

# Willow Class

September 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Willow Class. I hope you had an enjoyable summer holiday. This is an important year for a lot of the children and I am really pleased with how they have settled back into school. I'm looking forward to teaching them and I'm sure we will have a fantastic year.

For the year 6s, there is also the exciting prospect of the residential visit to Yenworthy Lodge in November. More information will be sent out nearer the time.

This year the children will be taught by myself, Miss Zabell and Mrs Gersok. Mrs Chase will support the class on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

School Lunches are £2.10. Please put school lunch money in a sealed envelope, with the days required and your child's name written on the front. These should go to your child's class teacher (or your eldest child's teacher) each Monday morning.

Our topic until Christmas is 'Stone Age to Iron Age Britain'. This will include learning about:

History - Stone Age, Bronze Age & Iron Age life.

Art - Ice Age art (cave paintings).

D&T - Stonehenge

Geography - Hill forts (map skills, contour lines).

Science - Earth & Space and Forces.

E-Safety - In the next few days your child will be bringing home a copy of our new school e-safety agreement which is designed to make sure that children know how to stay safe on the internet. Please read this through with your child and make sure they understand what it means, before filling in the attached agreement form and returning it to school as soon as possible. You will get a copy for each child attending the school and there is a separate form for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

PE is on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Children should have an indoor and outdoor kit in school, including plimsolls or trainers. Children with long hair will also need a hair band to tie their hair back. Please refer to the school website for correct kit. It is helpful if they can keep their kit in school all week, as we may need it on other days. **All jewellery must be removed and earrings covered with plasters from home for PE lessons (earrings must be removed for swimming lessons). Long hair must be tied up for PE.**

## Reading

We want to encourage daily reading for pleasure at Horspath. In the past we have asked children to complete short tasks or comment about the book they are reading in their reading diary, but we have decided that these sorts of activities would be better done in class in a new reading journal. We still encourage children to read at home every night and to write down the page number they reached, and house points will be awarded for reading. *For further information, please see the attached letter about reading at home.*

This year Willow Class will start to use Class Dojo, an online reward system, to keep track of house points that have been awarded. The children will enjoy being able to see how many points they have received each day. They can also go online and customize their monster avatar! Log in details will be coming home in a letter.

Learning logs (homework) will be given on a Friday and should be handed in the following Tuesday, unless there is a specific date given. House points are also awarded for completing learning logs and the standard of work. The children should be responsible for handing in their homework on time and if it is not completed or handed in, they will complete it at school in their own time.

Please make sure your child has the correct uniform and that all uniform is labelled with their name.

If you have any queries about what your child will be doing this term or have any concerns about your child, please come and see me either before or after school and I will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Michelle Bailey