some very exciting celebrations to enjoy and discover more about this term. The children will enjoy finding out more about the religious festival of Diwali. We will be enjoying some bonfire night crafts as well as finding out about how to stay safe on bonfire night. As we begin to enter Christmas season, we will look at ‘Why Christians perform a Nativity play at Christmas’.

We will be learning more about the natural world as we begin to learn about the changing of seasons.

There will be lots to discover about life long ago as we learn about the events of the Gunpowder plot.

Literacy

Key Text: The Enormous Turnip

Reading: Story language and story sequencing.

Writing: Writing words with 3 sounds, giving writing meaning.

Phonics:

In our daily phonics sessions, we will continue to work on Set 1 sounds. As we near the end of term we should see most of the children with these sounds firmly in place. Everyday we will continue to practice oral blending, reading CVC words and writing CVC words. Please continue to access the videos at home and ask if you need any further support with this.

R.E..

Focus: ‘Why Christians perform a Nativity play at Christmas’.

In this unit the children will learn about the Nativity story. They will understand how and why this is a significant story for Christians. They will learn to connect with the idea of Jesus as an adult and not just a baby. They will also develop knowledge of this as a bible story, understanding Christmas as a Christmas festival.

Quest: Quest: :Remember Remember

In this quest the children will acquire some knowledge of the events of the gunpowder plot, understanding that this was a real event which took place long ago. They will find out about how bonfire night is celebrated today.

Music

Focus: My Stories

In this unit the children will be listening and responding to different styles of music, learning to sing along with nursery rhymes and action songs, improvising leading to playing classroom instruments and, share and perform the learning that has taken place.

Expressive Arts and Design

We are going to get really creative this term, enjoying some fire work crafts, making Christmas cards and decorations, learning to join materials, mixing colours and exploring instruments. As part of our learning around expressive arts, the children will be able to watch some performances, beginning with appreciating a Diwali dance.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

All of the children are now coming into school with more independence, transitioning well from home to school. This term we will continue to develop friendships, taking turns and negotiating to solve problems. The children will be encouraged to talk about feelings, using words to describe how they feel and understand how to manage their feelings.

We will continue to use the techniques for breathing and self-regulation learnt last term when we have big feelings.

During PSHE lessons we will be ‘Celebrating Difference’. As part of this unit, the children will learn about their own qualities and differences, families, homes, making friends and standing up for themselves.

Maths

In term 2 we will focus our learning around numbers to 5. It is really important that the children are secure with these numbers, know all pairs of numbers to 5, one more and one less than any number to 5, ordering numbers and using some of this knowledge to begin to identify early addition and subtraction facts.

The children will learn about shapes and also early ‘time’ knowledge, including ordering familiar events.

Physical Development

In P.E. lessons :

Focus: Social

The two main areas of development will be centred around working sensibly with others, taking turns and sharing. The children will learn to jump and land safely. They will also be able to adopt a static balance (seated).

Fine and Gross Motor Skills Adults work closely with all children to develop fine and gross motor skills. We try to identify where practice is needed to develop shoulder, elbow, wrist and finger strength. In order to develop these skills the children will encounter a variety of activities including sweeping, using large paintbrushes, chunky chalks on the ground, scarf dancing, monkey bars etc. Fine motor development will include activities in the play based provision, along with ‘Kinetic Letters’ sessions.