



Willows Curriculum

Term 2 2023-24

Dear Parents

Welcome back, Willows parents – I hope you all had lovely half-terms! We're ready for a long, but exciting term heading towards Christmas. This term, we do not have a theme running through our lessons as we did last term, but we have some fantastic things to learn about.



In **Science**, we have some exciting lessons coming up as we learn about electricity, with lot of hands-on, circuit-making learning fun. Our humanities focus this term is **Geography** and we're learning about why on earth people would want to live near volcanoes or in earthquake zones! As a former Californian who lived literally on a fault-line, I'm looking forward to this.

In our **English** lessons, we'll be starting with a poetry unit, studying the personification of Autumn and writing our own Winter poems. We'll go on to tackle a non-fiction unit and then something a little more festive. Alongside these units, we'll be looking at conjunctions such as 'although' and 'therefore' to make our writing a little more sophisticated. Our class reading books both stretch over Terms 1 and 2, so we'll be finishing the books we're already reading - 'Stig of the Dump' and 'The Abominables'.



In **Maths**, both year groups will start the term tackling some multiplication (Y3s will look at the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, Y4s will study the 6, 9 and 7 times tables). We then tackle addition and subtraction using mental methods rather than written methods – this is always tricky so lots of little addition/subtraction questions in the car will be really helpful. **Times Tables** generally is a huge focus for Willows class. Our daily TT practice in Term 2 will focus on the 3s, 4s and 8s.



In **RE**, we're studying Christianity, tackling the immense subject of the Trinity and what the word 'Incarnation' means. We'll also get really good at finding verses in the Bible. In **Music**, we're going to learn how to read and write basic notation and start to prepare some songs for the 'Hopes and Homes' concert at Marlborough College. More details will follow on

this shortly. In **French**, we're going to look at the weather – a British obsession in a foreign language. **DT** this term will incorporate our learning about circuits and in **PSHE**, we'll be discussing how we're all different and how difference and diversity makes our communities richer. We will also be starting the 'My Happy Mind' programme.

PE this term is on a **Monday and a Wednesday**. Monday is swimming, so your child needs to bring their swimming kit ready to go. PE on Wednesday is handball – please send your child to school in school uniform and they will get changed in school.

Reading

We are doing so much better at bringing our reading books and folders in each day – please continue to help your child remember theirs, they need them every day.

Homework

These are the homework expectations for Willows. They're not onerous but they're crucial for progress.

- Read for 15 mins 4 x weekly.
- Times Table Rock Stars for 15 mins 4 x weekly.
- Topic-based homework.

For topic-based homework, I'd ask that your child investigates an aspect of electricity, volcanoes or the French weather and presents their findings in an interesting way – this could be a presentation, art, a model or some writing.

Spelling remains the biggest challenge for many Willows as far as writing goes. Please find below a list of words that I've identified as tricky for many of the children. Please consider picking three each week to work on.



As ever, I'm around at the end of every school day for parents to have quick chats, or you're always welcome to organise a specific time for a deeper conversation by speaking to the office or emailing via letters@ogbourne.excalibur.org.uk.

Best wishes,

Cathryn Ramsden
Willows Class Teacher

Willows Word List

although	any	beautiful
because	could	decide
difference	difficult	every
enough	important	know
like	one	people
pretty	really	should
through	thought	would
water	whole	

Once upon a time,

Question words

who	what	where	
why	when	how	which



Year 4 Term 2

3995 - 4007
Find the difference between two numbers

Count on 5 from 3995 to 4000, then 7 more so the difference between them is $5 + 7 = 12$

5451 - 1999
Round then adjust

Stop and Look! What do you notice? What's the most efficient way?

Add 2000 then subtract 1

2997 + 6
Bridging boundaries

If I know $7 + 6 = 13$ then

3995 - 4007
Find the difference between two numbers

5451 - 1999
Round then adjust

Take away 2000 then add 1

2997 + 6
Bridging boundaries

If I know... then I also know...

The digit sum of multiples of 6 is 3, 6 or 9
All multiples of 6 are even numbers.

3995 - 4007
Find the difference between two numbers

5451 - 1999
Round then adjust

Take away 2000 then add 1

2997 + 6
Bridging boundaries

If I know... then I also know...


The digit sum of multiples of 6 is 3, 6 or 9
All multiples of 6 are even numbers.

3995 - 4007
Find the difference between two numbers

5451 - 1999
Round then adjust

Take away 2000 then add 1






10s

If I know... then I also know...

The digit sum of multiples of 3 is 3, 6 or 9

An odd number multiplied by 3 gives an odd product.




4s

multiples

All multiples of 4 are even numbers.

There is a repeating pattern in the ones column: 0, 4, 8, 2, 6




8s

All multiples of 8 are even numbers.

All multiples of 8 are also multiples of 2 and 4.

150 + 80

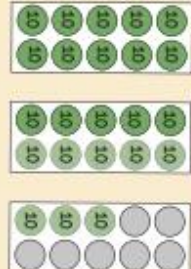
Bridging boundaries



150 + 80 = 230

230 - 80

Bridging boundaries by counting back in efficient steps




230 - 30 - 50 = 150

Year 3 Term 2

325 + 200


Add multiples of ten and a hundred



If I know 3 + 2 = 5 then I know 3 hundreds + 2 hundreds = 5 hundreds

304 - 297

Find the difference between two numbers




304 is 7 more than 297
297 is 7 less than 304
so the difference between them is 7

Stop and Look!
What do you notice?
What's the most efficient way?

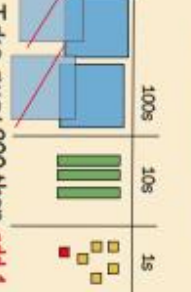
234 + 199

Round then adjust



435 - 199

Round then adjust



Take away 200 then add 1

Stop and Look!
What do you notice?
What's the most efficient way?