



# Welcome to Willow Class

## Year 3 and 4



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Willow Class. I hope you have had a lovely summer. We're all looking forward to working with you.

The topic this term is '**Stone Age to Iron Age**'.

Please take some time to look at the overview for our topic located on the school website in our class page. This outlines the learning which will take place throughout the Autumn Term. We will read a range of texts including a focus on topic based texts such as Wolf Road. Every term the new topic will be added to our class page on our school website.

### Reading

Your child will bring home 3 reading books per week. We ask that all children are encouraged to read for a sustained session a *minimum* of 3 times a week and this should then be written in their Reading Diaries by either yourself or the child.

Children will need to bring their books to school every day. It is important that books are cared for. The children will also have lots of opportunities to read and enjoy a wide variety of books throughout the week at school.

I encourage all pupils to choose an enjoyment book from my selection, as well as a book on their reading band and a library book from the hall. Once they have read their book, children can change them each day at lunchtimes or in their free choice library session on Tuesdays. Children need to read from a wide variety of genres – including more challenging texts. Reading diaries will be checked by Mrs. Hurdidge on **Wednesdays**.

### Mathematics

In Year 3 and 4 children are expected to begin to recall multiplication and division facts confidently which helps the children in all areas of mathematics.

#### BIG Maths

BIG Maths is a fun and engaging way of increasing accuracy and importantly developed confidence in mathematical calculations. Children are challenged to get ten out of ten 3 weeks consecutively before moving to the next level. We then celebrate their success with a certificate in assembly. The children measure their own progress on a line graph in the front of their folders; a rewarding way for them to see their progress!

### Homework

Throughout the year, there will be many opportunities to complete projects at home that are set, relevant to topics being studied. Reading Eggs is available for online learning. Usernames and passwords for your child are recorded in the front of their Reading Diary.

## PE

All children will be doing **PE** on **Tuesday afternoons**.

**Year 3** pupils will begin swimming on a **Monday morning** this term until half term while Year 4 do Basketball, and **Year 4** will begin swimming **after half-term** until Christmas, while Year 3 will then do Basketball.

Children should come to school in their PE kits on these days and should bring suitable outdoor kit and shoes for winter weather conditions.

**Please ensure that all kit is named to prevent it being misplaced.**

## The new school year

Our aim is to ensure that all children experience a smooth transition from the previous year. The curriculum builds upon and extends the experiences that the children have had last year. The children will gradually be eased into more independent learning as the year goes on so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager learners. We ask that children try their best, especially with areas of work that they find challenging.

Please don't hesitate to make an appointment to come and see me either before or after school if you have any questions or queries.

## General Reminders

Any letters or reply slips, which need to be returned, can be put in the box by the entrance at the school reception or handed to myself or Mrs Hurdidge in class.

The children may bring in their own **water bottle** to keep in class which they can access throughout the day and they will change their water regularly. Please make sure your child's name is written clearly on their water bottle.

All children will be expected to write in pencil until they achieve a fluent joined script. A handwriting pen will then be provided by school. Children should have a suitable pen at home for completing homework.

Please help your children to organise their equipment and time. Children need to understand the importance of having all necessary equipment with them in class.

We discuss the importance of a healthy lifestyle on their well-being – making reasonable choices with bedtimes on school days, encouraging activity in spare time and sensible choices of snacks.

Any questions about any of the above, please don't hesitate to ask. We very much look forward to the fun and exciting year ahead.

Mr Norgrove



**Underpinning all our learning are our school values.**