



Reception Autumn Term Newsletter

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big hello to you and welcome you all to The Willows Primary School. We have really enjoyed getting to know your lovely children a little better over the last couple of weeks and we hope that they have enjoyed their very first few weeks in reception. So, a big well done to everyone for settling into the school routines so well, and we are looking forward to the coming term. We are really excited about the year ahead and have lots of fun and exciting things planned, ready to continue your child's learning journey, while allowing your child to become the author of their own learning!

Writing

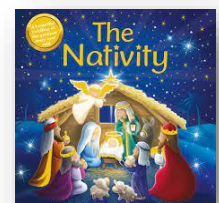
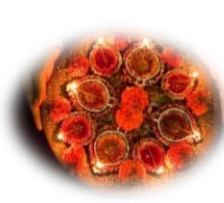
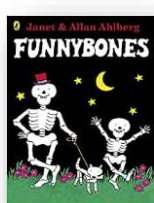
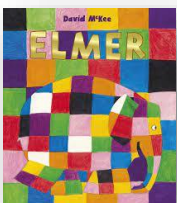
We will begin to teach writing through our **Read Write Inc** phonics programme very soon. We will be focusing on letter formation, as well as writing words and sentences depending upon your child's ability. Children will also be practising their name writing regularly. When practising at home, it is important for your child to write their name using the correct letter formation with a capital letter at the beginning, using the correct pencil grip where possible.

Maths

During our Maths sessions we will be learning a number of concepts in a practical and fun way. We will be making repeating patterns using colour and shape e.g. red/blue/red/blue encouraging the children to decide what comes next. These may be simple or complex, using more combinations depending upon your child. We will be sorting and comparing objects, you could help at home with sorting washing into colours etc. Always remember to ask your child **'WHAT IS THE RULE?'** They should say that the items are all the same colour, shape, size etc. depending on the criteria. We will also be teaching positional language, so that the children can describe and understand vocabulary, such as, **next to, behind** and **in front of**.

After half term, we will be looking at representing and comparing numbers as well as the composition of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. We will then move onto shapes with 1 side and 3 sides (circles and triangles), as well as one more and one less than a number from 0-5.

Over the coming weeks we will be exploring stories linked to the theme, 'This is me'. We will be using the story of 'Elmer', to discuss and celebrate everyone's unique characteristics, personalities and physical attributes. We will use the story of 'Funnybones' and a variety of songs and games to introduce children to the way in which their bodies work. After half term, our topic will be 'Celebrations' and we will be exploring Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas. We will alternate P.E and W.O.W (Woodland Outdoor Workshops) on a Friday. In our Friday P.E lessons we will be delivering gymnastics where the children will be asked to travel in different ways, make shapes, balance and roll. In our W.O.W sessions we will be looking at changes in the environment and also learning different types of knots. Throughout the year, you will be invited to a number of coffee mornings which will focus on different aspects of our Early Years curriculum.



- **Proud Clouds** -We would also like to give you the opportunity to tell us about your child's 'wow' moments and significant achievements at home e.g. they sing a particular nursery rhyme from beginning to end, they count to 5, 10 or even more. We want to know about the things your child does that stand out and make you want to say 'wow, they've not done that before'. The proud clouds are for you to use to record these achievements on, and to send back into school whenever you've got something to tell. We will share them with the rest of the class and then put them on display. When you need more proud clouds let us know and we will provide you with them.
- **Star of the week** – After October half term a child from each class will be chosen to be the star of the week. You will be invited in to our assembly on a Friday morning to see your child receive their certificate along with the class animal and a diary to take home. Please write a little bit about what they have done together over the weekend and return back to school on the following Monday.

- **Fitzy Fox** – Fitzy will come home with a child identified as a sporting star each week. He will be sent home on a Friday and we ask that he is returned on a Monday so that he can be washed ready for the next children. We love to hear what you have been up to with Fitzy so please email or Dojo your class teacher with some information and photos.
- **Dojo** – Look for updates of your child's learning on Dojo!

Reminder – Please ensure that all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name.

We also ask that you send a spare set of clothes that can be kept in a bag on your child's peg in case of any accidents. These do not need to be school uniform but should include underwear and socks.

Remember to check out the School Blog and weekly newsletter for dates.

If you would like to speak to any of the Reception team regarding concerns or worries that you may have please do not hesitate to do so. We have an open door policy, and we are available each morning or afternoon at the beginning and end of the school day or you can make an appointment for longer discussions. Alternatively, you can always contact us by Class Dojo.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 27th September - Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 26th October Parents Consultation

Friday 27th October – Training Day

Monday 6th November - Children back in school.

Tuesday 8th November - Individual photography.

Wednesday 15th November - Reception Phonics Workshop 9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.

Monday 4th December - Deer Nativity 2.00 p.m.

Wednesday 6th December – Hares Nativity 2.00 p.m.

Thursday 7th December – Wood mice Nativity 2.00 p.m.

Thursday 8th December - Reception Castaway Play Trip – 12th, 13th, 14th, three groups

Thursday 21st December – Break up for Christmas.

Friday 22nd December – Inset day.