



11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Class Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn 1 for (Willow Class – Year 2)

My name is Miss Beech, and I am delighted to be welcoming your child into Year 2 this September. As the children move into Year 2, we will continue to encourage independence, resilience and responsibility. The children will be expected to take increasing ownership of their learning, look after their belongings and always try their best. We will work, have fun, celebrate achievements and make many wonderful memories together throughout the year.

English

In Writing, Year 2 will begin by using *The Bear and the Piano* by David Litchfield as inspiration for a range of exciting writing opportunities. The children will make predictions, write letters of advice using contracted verbs, create a news report, and research their own 'Animal Orchestra' character. They will then use their ideas to write an imaginative own-version narrative focused on bravery, applying descriptive language and storytelling techniques to engage their readers.

Later in the term, the children will explore different versions of the traditional tale Goldilocks. They will identify the key features of traditional tales, use descriptive language to create a 'Wanted' poster, and retell the story from Goldilocks' perspective after considering a more sympathetic view of her character. Through drama, discussion and role play, they will then imagine what might happen when Goldilocks and the bears meet again many years later, before writing their own sequel, developing their skills in characterisation, dialogue and narrative writing.

Maths

We will begin by developing their understanding of place value, exploring numbers to 100 through counting, grouping into tens and ones, partitioning numbers, using place value charts, and comparing and ordering numbers. We will also practise counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s, estimating numbers on a number line, and representing numbers in different ways.

They will then build their knowledge of addition and subtraction, revisiting number bonds and fact families before applying these skills to calculate with larger numbers. They will learn a range of strategies for solving addition and subtraction problems, compare number sentences, and tackle missing number challenges to strengthen their mathematical reasoning and fluency.

Science

We will be learning about living things and their habitats. The children will explore how plants and animals depend on their habitats for food and shelter, match living things to suitable environments, and learn that plants are producers that make their own food. They will also investigate simple food chains and use arrows to show how energy moves from producers to animals.



History

We will be learning about how school was different in the past. The children will use photographs and other historical sources to explore what schools were like 100 years ago, compare them with schools today, and identify similarities and differences between classrooms then and now. They will develop their enquiry skills by asking questions, creating timelines, and sharing their opinions about whether they would have preferred to attend school in the past.

PSHE

We will be focusing on being part of a positive classroom community. The children will discuss their hopes and goals for the year ahead, explore their rights and responsibilities, and consider the importance of rewards and consequences. They will also work together to create and take ownership of a class Learning Charter, helping to build a happy, respectful and supportive learning environment for everyone.

RE

We will be learning about Sikhism and exploring key Sikh beliefs and values. The children will discover how Sikhism began, learn about the importance of equality, and understand why Sikhs meditate, work hard, live honestly, and share with others. Through stories, discussion and reflection, they will develop their understanding of how these beliefs influence the lives of Sikhs today.

Art

We will be developing their drawing skills through a range of exciting activities. The children will explore different drawing materials, experiment with creating texture and tonal shading, and practise sketching and refining their work. They will use careful observation to create detailed drawings and discover how artwork can tell a story and communicate ideas.

Music

Year 2 will begin learning the Djembe drum, developing their understanding of rhythm, tempo and coordination. The children will explore different drumming techniques, create simple rhythmic patterns, and work together to perform as part of an ensemble, building confidence and teamwork through music.

PE

Year 2 will be developing their skills in cricket and fitness. The children will learn and practise fundamental cricket skills, including throwing, catching, batting and fielding, while developing teamwork and sportsmanship. They will also take part in a range of fitness activities designed to improve their agility, balance, coordination and overall physical wellbeing, helping them to lead active and healthy lifestyles.

Homework

Homework will continue to be sent home on Fridays and should be returned by Wednesday. Each week, children will receive a range of activities, including spellings/common exception words, a grammar task, and a key number facts maths activity. Rewards will be given at the end of each term to children who complete their homework every week.



Please aim to read with your child at least three times each week and record this in their reading record. Regular reading practice has a significant impact on children's confidence, fluency, and comprehension skills. Reading rewards and certificates will be awarded at the end of each term, with children achieving a **Bronze Award for 20 reads, a Silver Award for 25 reads, and a Gold Award for 30 plus reads.**

Children should also continue to use Times Table Rock Stars at home, focusing on their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. Regular practice will help them develop quick recall of multiplication facts and support their learning in maths lessons. Times Table Rock Stars login details can be found in your child's reading record.

Reminder

Our visit to Cotswold Wildlife Park has been rescheduled to 25th July. A letter with further information has been sent home.

Attendance

It is essential that children arrive on time each morning. Learning begins with a Start Task at **8:45 a.m.**, followed by Phonics/Spelling at **9:05 a.m.** Regular attendance and punctuality ensure your child gets the best start to each day and makes the most of every learning opportunity.

If you wish to speak to the class teacher, you are welcome to do so briefly at the classroom door in the morning. For longer discussions, please make an appointment with the teacher or contact the school office in person or by email at admin@westleaschool.org.uk.

With thanks,

Miss Beech
Yr 2 Class Teacher