



**LABURNUM**

PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

CHALLENGE • ACHIEVE • RESPECT • EFFORT

# **Willow Class Parent Briefing**

**Mrs Day– Willow Class Teacher**

# The Willow Class Team

Mrs Day



Mrs Leet



Mrs Johnston



Mrs Tyler



# Communications



- Please contact us in person or on Class Dojo if you have any questions or concerns – we are here to help.
- Class Dojo messages should be sent to Class Teachers (Teaching Assistants have access, but will not respond to messages).
- Class Dojo – messages sent outside of the core hours of 8am – 5:30pm may not be responded to until the next working day.
- All issues should be addressed with your child’s Class Teacher initially.
- Issues raised with the school office or a senior leader will usually be passed back to the Class Teacher first.
- Our full Communications Policy is available on our school website.



# Curriculum Overview – National Curriculum

- We have an exciting and full year of learning ahead – full details are available on the school website.
- Highlights this term:
  - English: The Lost Happy Ending and Leon and the Place Between
  - Maths: Place Value, Addition and Subtraction
  - Science: Electricity and Sound
  - Art & Design: Storytelling through Art (Autumn 2)
  - Computing: Computing Systems and Networks and Creating Media (Audio Editing)
  - Design Technology: Electrical Circuits in houses (Autumn 1)
  - French: Phonics, Presenting Myself and Family
  - Geography: Volcanoes and Earthquakes (Autumn 2)
  - History: Local Study: Railways (Autumn 1)
  - Music: Instrumental sessions with P. Bones provided by Inspiring Music
  - Physical Education: Coordination, Balance and Agility, Gym and Dance
  - Relationship & Health Education: Me and my relationships and Valuing Differences
  - Religious Education: How is faith expressed in Hinduism and Sikhism?
  - Values: Respect, Resilience, Peace and Patience



# Current Timetable

- This is subject to change according to the needs of the children

	8:45	9:00	9:15	9:30	9:30-10:30		11:12		12:50	1:10	2:10	2:10	3:10	3:10
Monday- RD gate	Multiplication Tables	Circle Time	Spelling		English	Playtime 10:30-10:45	Class read	Maths	Reading	History	PE Indoor		RD- Music Appreciation	
Tuesday	Handwriting	Spelling		English	Class read		Maths	Reading	Science			Picture News in class		
Wednesday PPA pm	Multiplication Tables	Spelling		English	Class read		Maths	Library group/ Picture News	Mrs Hutchison Computing	Mr Colbran- Ingham Music (T Bone)		Library group/ Picture News		
Thursday- RD gate	Handwriting	Spelling		English	Class read		Maths	Reading	French	RE (Religio us EduCati on)		Values Assembly Mr Bardell		
Friday	Multiplication Tables	Circle Time	Spelling		English		Class read	Maths	Reading	PE Outdoor	RHE (Relationships and Health Education) Circle Time		3:00 Celebration Mr Bardell	
								Lunchtime (12- 12:50)						

Willow Class Parent Briefing: Mrs R Day– Willow Class Teacher



# Maths

- All tables including rapid recall
- Place value to thousands:
- Representing, partitioning numbers
- Compare and order numbers
- Using number lines
- Estimation
- Roman numerals
- Rounding
- Addition and Subtraction up to four digits including:
- Exchanging
- Estimation
- Checking calculations



# English (Writing and Grammar)

- full stops and capital letters
- commas for cohesion
- pronouns and nouns for cohesions and lack of repetition
- paragraphs
- varying sentence openers including:
  - fronted adverbial (time, place, manner, frequency)
  - a wider range of conjunctions (when, if, because, although)
  - prepositional phrases (over the hill, upon the horizon)
  - apostrophes and inverted commas
- writing stamina



# Home Learning Expectations Year 3 & 4

- Children are expected to practise core skills every week:
  - Reading - ideally daily, but at least 3 times a week with an adult.
  - Number facts practiced and recalled online using Numbots/Sumdog.
  - Multiplication and division facts, up to 12x12, recalled in any order at speed (online using Sumdog / TT Rockstars / [Carol Vorderman Times Table Check](#)).
  - Year 4 may also receive specific additional times table activities.
- Children should learn and rehearse the information sent home on knowledge organisers (Science and History/ Geography).
- Extra homework may be given out periodically with a set date for submission.
- Spelling list shared on dojo fortnightly, not a set list to learn a week with a test on Friday.





# Reading:

- All learning becomes more easily accessible when you read fluently. It allows you to focus on comprehension and taking on board what the information is, whether that be a story, poem, recipe or information.
- KS2 children should be reading daily although perhaps not always to an adult.
- Free reader Reading Journals (cover and record) and Yellow Reading Records (logging when they read and what they're reading).

