

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!

Expressive arts and Design

Music: Music and Movement; Musical Stories

Using materials such as paint, drawing, junk modelling and natural objects (eg. making rockets; vehicles; traps; houses; Chinese dragons)

Exploring techniques such as fixing; joining; designing; cutting; sticking and collage (eg. making moving astronauts, rockets, beanstalks, Chinese lanterns)

Singing familiar songs and nursery rhymes (eg. 5 Little Men; Twinkle Twinkle; This Little Piggy)

Role play, dressing up, playing instruments and small world play (eg. space centre; castle; building site)

Understanding the World

People, Culture and Communities: Lunar New Year; Shrove Tuesday and Pancake Day
Night and Day and routines

The World: Space and Our World

Past and Present: Vehicles Now and Then; Growing

Literacy

Our focus stories will be: **Whatever Next!**, **How to Catch a Star**, **Jack and the Beanstalk** and **The Three Little Pigs**.

We use the **Talk for Writing** process in our Literacy sessions, which starts by enjoying and sharing stories. We will learn stories off by heart and eventually adapting stories to make our own, or **INNOVATING**. We will make story maps to retell stories and use actions to recite and act them out. We will also write words, phrases and sentences from the stories to retell them.

Our Independent Writing Wall will celebrate our own writing and mark making.

In phonics, we will learn new digraphs and trigraphs, as well as new tricky words. Please see info sent via Tapestry.

What are Willow Class doing this term?

Spring 2026

Our topics this term will be:

SPACE **LUNAR NEW YEAR**
OUR WORLD **GROWING**
TRADITIONAL TALES

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. This **purposeful play** supports development across all areas of learning.

Mathematics

Our Maths lessons will follow the Mastering Number programme. Children will: subitise beyond 5; explore the structures of 6 and 7; understand doubling; play track games and order numbers; sort odd and even numbers by their 'shape'; compare numbers; understand ordinality using the 'staircase' pattern; count verbally beyond 20.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

Children are always encouraged to be **independent, confident and challenge themselves**.

We will be celebrating Children's Mental Health week 9-15th Feb

Jigsaw PSHE lessons: Dreams and Goals
Healthy Me

Physical Development

Our **Make and Move** morning activities help us practise our gross and fine motor skills.

Our **PE lessons** on Wednesday will be learning to play Boccia.

Our **Forest School** sessions on Thursdays will involve fine and gross motor skills, such as tying knots, threading, using tools, building structures and climbing. We will also be doing lots of 'risky play'.

We will continue **bikeability balance bike** session each week.

Fine motor skills (or **small fiddly jobs!**) will be a focus, strengthening our hands for writing. We will practise forming letters and numbers correcting, as well as threading, using tweezers and other small objects. We will also have **handwriting** sessions.