



Willow Class Update!

I would like to start by saying thank you for your support during the first half term. The children have made a good start to the school year and have demonstrated growing independence and good working attitudes. I look forward to the fun we have planned this half term, and it seems to be quite a busy one, packed full with different activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that this will be my last half term at Little Eaton Primary School as, in the new year, I will be relocating. I feel very proud to have been a part of this school and will take away many great memories from my years of teaching here. Thank you to parents and children who have been part of my teaching journey and for all your support.

Our learning in November and December 2021:

In our topic this term, we will explore the life of the Maya. Through our exploration of this topic, we will locate the ancient Maya cities, explore what their cities looked like, understand the Maya hierarchy, discover what the ancient Maya believed in, learn to use the Maya writing and number system and find out what the Maya ate and where their food came from (linking with our trip to Cadbury World). We will also be exploring the Maya civilisation through making Maya clay tiles and through playing, what's believed to be, the first team sport in history, Pok-a-Tok.

English

We will be finishing off our report writing unit before moving onto poetry and our fiction story writing, where the focus will be on characterisation.

Maths:

Our focus for the first part of this term will be multiplication and division. We will be covering the following objectives:

- Multiply and divide numbers; mentally drawing upon known facts.
- Identify multiples and factors, including finding all factor pairs of a number, and common factors of two numbers.
- Recognise and use square/cube numbers and the notation for squared (²) and cubed (³).
- Multiply and divide whole numbers by 10, 100 and 1000.
- Multiply numbers up to 4 digits by a one or two digit numbers using a formal written method, including long multiplication for 2 digit numbers.
- Divide numbers up to 4 digits by a one digit number using the formal written method of short division and interpret remainders appropriately in the context.
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division.
- Solve problems involving a combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.



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Please make sure children feel confident with their times tables by regularly practising them at home. Log onto TT Rockstars (<https://ttrockstars.com/>), play games (<https://www.multiplication.com/games/all-games>) and listen to songs (https://www.youtube.com/c/laughalongandlearn?sub_confirmation=1) (Mr DeMaio <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XzfQUXqiYY>).

Weekly routines:

Homework routines will stay the same but the PE day has changed to Wednesday.

Monday - Swimming and Forest School (please bring clothes in two separate bags).

Wednesday - bring in reading journals so that daily reading can be checked. It's expected that, in Year 5, children read for twenty minutes, at least 5 times a week. Please make sure your journal and reading book is in school every day. **PE day; come dressed in your PE kit.** This will start on the **17th November** as we have a Pantomime and Bikeability in the first two weeks.

Thursday - Bring in Maths homework - new homework to be given on Friday.

Friday - Reading comprehension homework due in (we will mark it together) and the spelling test will be administered.

Bikeability

Bikeability will start on the 8th November and will run for the whole week. Children will need to come dressed in suitable leggings and footwear (school top and jumper still to be worn) every day that week. They will be cycling in all weathers so please make sure children have a waterproof and they may choose to bring gloves. If your child is due to participate in Forest School on the Monday, then I recommend just bringing in a spare pair of outdoor shoes that day. Please note, swimming lessons will still take place.

Helmets must be worn in order to participate in the lesson. If children don't have a bike to bring in, then please speak to myself or Mrs Carter/Mr Schumann.



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Dates for the diary

3rd November - M&M theatre in school - 'Beauty and the Beast'

5th November - individual photographs

w/c 8th November - Bikeability

16th/18th November - parents evening

9th December - Cadbury's World Yr5/6 trip

10th December - Christmas Jumper Day

10th December - flu immunisations

21st December - Y5/6 making Christmas table decorations

22nd December - break up for Christmas

Thank you in advance for your support,

Miss Walters