



Kirtlington  
C.E. School

**Kirtlington C E School**  
**Heyford Road**  
**Kirtlington**  
**Oxon OX5 3HL**

Telephone (01869) 350210

Fax (01869) 351961

E-mail: [office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk).

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

We hope you had a lovely Easter break and are ready for a successful summer term.

**Values**

This term the school value we are focusing on is **individuality** and the related Christian value is **respect**. Please remember our school motto – **Aspire and Achieve Altogether**.

**Growth Mind Set**

This term we are continuing to work on and improve the children's growth mind set. Through this we hope to continue to improve the children's learning by fostering a positive attitude to learning.

**Curriculum**

Our new topic for this term will be 'Tremors' where we will be looking at the history of Roman life and particularly Pompeii and will use maps to locate cities and famous volcanoes. We will learn about the layers of the Earth and how volcanoes erupt and in Art and DT we will make our own erupting volcano. We will also be looking at how rocks are made and will consider the different properties of rocks.

**English**

All the children will have daily spelling lessons. Each child will have a guided reading /reading comprehension session once a week with the teacher and other children and books appropriate to their level of reading. This reading session will be concentrating on Reciprocal Reading. In Willow Class the children take responsibility for changing their own books to reflect their reading ability. We will continue to remind the children of this process but please feel free to come into class at the end of the day to change their books. However, please ensure that your child has read the book at least three times (if they are a Year 2) as the first read is often mainly decoding and subsequent reads then support their comprehension and understanding of the book.

Please keep reading with your child at home, a short session of 10 to 15 minutes each day does make a difference to their confidence, fluency and understanding. Please remember to write in the school diary what they have read. This earns the children house points. *Please remember that we do not have the time to do one to one reading with the children every day in school, so it is vital for them to have this one to one reading time with an adult at home.* We will send home a



list of questions that would be useful to ask the children when they are reading to you, to support their reading comprehension.

This term in writing we will be looking at story writing, persuasive writing, information books, poetry and writing for different purposes.

### **Maths**

Maths is taught daily during the morning and the children will work in groups. Children in Willow Class will continue to learn their times tables this term. Please help your children to practise the appropriate time tables they are working on each week (the children will know their individual times table target). When they have instant recall, they will be moved onto the next times table. This term will start with work on Fractions and will also be looking at measurement and time. Please could you help your child to learn to tell the time. We encourage the wearing of analogue watches not digital.

### **Homework**

Normally homework will be available on the school website every Friday. Please let us know if you require a paper copy. We ask that completed homework be handed in each Thursday so that it can be marked and time can be found towards the end of the week for sharing of tasks when appropriate. Homework books will be returned home on a Friday. There will also be spelling lists which will be given out each week to be learnt for a test the following week.

### **Weekly Routines**

#### **PE:**

Our PE sessions will take place on Monday and Friday afternoons. The children learn PE from our new PE scheme of work, 'Real PE', which aims to create positive relationships with physical activity for life. Please note that for all inside lessons the children will need to wear shorts *not tracksuit bottoms*. Please ensure that ALL items of clothing are named.

#### **Outdoor Learning/Forest Schools:**

This term Willow Class will be having Forest School sessions on Wednesday afternoons where obviously they will need their forest school kit. In addition, please can you make sure your child has wellington boots and a waterproof in school at all times as sometimes we will be out in wet weather.

#### **Morning/Evening Routine:**

In the morning the school gates will be open at **8.35am** and the children will go straight into class, via Beech Class entrance. There will be an early morning activity for the children to do in class, while they are waiting for the rest of the class and during the register. At the end of the day the children will be let out into the playground via Beech Class so that parents can pick them up by the pond area. Children have been told that they should stay with the class teacher until their parent or carer/child minder actually picks them up.

If you have any change to your child's routine at the end of the day, please contact the office and they will pass a message onto us.



## Making Contact

Should you need to contact us about any matters arising, please contact the school office and they will make sure that mail is re-directed:

[office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch](mailto:office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch).

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as we are often busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In all cases we will endeavour to reply to you within 3 working days, within school hours. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child then you should contact the school office or speak to one of us at the start of the day.

## Reminders

- Packed lunches – please can we remind you that the school requests that packed lunches do not contain nuts – as we do have children in school who have life-threatening allergic reactions to them. We also ask that grapes and cherry tomatoes included in lunch boxes are cut in half to help prevent choking.
- Water Bottles – please make sure children have a water bottle with them very day (separate from any drink in their lunch box) as this allows them to access water as and when they require it. Water only in these bottles please (not squash, juice or flavoured water). Also, please ensure that water bottles have a spout ('ideally an 'anyway up' spout) and do not need the tops to be unscrewed and removed to drink. This will help us to avoid spillages.
- Absence and sickness – please let the office know if your child is not attending because they are ill. Also, please note that Health Protection Agency guidance states that children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode of either sickness or diarrhoea.
- Hair – please can you ensure that long hair is tied back. This helps ensure children's safety when using climbing equipment etc. and also curbs the spread of head lice.
- Wellingtons/Outdoor Shoes – please make sure that your child is prepared for the outdoor play during the summer by providing wellies or outdoor shoes/trainers, a waterproof coat and a sun hat. Trainers are needed when playing on the school fort. Wellies and trainers can be left at school so that they are available every day for your child to use. **All items should be clearly named.**
- Tissues – Willow Class would be very grateful for any donations of boxes of tissues throughout the term. Thank you to the people who have already sent some in.

With, very many thanks, and looking forward to working with you this summer.

**Pat Vincent**





Headteacher: Louise Williams



Chair of Governors: Sara Carey



School Business Manager: Ruth Pangu

