



# Welcome back to

## Willow Class



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you have had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

Mrs Hurdidge and I are looking forward to working with you again. We hope that your child enjoys the new challenges that this term has to offer.

The topic this term is '**Ancient Greece**'. 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 Spring Term. We will read a range of texts; write letters of complaint and study space! 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 keep books in their **book bags** to bring 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, a non-fiction book from the library and a book on their reading band. Once they have read their book, children have the opportunity to change it 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.

### Mathematics

In Year 5 children are expected 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 and Times Tables Rockstar are available for online learning. Usernames and passwords for your child are recorded in the front of their Reading Diary.

## PE

The children will be doing **PE** on **Wednesday AND Friday**. Children **MUST** come to school in their PE kits that day and should bring **suitable** outdoor kit and shoes for winter weather conditions.

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

This term we will be focusing on Tennis as well as looking to improve our Netball skills.

## The new term

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 & Mrs Hurdidge



Underpinning all our learning are our school values.