

# Year 1 newsletter

## February 2025

*Be Creative- Be Authentic- Be your Best*



### English

The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring *The Secret Sky Garden* last half term. It created some passionate discussions around recycling and the need to plant wildflowers. They wrote letters to Mrs Kennedy asking for recycling bins to be placed in each classroom. Mrs Kennedy was persuaded by their reasoning, and the bins are now being used!



### Number Day

The children in Year 1 and 2 really enjoyed participating in the NSPCC Number Day activities. They practiced lots of different maths skills including, weighing, adding/subtracting and problem solving. They had a great day!



### Design Technology

On the last day of term, the children worked together to design and create a picture that had a moving part. The moving part had to be a slider or a lever. They also had to link their picture to animals as this is what they have been looking at with Mr Peck! The children really enjoyed seeing their final piece come together.

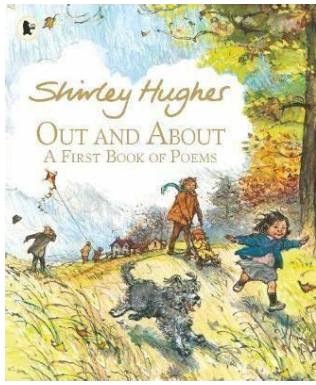


## English

We are exploring poems in our English work this half term. The children will be listening to, discussing and expressing their views about a range of poems. We will review their favourite words and phrases, as well as focusing on learning the meaning of new vocabulary that we come across.

The children will have the opportunity to recite and perform poems, focusing on using appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear.

The children are welcome to bring in any poems they read at home so we can share them with the rest of the class.



## Maths

We are focusing on the children being able to recall basic number facts quickly and accurately, this is needed to be able to access more complex maths. Please support your child to be able to recall number bonds to 5, 10 and 20. You can play this as a quick game-a few minutes a day will make a massive difference! If you say 6, your child should instantly be able to tell you that 4 more is needed to make 10. NumBots is also a brilliant tool for supporting quick recall of number facts. If you are having any difficulties accessing NumBots, please speak to me.



## Phonics

The children were assessed again before half term, and we are proud of the brilliant progress they are making. Following the assessments, the groups have been shuffled accordingly. There may be times where your child brings home a book they have previously read, please be reassured that this isn't a mistake-our phonics scheme indicates which books are appropriate for the level of each child. Repeated reading of the same text allows children to develop fluency, a story tellers voice and comprehension. These skills are all vital in developing reading independence.

**Please listen to your child read daily. It really does make a difference to their progress.**



## Reminders

**PE Days** - Monday and Tuesday. Please ensure your child attends school in their PE kit.

**Outdoor Learning** - Wednesday. If you haven't already, please bring in a named pair of wellies.

**Library** - The children will visit the library on a Thursday afternoon. If they do not return the book they already have signed out, they will not be able to choose a new book.

**Monday Morning Reading** - Thank you to the parents who have already attended these sessions. Please do come and join us!

**As always, please do come and talk to me if there is anything you would like to discuss- we really do value parental partnerships at Willow Grove.**

Thanks,

Miss Kidby