



Kirklevington Primary School
Willow News Autumn Term 2026

Welcome to Willow Class! We hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are feeling ready for the year ahead. We are looking forward to working with your children and being a part of their important Reception journey. We have pulled together some useful information about the busy term ahead and you will be given regular updates about events throughout the term.

Our topics for the Autumn term are:

'Me and My Community', 'Let's Explore', 'Marvellous Machines' and 'Puppets and Pop ups'.

Communication, Language and Literacy

This half term, our main topic is 'Me and My Community'. This topic will support children with settling into the new rules and routines of school and will encourage them to make new friends and feel confident in their class. It teaches children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and at school. The children will also learn about how they are unique and special, the importance of friendship and how people in their family, school and local community are important and can help them. Every week, we will look at a new story to inspire our play and learning. Some of these stories include: *The Colour Monster*, *We're Going On A Bear Hunt*, *In Every House in Every Street* and *Monkey Puzzle*.

Towards the end of the half term, we will begin to explore the changing season and immerse ourselves into Autumn by going on an Autumn Walk, learning about the natural changes that happen during Autumn, finding out how wild animals prepare for winter and using Autumn to inspire our art work.

Next half term, we will move onto our 'Marvellous Machines' and 'Puppets and Pop Ups' topics where we will explore technology and how machines help us. The children will have opportunity to create their own moving puppets and use them to tell exciting stories. We will use stories such as *Harry and the Robot*, *Mrs Armitage on Wheels* and *Stick Man* to inspire our learning.

In Phonics, your child will be introduced to Phase 2 and the sounds that letters make (phonemes). They will begin by learning the single letter sounds and learn to read consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words such as 'sat' and 'pin'. They will also learn some high frequency words (words that cannot be sounded out phonetically) such as 'the', 'to' and 'go'. Alongside this, children are taught phrases to develop correct orientation of letters when forming them and we will send home a list of these phrases later in the term.

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing to practise at home. During this half term, your child will be given one of three types of books to bring home. To begin with, they may bring home a sharing book for you to enjoy together, that they will not be able to read on their own. They may bring home a wordless

book for you to look at and discuss together. Encourage your child to talk about the pictures and make up their own stories based on what they can see. When your child is ready, they will bring home a 'blending practice book' that will be pitched at the correct phonic stage for your child and will be for your child to read themselves, with your support. A practice book will help your child build reading confidence and fluency. Reading books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday, if there is a note from home in their Reading Record stating that the book has been read. After half term, we will also send a collection of e-books for your child to access at home. These books will be linked to the Group Reading books they are working on in school so they will be familiar to them. You will be given login details for this at Parents' Evening.

Mathematics

In our Numeracy sessions, we will use the Ten Town scheme to develop number knowledge. Each number is represented by a memorable character, such as King One and Tommy Two, and children learn rhymes that help them remember the correct way to form and write each number.

We will begin by matching, sorting and comparing amounts. We will then compare sizes, mass and capacity and explore different types of patterns. From now until Christmas, we will focus on recognising the numbers 1 - 10, looking at how we subitise, count and represent different quantities of amounts. The children will learn the concept of 'one more' and 'one less'. They will learn to represent up to 5 objects on a five frame and look at shapes that have up to four sides. We will talk about night and day, in relation to time and order key events in our daily routine.

Physical Development

This half term, Reception will be taking part in a Yoga session, in our school hall, on a Friday morning. Your child will need to wear their PE kit to school on this day. Our PE kit consists of a white t-shirt, black shorts/jogging bottoms and a pair of suitable shoes (the children will still access our outdoor area on a PE day so trainers will be best). Throughout the academic year, the day of our PE session might change but we will send regular updates informing you of any changes.

Willow Class will also be taking part in Forest School on a Tuesday morning (for this half term only). Your child can come to school dressed in their outdoor PE kit on a Tuesday. This consists of black leggings / jogging bottoms, a green hooded jumper / jacket (or their school jumper), a white t-shirt and suitable footwear. You may send wellies for them to change into, before their Forest School session, in a named carrier bag.

Your child will receive a cup of milk and a piece of fruit each day. Your child should come to school with a water bottle every day. Please could you make sure that their water bottle only contains water. It is also a good idea to send some spare clothes to keep on their peg (such as a pair of socks, pants, trousers and a t-shirt) in case your child has an accident or gets wet or muddy in our outdoor area.

Please can we remind you to make sure your child's name is in all items of clothing. As you can imagine, it is very tricky to keep track of everyone's belongings in the Early Years so we would appreciate your support with this.

What's happening this term?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading book change	Forest School (wear PE kit and bring wellies if it's wet)		Reading book change	Yoga (wear PE kit)

Mrs Patterson and Mrs Burns will be your child's class teachers, supported by Miss Cameron every day. Mrs Patterson and Mrs Burns will share the teaching role, in Willow Class. Below, you will find a record of their working days but, please be aware, these days sometimes change, depending on what is happening in school.

Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs Patterson	Mrs Patterson	Mrs Burns	Mrs Burns	Mrs Burns

Week 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs Patterson	Mrs Burns	Mrs Burns	Mrs Patterson	Mrs Patterson

We hope you find this information useful and if you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Patterson, Mrs Burns and Miss Cameron

