

Spring Term Newsletter 2023

Dear parents of Willow Class,

I really hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable time over the Christmas holidays.

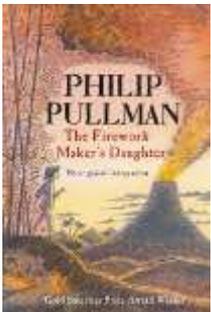


As the weather is getting colder, please ensure your child is well-wrapped up with a named coat, hat, gloves and scarf when necessary! Also, a gentle reminder that pots for healthy snacks and jumpers should be named as well. Please encourage your child to wear layers if they are cold. The PE sweatshirt can be worn **as an extra jumper** over the top of their school green cardigan or jumper if they need.

Topic

This half-term we are focusing on rivers in the UK and Europe. We will look at a wide range of human and physical features associated with rivers including: the water cycle, river systems, what humans use rivers for, and what effects damming has on the surrounding area. We will hopefully be conducting a virtual fieldtrip studying the River Axe. Next half term our topic will be history, focusing on Roman Britain.

Literacy



Our next book is 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman. We will be continuing our focus on new vocabulary and comprehension skills. Please continue to read regularly at home, signing reading records at least 5 times a week to receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a book token. **Please can all reading records and books be in school every day.**

Our literacy and language genre for this half term is based on a mystery story called 'Smash and Grab!' by John Dougherty. We will be looking to write our own mystery story that includes conjunctions, dialogue and descriptive vocabulary.

Spelling homework will continue to be uploaded to Spellingframe and logins can be found in reading records. Please let me know if you struggle to access technology at home. Spelling homework can be done in Green Spelling books. The 'Spelling GP' is an in-class reward system that I am trialling. Requirements are to complete spelling homework weekly to get extra break or another reward at the end of term.

Maths

This term, we will:

- recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3s, 4s and 8s.

- write and calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division using the multiplication tables that they know, including 2-digit times 1-digit, using mental methods.
- use times tables to answer division questions.
- Count up and down in tenths. Recognise that tenths arise from dividing an object into 10 equal parts and in dividing 1-digit numbers or quantities by 10.
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator within one whole ($\frac{5}{7} + \frac{1}{7} = \frac{6}{7}$).
- Compare and order unit fractions, and fractions with the same denominators.
- Recognise, find and write fractions of a discrete set of objects; unit fractions and non-unit fractions with small denominators.

Please continue to practise times tables at home on Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) and contact me if this method does not work for you at home. School will be providing logins and I will make you aware of this when it is live.

Science

Our science topics include: animals, skeletons and movement, and light. We will focus on particular scientific skills including: research, comparing, pattern seeking, identifying and classifying and observing over time. The studies will cover both human and animal nutrition, and how we can use food packets to keep track of sugar and fats. Also, how human skeletal systems compare to animals, and the function of muscles. In our light topic, we will focus on identifying natural and artificial light, how shadows form and observing when our classroom might be darkest and why.

PE

PE will continue to be taught on a Monday and Tuesday. Please make sure PE kit is in on these days.

PSHE

Our PSHE units for this term will be Keeping Myself Safe and then Rights and Responsibilities. During these units we will: discuss what we can do to make a situation less risky, online safety and weighing up whether a statement is true.

Please feel free to contact me about any concerns and many thanks for your continued support.

Mr Park

Willow Class