

January 2017

# Willow Class

## Newsletter

I hope you all had a happy Christmas and New Year. Welcome back to the Spring term. The following information will update you on our work this term. Please make a note in your diaries that Willow Class Assembly is on Friday 13th January at 9.15am.

### Curriculum

This term the children will be 'Explorers' in our Geography based topic on South America. After the February holiday, we'll be looking at 'Inventors' during Victorian times. PE is on Thursdays and Fridays. We will be doing hockey and dance. As well as this, we hope to try out some alternative sports with a Premier Sports Company. With the colder weather in mind, please make sure your child has adequate PE clothing, especially trainers for use on the field.

### Booster Classes - 3.15—4.30pm Tuesdays

The aim of these sessions is to prepare the children for the SATs. It allows them to practice the question formats whilst not devoting too much curriculum time to this. We also try and ensure that there are a number of teachers present for each session so that the children can benefit from a high level of support. Children always find it beneficial to attend these sessions each week. They begin on Tuesday 10th January.

### SATs Week 8th -12th May

Advance warning of this! The tests begin on the Monday with the reading paper. On Tuesday are the grammar and spelling papers. On Wednesday, the children have two Maths papers, Arithmetic and Reasoning with the second Reasoning paper following on the Thursday. Each paper is approximately 40—45 minutes long (Reading paper 1 hour). The papers are then sent away to be externally marked and the results are usually available to schools and parents in mid-July.

We have Parents' Evenings planned for later on in March, but if you have any concerns before then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely  
Mrs Wren



### Homework

The children are expected to **read at home 3 times a week**. This will gain them a success stamp if it has been signed at home by an adult. Children of this age like to read by themselves and this should be encouraged as it builds reading stamina and allows them to tackle longer, more detailed books. It is also important that they read to an adult as it will enable them to discuss plot development, characterisation and improve comprehension skills. Homework will be given out on Friday and handed in the following Thursday. For English this term, we will be making use of a grammar and spelling workbook to reinforce work in this area. Children will be given a maths workbook and directed to specific pages each week. The children will also be given maths text books which are useful as revision aids.