

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) we plan our teaching alongside the children's interests. If the class is really interested and engaged in a particular topic or an activity spurs them on to want to find out more, we try and adapt our teaching and what we are doing to match their enthusiasm. Although these are some possible activities, please be aware that we may not cover them all and may go off in another direction at some point!

Our main topics will be: **Getting to Know You, Nursery Rhymes and Animal Rhymes, Harvest/Autumn and Woodlands.**

Expressive arts and Design

Weekly music sessions

Using materials such as paint, drawing, junk modelling and natural objects
Exploring techniques such as fixing, joining, designing, cutting, sticking and collage

Singing familiar songs and nursery rhymes

Role play, dressing up, playing instruments and small world play

Learning and performing songs for our Christmas Performance

Understanding the World

People, Culture and Communities: Our Families; Harvest Festival; Diwali; Christmas
RE: Special People: What makes People Special? (focus religions: Christianity and Judaism)

Christmas: What is Christmas? (Christianity) Diwali (the Hindu Festival of Light)

The World: We will look closely at the natural world and the changes of autumn and winter.

We will think about how food and ingredients are harvested and made.

Past and Present: We will compare farming in the past and present.

Literacy

Our daily **phonics** sessions will introduce us to sounds and letters we need to learn to read and write. We follow the **Little Wandle** scheme for our sessions and do group reading every day. More information on phonics and reading will be given at our information session.

Some of the stories/texts we will use in our learning include:
nursery rhymes such as Incy Wincy Spider, the Oi Frog series, Little Red Hen, Owl Babies, and many more.

We use the **Talk for Writing** process in our Literacy sessions, which starts by enjoying and sharing stories. It involves learning chosen stories off by heart and eventually adapting stories to make our own. We will make story maps to retell stories and use actions to recite and act them out. Our Independent Writing Wall will celebrate our own writing and mark making.

What are Willow Class doing this term?

Autumn 2025

The Importance of PLAY

ALL sessions in Willow Class give children the opportunity to choose their own learning and learn through play. We call this **Busy Bees**. The children will lead their own play as well as take part in play led by adults. Our learning environment is carefully planned and resources are provided to support this. This purposeful play supports development across all areas of learning.

Mathematics – Mastering Number

Through lots of active and engaging games and activities, we will:

- Practise **subitising** (to 'see' or recognise an amount/quantity without needing to count)
- Identify when to subitise and when to count
- Focus on counting skills, including counting object
- Explore the **composition** of numbers and how they are made of 1s; the 'fiveness of 5'; a 'whole' and 'part'
- Compare sets and use 'more than', 'fewer than' and 'an equal number'
- Match numbers to quantities within 10
 - Verbally count beyond 20

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

Our focus at the beginning of term will be being **ready to learn**. Children will be encouraged to be **independent, confident and challenge themselves**

Jigsaw PSHE lessons: Being in My World
Celebrating Difference

Physical Development

Our **PE lessons** on Wednesdays will introduce us to PE, learning to negotiate space and equipment. We will be doing **PARACHUTE GAMES**. Our **Forest School** sessions on Thursdays will involve lots of fine and gross motor skills, such as tying knots, threading, building and climbing.

We will start our days with **Move and Make mornings**, which will involve activities such as threading, cutting, drawing and working towards correct pencil control for writing letters and numbers. We will also make big movements with our bodies to get us ready for learning!