

Willow News



Friday 10th September 2021

The children have settled in really well and have enjoyed returning to some sort of normality as they sat in groups instead of rows. The weather has been unusually hot and the first couple of weeks are quite tiring anyways so I wasn't surprised that some of them went to sleep quite early each night. The focus this week has been on assessments to help work out the starting points through Y4 tests (so the children could access these more comfortably).

As we approach the Y5 curriculum, we shall continue to dip into Y4 learning objectives for a quick recap where required. This is to help the children develop links. This week, we have only worked on numbers to 1,000 and the children have learned to recognise the value of each digit in the numbers. The children have also been assessed in their quick recall of times tables. We shall start revising times tables and focus on x4 next week. Upon the request of some parents in the past, I have uploaded some practice exercise sheets for the maths learning objectives each week. I am happy to do so if the parents would let me know that they are interested.

After the initial introduction of the class reading book 'War Horse', we have enjoyed reading the first chapter of the book. The children have learned to summarise the first chapter and have completed comprehension tasks during guided reading. Introducing a tale of fear, they have completed a cold write on the theme. Our spellings focus has been **-cious** e.g. vicious, gracious, spacious, malicious, precious, conscious, delicious, suspicious, atrocious and ferocious. Our words of the week were audaciously, agonise, arrogant and the phrase: eating out of my hands.

With an intention to develop thinking skills, the children were asked to represent what a scientist is. This term, they will not only be learning about the effect of heat on the ingredients but also if the change was reversible or irreversible. On Thursday, they were encouraged to ask questions as historians. We shall learn about the Anglo Saxons this term.

The children have enjoyed beginning to learn French with Mrs Carter and exploring if belief in God is reasonable or not through the use of philosophical and theological questions.

Most of the children have chosen new books to read with the help of Mrs Bishop and I shall encourage them to write a summary each week as it helps develop greater comprehension. So your support in this regards will be most appreciated. The children can use their school email accounts to send me a short written summary once a week or a video summary is also welcome. Please read with your children everyday as it is important that they engage in a conversation about their books to expand their vocabulary and improve comprehension. They have also completed their assessments on Reading Plus and have the option to read a lesson online every day if you would like them to do so.

A polite reminder: At Watlington school, we promote healthy eating. Snacks from home can include fruit or fruit-based snack (yoyos, etc...) flapjack style biscuit or cheese/yoghurt. Could you also ensure that all snack are nut free please.

If there is any concern or something I should know about, please do not hesitate to drop me a line on willow@watlington.norfolk.sch.uk

Meanwhile, stay safe and happy. Have a good weekend.

Team Willows (Mrs Asif, Mrs Carter and Mrs Bishop)