



Willows Curriculum

Term 1 2024-25

Dear Parents

Welcome to a whole new year in Willows. I'm thrilled to see my Year 4s back and it's been wonderful having the new Year 3s in class. It's going to be a great term.



Our **History** topic this term is Ancient Egypt! I'm so excited to be teaching all about the Nile, the Pyramids, mummies, hieroglyphics and their gods. It's a cracking topic and I hope the children love it. In **Art**, Mrs Nicholson will be working with the Willows on Egyptian scrolls.

For **English**, we will be starting by looking at and writing advertisements for the incredible edible Stroodle, before moving onto a fiction unit set in Ancient Egypt!



We will have two **reading books** on the go, which we'll be reading between now and Christmas. Our extended read book (for studying) will be '*The Boy at the Back of the Class*' and our class read (just for joy) will be the classic '*Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe*' by C.S. Lewis .

Maths will start with place value – the Year 3s studying hundreds and the Year 4s thousands. Both years will then study shapes, some multiplication and some mental maths. In addition, we do Times Tables daily – this term, we're consolidating the 2-, 10- and 5-times tables. PLEASE do support your child by helping them learn these.



In **Science**, we are looking at light and shadow – what makes a shadow, how can we change its size, what is darkness, how can we be more visible in the Winter dark?

In **French**, we're learning how to introduce ourselves. In Willows, we begin reading and writing French so it's a big step-up for the Year 3's but I'm confident they'll be great. In **RE**, we are studying a unit on Christianity, thinking about the idea of 'salvation' and how it impacts the lives of Christians and in **PSHE**, we'll be thinking about our relationships.



PE this term is on a **Monday and a Wednesday**. On Monday, we will go swimming and on Wednesdays, we'll be playing football. Please send your child to school in school uniform on both days and they will get changed at the pool or in school.



Finally, in **Music**, we're going to be having two terms of learning the recorder with the goal of contributing to the school Christmas celebrations. I would consider buying earplugs and I apologise in advance.

Reading

As last year, children need to bring their book bags (with their reading books and reading journals) in every single day. Thank you in advance.

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. This is crucial for Year 4, with the National Times Tables test coming up in June.
- Topic-based homework.

I'm giving five options for topic-based homework this term. Your Willow will earn three praise points for a piece of homework, and they'll get to show it in class. Please can all homework be submitted by the final Friday of term.

- Science – make a shadow theatre. See [How to Make a Shadow Puppet Theatre at Home - The Petit Pelican](#) for help.
- Research and create a fact file about the Egyptian Queen Cleopatra or another famous Ancient Egyptian.
- Create a model of the Pyramids or the Sphinx.
- Learn a piece of music on the recorder.
- Write an advert for your favourite toy.



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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. Please don't hesitate to chat.

Best wishes,

Cathryn Ramsden
Willows Class Teacher



horizontal

vertical

parallel

perpendicular

parallel

perpendicular

parallel

perpendicular

perpendicular

perpendicular

Year 3 Term 1

Polygons are shapes with all straight sides

Prisms

Pyramids

face

vertex

edge

10 less than 243 is 233

10 more than 243 is 253

10 less

10 more

100 less

100 more

143

243

343

Stop and look. What do you notice?

hundreds digit increase decrease column.

one tenth

$\frac{1}{10}$

one out of ten equal parts

one divided by ten

ten times smaller

$\frac{1}{10}$

$3 \div 10 = 0.3$

dot it tenths

dot it decimal point

0 $\frac{1}{10}$ $\frac{2}{10}$ $\frac{3}{10}$ $\frac{4}{10}$ $\frac{5}{10}$ $\frac{6}{10}$ $\frac{7}{10}$ $\frac{8}{10}$ $\frac{9}{10}$ **1**

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 **1**

Head c



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Head of School: **Lucy Crump**
Executive Principal: **Gudrun Osborn**
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Year 4 Term 1

Stop and look!
What do you notice?

thousand, divide, round, multiply, positive, negative

In order from smallest to largest

4261, 4406, 4540

2987, 5994, 6080

1000 less than 3245 is 2245

1000 more than 3245 is 4245

**5 or more - round up
4 or less - round down**

Round to the nearest ten
6538 → 6540

Round to the nearest hundred
6538 → 6500

Round to the nearest thousand
6538 → 7000

1000s | 100s | 10s | 1s

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 3 (1000s) | 2 (100s) | 4 (10s) | 5 (1s) |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------|

three thousand, two hundred and forty-five
3 thousands, 2 hundreds, 4 tens and 5 ones

1000s | 100s | 10s | 1s

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 3 (1000s) | 2 (100s) | 4 (10s) | 5 (1s) |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------|

1000 less than 3245 is 2245

1000 more than 3245 is 4245

Equilateral Triangles
3 equal sides

Isosceles Triangles
2 equal sides

Scalene Triangles
all sides different

Quadrilaterals are shapes with 4 straight sides

- parallelogram - opposite sides parallel
- rectangles - 4 right angles
- squares
- rhombus - 4 equal sides

Trapezium - exactly one pair of parallel sides

Kites - 2 pairs of adjacent sides

Number Line

1000s | 100s | 10s | 1s

1000s: 3, 2, 4, 5

100s: 2, 4, 5

10s: 4, 5

1s: 5

3245

2245

4245



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