



Reception Term 3 2023

Welcome back to Term 3 in Willow Class! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday. We are all looking forward to a new term, learning all about the exciting topic of 'Dinosaurs', within our whole school topic of 'Horrible Histories'. We have turned one of our class role play areas into a Dinosaur Museum and have discovered a dinosaur egg in our water tray! I wonder what sort of dinosaur is going to hatch out of it?

Water bottles

Please continue to bring in a named water bottle every morning with fresh water for your child to drink during the school day.

Literacy

We will be sharing stories and non-fiction books about dinosaurs, Mary Anning and fossils. We will use our phonics skills to write words to describe and label our dinosaur egg and the different parts of dinosaurs. We will also begin to write simple captions using our phonics knowledge, to describe a swamp, label our buckets of imagination and create little verbal stories about dinosaurs.

Maths

Our first theme is 'Alive in 5!'. We will be exploring the number Zero, comparing numbers to 5 and investigating the composition of numbers 4 and 5 and number bonds to 5. We will also compare mass and capacity, giving dinosaurs different amounts to drink and comparing buckets of dinosaurs! Later in the term we will begin to explore the theme 'Growing 6,7,8', representing numbers 6, 7 and 8, making pairs and combining two groups of objects. We will also compare and measure dinosaur bones by length and investigate height and time.

Understanding the World

We will be exploring change, talking about the past and finding out about different fossils and dinosaurs, sorting them into different groups and finding out about herbivores and carnivores. We will also explore ice and the season of Winter and Chinese New Year.

RE

This term the focus is on stories from the **New Testament**.
Our big question is: Which stories are special and why?
Tom and Tessa will help us explore stories about Jesus' special friends and we will learn what a parable is.

Physical Development

PE will continue to be on **Monday afternoons**. We will be developing our Gymnastics skills this term and we are also continuing to develop correct letter formation when writing our letters.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term we will be exploring Papier-Mache to make dinosaur eggs and collage to make swamps! We will use clay to create dinosaur bones and salt dough to make our own fossils, exploring shape and form. We will also sing songs about dinosaurs and use instruments to make swamp and dinosaur sounds.

Reading and Phonics Little Wandle Home Learning sheets.

This term we will continue to send home reading books, one per week. Please continue to note down when you have shared this book with your child at home and ensure it is in their book bag every day to be used within school. We will also continue to send home a weekly Little Wandle Phonics Home Learning sheet.

In Phonics lessons this term, we will be learning the Spring 1 digraphs and trigraphs, such as ai, ee, ear and air. We will be reading words and sentences and writing words using these graphemes. We will also be learning new tricky words, such as 'was' and 'you' and consolidating our knowledge of all previously learnt tricky words and graphemes, such as 'ch', 'th' and 'her'.

Forest School

Forest School will continue to take place every **Friday** morning. Please can children bring in a waterproof coat/warm coat, a **hat, gloves and scarf**. Please can children be provided with a coat which you will not mind getting possibly **very muddy** and wet during the Winter sessions. We will be making dinosaur nests and bread dampers this term!

If you have any queries or concerns, however small, please do not hesitate to speak to either myself, Miss Davies or Miss Nikraz.

**Yours faithfully,
Miss Bradley**