

Willow Newsletter Autumn 2019

Dear Parents,

After our long summer holiday, I would like to welcome you back to the start of the new school year which I hope will be successful as well as enjoyable for both you and your child. Having taught a number of siblings during previous years, I have met a few of you before. For those that don't know me, hopefully, we will meet soon: I am usually around in the playground after school and am always happy to have a quick chat. I strongly believe that good parent/ teacher relationships are a key function of providing a high quality education for your child.

With this in mind, my door is always open. So if you have any concerns, no matter how small, please comes to see me or make an appointment at the office and I will do my best to resolve matters quickly.

Just in case anyone doesn't know, my youngest son, Gabriel is in our class this year. So far, things seem to be running more or less smoothly and during school hours, he is treated no differently to anyone else. Although he is far from perfect, on the whole, he's a pretty well-meaning little boy. Again, if there are any concerns about this situation or anything that he has done, please don't hesitate to let me or another member of staff know.

Although we have only been back a few days, I can already see the makings of a lovely class. Everyone seems to be working hard, getting on well and being kind to each other- long may this continue!!

Kind regards,

Andrew Smith

Reading

It would be very beneficial if you could set aside a few minutes each day to hear your child read.

With three little boys of my own, I know this can be a little stressful at times. However, it does have a big impact on your child's development. Ten minutes on most days will help enormously.

As soon as a book has been finished, sign the Reading Record and return it to school. There is a yellow box at the front of the classroom. I will send a new book home on the same day.

Guided reading takes place every week in small groups where the focus will be on understanding texts. I will also closely monitor your child's progress through the reading scheme.

Homework

Minute Maths

Children will be completing 'Minute Maths' several times a week. I will send copies home so that they can be practised if you wish.

Any other homework will be sent out on a Friday and returned by Wednesday. You are welcome to give me any feedback regarding this arrangement.

The Romans

We will be studying the Romans up until Christmas. Already, we have begun designing our Roman shields which we will be making and painting in the next few weeks. We are also planning a trip to Chester to learn a little more about what life was like for different groups of parts of society.

PE

PE is on a Monday morning; games is on a Tuesday

PE will be a mixture of gymnastics and dance which takes place in the hall. Indoor kits will be needed. For games, which is outdoors, there is no uniform as such so any weather appropriate clothing is fine.

SPELLINGS

Starting from next Friday, I will be sending spellings home to learn each week. These will be practised in class and then tested the following Wednesday. It would be great if you could set aside a little time each week to help your child learn them. This will be further supported Spelling Shed

LIBRARY

We will be visiting the library every week. Children are free to choose any book they wish and exchange it each week. I will let you all know our regular timeslot in the next few days

PRESENTATION OF WORK

I am a big fan of well-presented work and neat handwriting. Often it takes a few weeks for children to 'reacclimatise' after the holiday. If they happen to feel unduly hassled during these first few weeks, please bear with me- it is worth it in the end! As always, any problems please come and see me





A Smith
September 2016