



Dear Parents and Carers,

The staff in Willow Class would like to say a huge **thank you** for all the lovely cards and gifts you sent us at Christmas time.

We are excited to start the Spring Term and have planned exciting activities for the children, through our topic Little Explorers. Attached you will find the topic plan, which shows the learning that will take place in each area of learning.



Talk Time Box

As we want the children to talk about their interests, we have set up a Talk Time Box. This is for them to place one thing into, ready to talk about sometime during the week. Please explain to your child, as we will, they can only bring in one thing a week. We encourage interesting objects linked to their experiences, learning or things they have made. They do not have to bring something in every week.

Reading

The children will be bringing home a new small Set1 letter sound book. This is for you to keep at home to revisit the sounds we have already learnt. We will be continuing with our word sound books for practising blending. Your child will need to show us they can read the words in their numbered book, before moving onto the next.

The children will also be able to choose a book from our free choice book box, to develop their love of stories and texts. This book is for you to read to them, encouraging talk about story events and characters, not for them to attempt reading themselves.

Later this term, or when your child is ready, they will have a red Read Write Inc. short story book, which will link to their phonic knowledge. We encourage you to support your child in reading this more than once throughout the week. Revisiting will hopefully lead to speedier reading later in the year.

Please encourage them to Fred talk before attempting to read words, if needed. The double letter sounds; sh, ch, th, qu, nk, ng, ck are called special friends. We ask the children to spot if there are any special friends first before attempting to read a word. You might like to use our phrase,

“Any special friends?” (They point to and sound if there is)

“Great, now Fred talk and say the word.”



“sh - i - p, ship.”

Wellies

With the weather likely to get worse over the next few months, wellies maybe a good idea to send in for your child, if you haven't already. They can go back and forth daily if needed at home too. We do have spare pairs in school so please **don't** worry if you can't provide them. We are very short of spare clothes so a spare pair of clothes, particularly socks, would be much appreciated. This can stay in a bag on their pegs until needed.



Indoor Shoes

We sent a message out before Christmas asking if you could provide a pair of indoor shoes. Please do let us know if you have struggled to find any, as we do have some spare pairs of pumps that may fit your child.

Many Thanks for your continued support.