

### Our Values

Respect, Kindness, Resilience,  
Integrity, Honesty and Trust



### Our Rules

- Do our best
- Be respectful
- Be safe
- Be kind
- Be ready

## Year 3 Willow's Newsletter

The second half of the Autumn Term has been busy in Year 3. In **Literacy**, we focused on Non-Fiction genre of writing-Instructions. To begin with, we identified the features of a set of instruction and used the skill of annotation to show this in their books. Moreover, we explored a wide range of instructional texts, which enable the pupils to become familiar with the genre. Pupils immersed themselves in the text by using 'Talk for Writing' for oral rehearsal; this provided a scaffold for the learners as they begin to understand the structure and layout of the text. This framework enabled pupils to write for meaning and purpose. They incorporated a subordinating, causal and coordinating conjunctions to extend their sentences while writing about: 'How to Trap Stone Giant', 'How to Train a Christmas Elf' and 'How to Train a Pet Unicorn'. Year 3 are growing in confidence and they are beginning to speak and write like an Author. We can't wait for you to read the wonderful set of instructions your child has produced this term.

In **Reading**, we explored a poetry book written by James Carter with the most common theme of his poems being about space. Children got to develop their retrieval, prediction and summarising skills by answering comprehension questions, which has improved their confidence when doing test style questions. Additionally, we learnt the skill of using a dictionary to find the meaning of words we didn't know. This has proven to be a great way to build on children's vocabulary and can therefore use these new words within their literacy work.



As **Mathematicians**, we developed our knowledge of number through the concept of **multiplication and division**. Children were taught their 3, 4 and 8 times tables and learnt how to apply this knowledge to solve word problems as well as solving division problems by grouping and sharing. They are becoming more confident with recognising key words in word problems that indicate whether they need to multiply or divide. Children need to continue to strengthen their recall of their 3, 4 and 8 times tables by practising at home.

In **PSHE**, we looked at '**Health and Wellbeing**'. From this topic, pupils learnt about the benefits of good health and exercise and how this can impact our mental and physical wellbeing. Additionally, pupils enjoyed practicing relaxation techniques through a range of stretches which relaxes the brain, allowing them to feel less anxious. Moreover, they were delighted to learn about their own super-power; they could describe how to use these strengths to motivate themselves as well as others. At the end of the unit, the class reinforced the good oral hygiene and the importance of having regular visits to the dentists.

In **Science** this term, our topic was **Animals Including Humans**. The children were excited we learn about Nutrition and how important it is to our health; they understood the five basic food groups and can explain what constitutes a balanced diet. They sorted food labels and recognised the 'Stop Light' system which food manufacturers use to help us to make the right consumer choices, in the supermarket. We also learnt that humans and other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement. They showed confidence while classifying animals based on their skeleton types: endoskeleton, exoskeleton and hydrostatic skeleton. We also enjoyed an incredible day full of activities for 'World Science Day'.



In **RE** this half term, children have learnt the importance of light to Christians, Jews and Muslims. We looked at stories from each religion and how they use light in similar and different ways to celebrate special festivities.

As **Geographers**, our pupils had a fascinating time learning about: **Why climate is important?** We identified the hottest deserts around the world and how they vary in different temperatures, animals and plants. We also learnt where the wettest place in the world is (two villages in Meghalaya state of India) and begun to understand the role of monsoons. Children now have a wider knowledge of climate zones and biomes around the world and how living close or far away from the equator effects the climate of a country.

This half term, Willow Class has experienced great joy in learning the art of fencing. Under the guidance of Coach David, the children have developed a range of key skills over several weeks. Their learning culminated in an exciting fencing battle with a partner, where they were able to confidently demonstrate everything they had been taught.



Willow class were filled with Christmas spirit in their festive jumpers ready for the **Christmas show**. They worked very hard to learn sign language whilst singing the song 'We wish you a Merry Christmas'. It was a wonderful performance for all to enjoy. They even had a special visit from Santa himself to deliver a new toy for the class! I hope you have a restful break with your loved ones ready to start back with energy for 2026!