

Willow Word

Willow Word – Summer Term Edition

A wonderful end to a fantastic year!

As we reach the close of another memorable academic year, it feels like the perfect time to reflect on all the remarkable learning, achievements and special moments that Willow Class have enjoyed during this summer term. It has been a term filled with dedication, excitement and countless opportunities for the children to shine in so many different ways.

One of the highlights of the term was our much-anticipated Sports Day, which brought together pupils, staff and families in a wonderful celebration of teamwork, perseverance and friendly competition. The children took part with such enthusiasm and energy, whether they were sprinting, jumping or racing in the relays. The encouragement and support they offered one another reflected the caring ethos of our school, making the day full of smiles, cheers and proud moments.

We also had the privilege of visiting the Winchester Science Centre, which proved to be an unforgettable experience. The children explored a wide range of interactive exhibits, from hands-on engineering challenges to fascinating astronomy displays in the planetarium. They asked thoughtful questions, made exciting discoveries and, most importantly, left feeling inspired by the wonders of science and technology.

Within the classroom, Willow Class have worked exceptionally hard. In Mathematics, the children have been devoted to mastering their multiplication tables in preparation for the national Year 4 Times Tables Check. I am incredibly proud to say that every child approached this challenge with determination and confidence, and they achieved excellent results. Beyond this, we have focused on developing a deeper understanding of key mathematical concepts, ensuring that every pupil is well prepared for the next stage of their learning journey at West Tytherley.

Our English lessons this term have been inspired by the beautifully illustrated book *Black Dog* by Levi Pinfold. Through lively discussions and imaginative activities, the children explored themes of courage and facing fears. They planned, drafted and refined their own stories, using expressive vocabulary, descriptive techniques and carefully structured sentences to create powerful narratives about

characters who overcame challenges. The maturity and creativity demonstrated in their writing has been truly impressive.

In Geography, we have been exploring the topic of sustainability and examining the impact we have on our environment. The children compared how different countries—such as Japan, Brazil and India—are working to protect our planet. They learned about renewable and non-renewable resources and discussed practical ways we can all reduce our ecological footprint. To conclude the topic, the children produced thoughtful, detailed presentations, which they shared with confidence and pride.

Every Friday afternoon, Willow Class have embraced the opportunity to take part in Forest School sessions. These afternoons have enabled the children to explore our wonderful outdoor areas, from building shelters and bug hotels to studying pond life and identifying native plants. It has been a pleasure to see them problem-solve collaboratively, take safe risks and develop a deeper appreciation of the natural world around them.

Of course, no summer term would be complete without our school play, and this year's production, *The Blue Crystal*, was a true highlight. Every Key Stage 2 pupil took to the stage, performing lines, singing with passion and showcasing their talents with confidence. The creativity, teamwork and sheer joy on display were exceptional, and it is a performance that will be remembered for years to come.

As we say farewell to this academic year, I would like to share something personal. This will be my final term at West Tytherley Primary School, and I cannot express enough how grateful I am for the time I have spent here. Willow Class have been an absolute delight to teach—hard-working, kind-hearted and full of character. I will miss each and every one of them dearly, and I wish them all the very best as they move forward.

Thank you, Willow Class, for making this year so special. Wishing you all a safe and happy summer break.

Mr Harris