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Building a foundation for love and learning

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## Autumn 1 termly overview

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please find below a summary of what we will be learning this term in Willow Class.

Our aims for this term:

- To establish routines in the class.
- To take more ownership over organising equipment and resources.
- To be positive role models to the younger children and look out for them.
- To become more independent.
- To recall number facts more fluently.
- To build writing stamina.
- To have a happy start to the new school year!



Here is what we will learn in each subject:

Writing	We will be reading <i>The Nowhere Emporium</i> and <i>Varmints</i> , focusing on crafting descriptive sentences. We will then build up to writing our own descriptions, stories and persuasive adverts.
Reading	We will read <i>Street Child</i> developing our comprehension and inference skills. We will read this book together.
Mathematics	Beginning with place value, we will develop an understanding of numbers up to 10,000,000! When we are secure, we will problem solve and learn methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
Science	We will learn all about living things and their habitats, understanding plants and animals.
History	Answering the question, 'Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else?' we will look at sources and use our critical thinking skills.
Geography	We will answer the question: <i>what is life like in the Alps?</i> To do this, we will compare Innsbruck to Callow End! If you have been to the Alps before, please contact us as we would love to hear about it.
Music	Through Severn Arts, we will learn to play Djembe drums and play Samba music. We will also be practising songs for Young Voices in January.
Art	We will develop our drawing skills and complete self-portraits in the style of an artist. After this, we will do a number of drawing exercises.

DT	Applying our knowledge of circuits, we will be designing, creating and evaluating our own doodlers!
RE	We will learn all about Hinduism with Mrs Scanlon.
Computing	We will learn how computer systems and networks work, understanding how information is shared. We will continue to learn about online safety.
RSHE	Before half-term, we will learn about safe, positive relationships. After half-term, we will learn about valuing differences and the pressures of social media.
French	Mrs Widdrington will teach us French after half-term.
PE	With Miss Christopher on Tuesdays, we will learn the rules of outdoor games and develop our skills in them. On Fridays, we will do dance.

#### Additional information

##### PE:

Children in Willow class will have PE on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please make sure that they come to school in their PE kit. Weather permitting, Tuesdays will be outdoor PE whilst Fridays will be indoor. If your child wears earrings, please make sure they know how to take them out. Studs may be worn but they will be taped over.

##### Water bottles:

Please make sure that your child brings a water bottle to school every day - especially on PE days.

##### Coats/hats:

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the changes in the UK weather! Applying sun cream at home and popping a hat in their bag for those warmer days and also sending a rain coat just in case ensures that they are set for any weather.

##### Staffing:

Mrs Scanlon covers PPA in Willow every Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs Prior (TA) is in Monday - Thursday mornings and Tuesday afternoon. During this afternoon, she runs Nurture Group. If you think your child could benefit from this or if you would like specific support following a change in family life, please let us know.

##### Homework expectations:

Homework is all online in Willow Class. It will always reset on Monday to be completed by the following Monday. Children should complete an assignment on *Learning by Questions* (LBQ) and three games on *Spelling Shed*. They will be taught how to use these in school and logins/QR codes will be sent home. Spelling rules will be taught on Mondays with spelling tests taking place the following Monday morning.

Please continue to encourage daily reading and Times Table Rockstars at home.

Thank you for your support.

Miss Sarah Brooks