

# Autumn 2020

## Willow Class Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to a new term and a year in Willow class. Things are different for the children (and staff) to what would normally be the case but the children in Willow have shown great resilience. They are getting in the Covid-safe routines, such as regular handwashing, as well as the routines of the class. Children already have reading books and we are asking for them to be read twice so that mistakes are rectified and fluency can be developed (this can be reviewed once the books get longer). We will aim to change books (where needed) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We will still use Tapestry and Google classroom, where we can continue great home/school links. If you have any queries you can use either of these platforms or email me at [cthomas@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:cthomas@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk) (I check the email more frequently).

### Childhood—(Subjects: **History**, Geography, PSHE, English, DT, Art, Computing, PE, Maths)

In the Childhood project, your child will learn words and phrases related to the passage of time. They will explore artefacts to help them to understand childhood in the past and how childhood has changed over time. They will explore the six stages of life and explore timelines and family trees. Everyday life in the 1950s will be explored, including shopping, transport, family life and childhood. They will also learn about the significance of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953 by studying photographs and online sources. The children will use maps to explore how places have changed over time and highlight any similarities or differences between childhood today and childhood in the 1950s. At the end of the project, they will create knowledge organisers for children who are about to study the topic of childhood.



 **English:** Over the course of the term children will develop their understanding of simple sentences. Year 1's will be working on building up their writing skills to create simple sentences whereas year 2's will be developing sentences further with greater detail. We have start by creating adventures for 'tiny friends' and then children will look at story structures using some familiar and (perhaps) less familiar stories. Phonics will happen daily, along with regular handwriting and spelling.



**Maths** — Nearly all learning in maths this term will focus on number—this will start with work on place value and counting. We will move on to look at addition and subtraction strategies including one or ten more/less. Year 2s will look at crossing boundaries while year 1s will build up their knowledge of number bonds. Children will use lots of concrete materials to support their learning (e.g. beadstrings, counters and numberlines). We'll explore maths through investigations and interactive activities.

 **PSHE** will have a focus on mental health and well being as part of Offwell 'recovery' curriculum. Learning will focus on feelings and how to deal with them.

**PE** will be on a Monday and, until circumstances change, children are asked to wear their PE kits to school to avoid contact during changing.



 **RE** - This term children will be learning about the creation story from a Christian perspective. After half term children will learn about who Muslims are and how they live.

 The unit that we'll be doing this term is called 'Funny Faces'. This will involve identifying differences and similarities in portraits, making funny face collages with art materials and computers.

Please do keep uploading any learning/experiences to Tapestry for us to see. We'd love to share in children's learning at home as well as at school

Mr Thomas, Mrs Hurst and Mrs Reeve