

The Willow Word

Although the weather hasn't always been on our side, the first half of the Spring term has been full of exciting opportunities and some fantastic learning in Willow Class.

We began our Geography topic this term with an exciting afternoon, trying to guess our mystery country! Children went on a fact scavenger hunt, finding out information such as the colours in the country's flag, its currency and national animal. When they all correctly predicted our mystery country was Spain, we tasted some traditional Spanish delicacies, like chorizo and tortilla. The children certainly enjoyed their Spanish tasting plates!



This term, Willow class have been fortunate enough to have Caitlin from Intergr8 dance come and teach the different dance styles under the 'street dance' umbrella. Throughout the term, we have learnt moves from 'criss cross' to 'squashed tomato' and in our last session, worked together in small groups to choreograph and perform our very own street dance routines. We demonstrated fantastic creativity and great team work, which amazed both Miss Lee and Caitlin.

Our concept for RE this term has been 'ritual'. We began our learning enquiry by exploring what rituals are and how people can have religious and non-religious rituals in their life. We invited Vicar James into our classroom to share with us how food is used as a ritual during communion and linked this to the story of the last supper.



Next, we explored how food is used during the Hindu prayer ritual of puja and how different rituals during this process link to the five senses. Some children loved the smell of the incense stick Miss Lee lit, whereas others found it a bit too strong! We then had the task of creating our own food ritual for our lives, thinking carefully about what might happen before and after the food is eaten and who might be involved.

A favourite lesson of the term has been Art, where children have used Banksy as inspiration to create prints that make us think about endangered animals. We began by using tracing paper and oil pastels to create monograms before transferring our designs onto polystyrene tiles and printing ink to bring our designs to life.

