



**Books/Stories/Poems:**

River by Valerie Bloom,  
The Watertower by Gary Crew  
Beneath the Surface by Gary Crew,  
Midsummer Night's Dream,  
Harry Potter and the philosophers stone by JK Rowling  
A variety of non-fiction.

**Visit/Visitors**

Visit to the Forest Schools site.

**MFL**

- 1) Develop their language skills and will continue to learn about the weather
- 2) Use the language of clothing.
- 3) Learn about the different flavours of ice cream and will revise likes and dislikes.



**English**

Writing: Formal leaflet about the Mississippi or Thames, River poetry, Exploration of Harry Potter, Persuasive debate lined to the European Union, Exploration of plays and design, persuasion and Recounts.

Reading: Individual, Fiction & non-fiction, research into rivers, Whole class RIC (Retrieve, Interpret, Choice Reading Lessons)

**Mathematics**

Number; formal methods of calculation  
Measures/Area& Perimeter  
Statistics/ Fractions  
Problem solving and investigations  
Arithmetic tests to get used to the new SAT format



**Music**

Journey Into Space - Exploring sound sources  
The children will discover how sounds can be altered or combined to create varying moods and sensations.  
Who Knows? - Exploring musical processes  
the children will combine a range of musical skills covered this year to create a composition.

**R.E.** - Exploration of religious buildings and Eucharist

**P.E.** Athletics in preparation for Sports day  
Bat and ball skills.

- 1) Comparison of an area of the UK and North America.
- 2) Using compasses and maps for direction.
- 3) Recognise the continents and oceans.

**Science**

- Evolution and inheritance,
- Fossils,
- Charles Darwin,
- Adaptation of plants,
- Adaptation of animals,
- Predicting future evolution.

**Art/DT**

- 1) Using and crafting with clay to create fossils.
- 2) Exploration of watercolours in the style of Monet.
- 3) Papier Mache river bed model.
- 4) 3D Diagon alley model as part of art week.

**Computing** - 1)Use logical reasoning to design, write and debug computer programs, 2) Exploring Excel spreadsheets, 3) Further develop ways of using technology safely, respectfully and responsibly, while using online programs including email

Dear Parents/Carers

As you can see, we have a very busy term ahead of us with our new topic 'Wild Rivers'. I am delighted to be back teaching the pupils in Willow class, alongside Mrs Duffy, and look forward to seeing how much they have achieved.

Willow PE will now be on Monday afternoon and Friday afternoon. In the colder, damper weather, please could children have warm tops and long trousers (grey or black track bottoms). It is also useful if they have a spare pair of socks in their PE kit.

Homework will continue to be set on Thursdays and given in on Mondays. Four pieces of homework will be set each week, designed to take 20 minutes each. These will include spellings, reading, and maths. Your child will also have their chosen times table to learn each week. Please could you remind them of the importance of handing homework in on time. We have limited times for marking and if it is not in on time it will not be possible to mark it before the next set is given out. There will of course be the odd time when homework is forgotten or not finished for genuine reasons - please tell your child to speak to me about it and I will help them to catch up.

I know how much this class enjoy reading and how much they enjoy being read to, we are going to continue to challenge the children to read in unusual places and would be grateful for any photographs for our class display. It would be helpful if you could hear your child read as often as possible and also read to them, in addition to their independent reading, which should be every day. We will continue to record how many times they have read for the Reading Light Years. To make it easier, reading diaries should be handed in with homework on Mondays.

Spellings will follow the National Curriculum patterns along with two words from the non-negotiable list. Tables and spellings will be tested on Monday.

It is lovely to see so many children arriving in class at 8.30, and I will use this opportunity for some extra learning opportunities. This will include discussion activities, reading opportunities and mathematical puzzles.

I would like to start lessons promptly at 8.45 every morning. I appreciate that there are times you need to talk to me and I am very happy to do this, but it is difficult to discuss things in confidence in the class with the children. Therefore, unless it is something that affects the day, please try to catch me at the gate at the end of the day, or ask the office to arrange a meeting with me. I am in school every evening except Fridays.

As we approach the NCT tests in May, we will continue to hold booster groups for the children.

It would also be fantastic if the pupils could begin to bring in: newspapers, egg boxes, cereal boxes, kitchen paper tubes and any copies of Harry Potter and the Philosophers stone that you have at home. We are going to create a 3D interpretation of Diagon alley, as part of the schools art week, towards the end of the first half term.

Throughout this final term we will be preparing the year 6 pupils for their move to secondary school. If you have any concerns please do come and speak to me and I look forward to teaching your children for the rest of the year.

Laura Sandon-Webb & Jo Duffy