## TEN AMAZING BENEFITS OF READING BOOKS



- Strengthens your writing skills
- Improves your memory and focus
- Enhances your imagination
- Increases your vocabulary
- Expands your knowledge
- Stimulates your brain
- Boosts your mood
- Deepens empathy
- Helps you relax
- Lowers stress



# Year 4 Multiplication tables check:

Times  
table  
check in  
June

## Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, your child will be participating in the multiplication tables check in June.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help your child's school to identify if your child may need additional support.

## What is the Multiplication tables check?

It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

## What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, these can be used to support pupils with specific needs. Your child's teacher will ensure that the access arrangements are appropriate for your child before they take the check in June.

The check has been designed so that it is inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). However, there may be some circumstances in which it will not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check, even when using suitable access arrangements. If you have any concerns about your child accessing the check, you should discuss this with your child's headteacher.

## Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

No, you do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check. As part of usual practice, teachers may ask you to practise times tables with your child.

Schools will have unlimited access to a try it out area from March. They can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support required to access the check. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required.

## How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, allowing those pupils who need additional support to be identified.

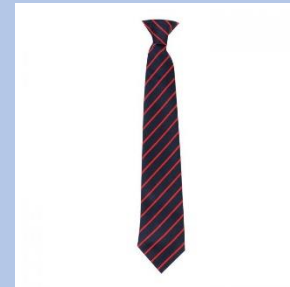
## Will I receive feedback on my child's check?

Yes. Your child's teacher will share your child's score with you, as they would with all national curriculum assessments. There is no pass mark for the check.



# Uniform Expectations: Year 3-6

- All children are expected to wear the correct school uniform:
  - Grey shorts/ trousers/ skirt or pinafore dress
  - Plain white shirt and school tie
  - School jumper or cardigan with school logo
  - Sensible black shoes (not trainers)
  - Grey socks or tights
  - In the Summer Term, navy blue and white checked gingham dresses may be worn
- Sports and PE Kit:
  - School sports shirt (navy and red) with school logo, navy shorts or jogging bottoms, navy socks, plimsolls or trainers. School jumpers, fleeces or plain navy blue jumpers may also be worn on PE days.



*Please contact us if you need help – we do have some very good quality second hand uniform available at a very low cost.*

# PE and Physical Activity

- All classes Y1-6 have two PE sessions a week. Children should come to school in their PE kit on these days. Our class PE days are:
  - **Monday & Friday**
- In addition to PE lessons, we expect all children to engage in additional physical activity. This can be in their play, but also through specific activities such as, 'The Golden Mile,' which takes place regularly and builds fitness and stamina for all children.



# Health and Safety

- For safety reasons children should not wear jewellery in school. If your child has pierced ears, then studs only are accepted.
- A child may wear a watch, but the school cannot accept responsibility for it.
- Long hair (shoulder length or longer) should be tied back with red or navy bands.



# Food & Drinks (snacks and lunchtimes)

- No nuts or foods containing nuts.
- Healthy Snacks:
  - Provided for all children in N-Y2, but children may also bring their own snack.
  - Not provided Y3-6. Children are encourage to bring their own snack.
  - All snacks must be a piece of raw fruit or vegetable – no other snacks will be permitted.
- Water Bottles:
  - All children should bring a water bottle – this should contain water only.
- Lunch:
  - Reception – Year 2 may have a funded school meal or a packed lunch.
  - Year 3-6 – school meals are no longer funded – consider applying for Free School Meals.
  - Packed lunches should be balanced and healthy and contain no more than one cake/chocolate item.



# Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

- Contact Central Bedfordshire Council if you think you might be eligible:

## Qualifying benefits to receive free school meals

The qualifying benefits to receive free school meals for children in Year 3 and over are:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

## How to apply for free school meals

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call us on **0300 300 8306**. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

**Central  
Bedfordshire**



# Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

- All children eligible for Free School Meals receive:
  - An individual plan to support learning,
  - Reduced price school visits,
  - Free Milk at morning break (if requested),
  - Free School Lunches,
  - A yearly uniform voucher,
  - Free access to Breakfast Club every day,
  - Reduced price after school clubs,
  - A termly book linked to in-class learning (to keep forever)
  - Additional support in discussion with the Class Teacher and Pupil Premium Lead (Mrs Dawes).





# Educational Visits this year:

- Spring Term: 27<sup>th</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> March – Residential to Grafham Water Centre
- Summer Term: Date TBC- Verulamium Visit

*Children eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant (Free School Meals) pay reduced costs for school visits – we want all children to take part, so please contact the school office or your child's class teacher if the cost of a school visit is causing an issue for you.*

**Payment plans are set up for all residential visits as these are more expensive.**

