



Stoneraise School

# Class Willow Newsletter

## Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term

Dear parents,

Welcome to Class Willow! I hope everyone has had a lovely Summer and had a chance to relax. We're in for an exciting year and we look forward to getting to know you all.

We want your child to have fun while they learn so we have some exciting activities planned to fit in with our topic this half term, which is: 'Autumn'.

### English

In English we look at a different book each week linked to our topic, and do lots of fun activities around this. This half term we will be looking at books like: 'The Leaf Man', 'Pumpkin Soup', 'Squirrel's Autumn Search' and many more.



We will use these books to look at how stories are structured, and they will be linked towards other aspects of the curriculum.

### Reading

Instilling a love of reading is important, and to do this we like to read as a whole class every day. Children can also sit and choose a book from our Reading Area during Planning Time.

Every child takes a reading book home too, along with a reading record. We ask that you listen to your child read for at least five minutes, five days a week, then make a quick note in their reading record. Staff will listen to the children read too, at least once a week, and during this we will change your child's book.

At first the children will receive books with pictures in (some have may have writing). At this early stage we ask the children to tell their own story using the pictures that they see. Once the children start reading, they will then move up a book level and will begin to read simple sentences. More about this will be sent in a separate letter.

### Maths

We'll be doing lots of practical, hands on work in maths, looking at: recognising numbers, counting, sorting, spotting missing numbers, weight, and 2D shape.

### Phonics

Phonics is taught daily from 10:15-10:40. After the children have settled into school life we will be starting at Phase 1 and quickly moving on to Phase 2. Once we get started, Phonics Sound Mats will be sent out in your children's book bags, so if you wanted to practice these at home then that would be fantastic! Phonics can be practised on the computer too using [phonicsplay.co.uk](http://phonicsplay.co.uk) (Username and password are both laptop). Click on any game at the phase your child is working on.

### Science/Topic

We have lots of fantastic and exciting experiments planned for Science, all linked to Autumn. We will be looking at what happens in Autumn, hibernation, why the leaves fall off the trees, and how the leaves change colour.

### Art

Autumn is a lovely topic to look at colours, especially as all the colours on the trees start to change. We will be experimenting with mixing colours and creating Autumn pictures using lots of different materials.

### P.E.

P.E. will be taught on Monday and Wednesday afternoon. This half term we will be mainly practicing getting changed into our P.E. Kit independently. It would be a great help if parents could encourage this independence at home too. We will also be playing lots of practical games to experiment with different ways of moving.

We are very excited to start this new school year, getting to know everyone and learning lots about numbers, sounds, writing and Autumn!

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me through the school office, or organsie a time to speak with me after school.

Miss. Morton & Mrs. Ferguson