

Autumn 1 2025



Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to send you all a very warm welcome to Year 2. We are ready to share the exciting opportunities that we have to offer throughout the year.

Miss Olvanhill and Mrs Charlwood are the class teachers in Oak Class and Miss Cluley is our Teaching Assistant. Mrs Ennis will work in our class this year too.

Mrs Carter is the class teacher in Willow Class and Mrs Sharpe and Miss Pothas are the Teaching Assistants.

If at any time you have any questions or concerns, no matter how small, then please talk to your child's class teacher and we will do all that we can to help.

Our core value this half term is 'Kindness'. The children will be given golden tickets for taking care of each other, showing kindness and demonstrating the qualities of being a good friend. One child from each class with the most golden tickets at the end of the half term will be awarded with a prize.

Reading

Reading is so important and we really appreciate your support in listening to your child read every day to help them to become confident, fluent and expressive readers.

Phonics - Little Wandle Letters and Sounds is our new phonics scheme. When children bring home a phonics reading book it will be a book which they have already read in class three times. Therefore, they should be confident in reading the words with minimal sounding out necessary. The 'teaching' of reading will be done in school and reading at home should be a celebration of this. Please do not think the books are 'too easy'.

Class Author—Each class will choose an 'Author of the half term'. This will be displayed in the classroom along with a range of books by that author. Oak Class have chosen to share stories by Jane Hissey. Roald Dahl will be Willow Class' author this half-term.

School library visits— Please remember to return your child's school library book on the day that their class visits the school library so that they can swap it for a new one.

Oak Class visit the school library every Monday.

Willow Class visit the school library on a Tuesday.

PE

Our topic this half-term is 'Fundamental Movement'. PE lessons will be outside this half-term so please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for this depending on the weather.

Oak Class has PE on a Tuesday and Willow Class has PE on a Monday.

Our Learning Journey;

Maths

We follow the 'White Rose Maths' Scheme of Learning.

Weeks 1-4: Place Value. The children will expand on their existing knowledge as they explore numbers to 20, recognise tens and ones, partition numbers to 100, compare objects and numbers, order objects and numbers and count in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s. They will learn how to use a place value chart, how to write numbers to 100 in words, how to write numbers to 100 in expanded form and how to count in multiples of 3.

Weeks 5-8: Addition and Subtraction. As well as consolidating previous knowledge, the children will learn how to add three 1-digit numbers, how to add and subtract across a 10, and how to add and subtract two 2-digit numbers.

English

Reading: Our key text will be 'We are Water Protectors' by Carole Lindstrom and Michaela Goade. We will then move on to 'House Held Up by Trees' by Ted Kooser. Children will be encouraged to read for pleasure often at school during their free time. They will read to/with an adult on a 1 to 1 or small group basis to help to build word reading, confidence and fluency. Each class will visit the school library each week where they can access a wide range of books and storytelling resources.

Writing: We are Water Protectors is a three-week block in which children explore the true story or the narrative, and produce descriptive non-fiction writing in different forms, such as writing the life-cycle of water, identifying environmental issues, and creating a campaign. Our second sequence begins with a trip to the local park. This trip will give children inspiration to write descriptions about all the natural wonders they spotted! They will write an estate agent advertisement as well as use conjunctions to explain the life cycle of trees. They will discuss the characters in the text, and will finish with an extended factual report about the trees at their local park aimed at attracting potential visitors.

Science

We will follow the 'Kapow' Scheme of Learning. This half term, our topic will be 'Living things: Habitats.' The children will consider the life processes that all living things have in common and will classify objects into alive, was once alive or has never been alive. They will name plants and animals in a range of habitats and recognise how living things depend on each other. The children will create food chains to show the sequence that living things eat each other.

Geography

We will follow the 'Kapow' Scheme of Learning and our first focus question will be 'would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place?' The children will learn about the basic concept of climate zones and will map out hot and cold places globally. They will look at features in the North and South Poles and Kenya and will compare weather and features in the local area. They will learn the four compass points as well as the names and locations of the continents of our world.

Physical Education

Our focus this half term will be 'Fundamental Movement.' In this unit pupils will develop the fundamental skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and skipping. They will be asked to observe and recognise improvements for their own and others' skills and identify areas of strength. They will be given the opportunity to work collaboratively with others, taking turns and sharing ideas.

Music

In this unit, pupils learn to sing and perform folk songs from around the British Isles. They will identify features of folk music and explore amongst other musical ingredients: pulse, dynamics, pitch and texture. They will explore dot notation and sing in a round and in parts.

RE

This enquiry investigates how Christians might follow Jesus' example of being kind to people. The learning is based on Jesus summing up the 10 commandments in the Old Testament into two commandments.

Computing

Through the use of 'Purple Mash,' children will focus on building simple algorithms to move a screen turtle along routes. They will consider direction and distances and create commands. Children will be introduced to the fundamentals of the internet, including its purpose, how we access it, and how to use it safely and effectively. They will develop the skills needed to search for information online.

Art

Our Art topic this half term is Craft and Design: Map it out. This unit focuses on teaching children to explore and create maps through various art forms, including drawing, felt making, printmaking and designing stained glass. Children will develop skills in sorting, designing, and evaluating art, encouraging children to present and discuss their creations in a class gallery.