

Willow and Yew Newsletter Autumn 2

Welcome back from the half term holiday. We are very much looking forward to the half term ahead. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to either your child's class teacher or teaching assistant, as we are always happy to help. The best help you can give is to make sure your child attends every day on time. Attending every day enables them to build upon their learning and helps their understanding. Every school day is planned to help your child to achieve, so excellent attendance is vital. Please also ensure that your child has a healthy breakfast e.g. cereal, with lots of early nights, to ensure they can concentrate fully and give their best.

LITERACY

During our English lessons this half-term, we will be looking at two different books. The first is the Rain Player, which is set in Mexico during the height of Maya civilisation. We will look at how the author has developed atmosphere through setting description, characters through the use of speech and how we can add detail to our own writing by choosing vocabulary carefully. At the end of this unit, we will write an alternative ending, using the skills that we have practised so far in year 6.

Our second text is Dickens' A Christmas Carol. During this unit, we will focus on descriptive writing (specifically, developing character and atmosphere), letter writing, where we will look at shifts in formality, writing a persuasive speech, before finally writing our own version of the classic Christmas tale.

Key vocabulary:

Figurative language, reported and embedded clauses, characterisation, direct speech, inverted commas, semi-colons, parenthesis, brackets, dashes, paragraphs and legible, joined handwriting.

Mathematics

Throughout Year 6, the children will be working on groups of objectives linked to the following strands:

- Number and Place Value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions and Decimals
 - Measurement
- Geometry (Shape and Space)
- Statistics (Data Handling)

This half term, we will be recapping the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and then looking at fractions. Our learning with fractions will include: ordering fractions, simplifying fractions, dividing fractions, multiplying fractions, adding fractions and dividing fractions. We will also be finding fractions of an amount and finding the whole. You can help your child succeed, increase their confidence and knowledge of times table and division facts by practising them daily

Key vocabulary

simplify equal parts equivalent
numerator denominator
improper fractions integer whole
mixed number fractions factor
prime number square number



Electricity

SCIENCE

In science, children will build on their knowledge and understanding of electricity. They will name parts of a circuit and be able to recognise and use the symbols for these in scientific diagrams. Children will then build and experiment the effects particular variables have on a circuit.

Vocabulary

Bulb, cell, battery, wire, crocodile clip, motor, buzzer, watts, volts, current, circuit, open switch, closed switch, broken circuit, variables, fair test.





Other Curriculum Areas

History - This term we are learning all about the Maya civilisation. We will use different sources to find out about the past, putting together a timeline comparing events in the Maya civilisation with those in Britain. We will then zoom in on Mayan farming, everyday life and religion.

PE - This term, we will be focusing on developing our gymnastics skills, practising balances, rolls, and jumps.

PSHE - This term, we will be learning about families and friendships, safe relationships and respecting ourselves and others.

Computing - This term, we will be using the computers to complete activities through our Teams accounts.

PE is on a **Wednesday (Willow)/Friday (Yew) morning**.
Please ensure children have their kit every week.

Planners should be handed in every day.
Please record in here when your child has read at home and sign weekly.

Homework
Monday: Mathletics and maths task set (due following Monday)
Friday: Reading comprehension (due following Tuesday) and TED (due following Wednesday)
Spelling tests will be on a Friday.

Maths link: <http://uk.mathletics.com/>
E-safety link: <http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>



W/C 2/11/20 - Speak Out, Stay Safe Week
9/11/20 - Parents' Evening 3 (3.30-6pm)
11/11/20 - Remembrance Day Assembly
13/11/20 - Children in Need Non-Uniform Day - £1 per family
17/11/20 - Individual School Photos
W/C 16/11/20 - Anti-Bullying Week
W/C 16/11/20 - Learning about Road Safety in PSHE
20/11/20 - Odd Socks Day to raise awareness of Anti-Bullying
W/C 23/11/20 - Allergy Awareness Week
W/C 30/11/20 - Advent and Christingle
W/C 7/12/20 - Human Rights Week
W/C 14/12/20 - Getting ready to keep ourselves safe over the holidays (NSPCC Pants Assembly/ Internet Legends Code)
18/12/20 - Christmas Jumper Day

Uniform - Thank you for ensuring your child has the correct school uniform - they look very smart. Thank you also for your support in ensuring that make up, jewellery, fake tan and nail varnish is not worn for school. Small ear studs are permitted. As a reminder, dyed hair and tramline hairstyles are not permitted.

Reading - Y6 pupils should be reading for at least 30 minutes every day. When reading with your child, encourage them to discuss any unfamiliar vocabulary. Stop them regularly, to check their understanding, as this will support them with their learning. Some questions you could ask: what are the characters thinking/feeling? How do you know? What might this word mean? Children will be given a book from school upon which, after they have read it, they can complete an Accelerated Reader quiz.