



# Welcome back to Willow class!



## Theme for the term:

Our topic this term is Important People. We will be looking at important people to us such as friends and family but also looking at some famous important people and how they have changed the world we live in.

## Key texts

We will be looking at a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts including:

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

Rules by Cynthia Lord

David Attenborough, Little People, Big Dreams.

I am Amelia Earhart, ordinary people change the world

**Welcome back to Willow Class!** I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. My name is Tamsin, and I'm delighted to be teaching in Willow again this year, alongside our teaching assistants - Jamie and Claire, who many of you will know from the past year in Willow, and Kelly, who joins us from Juniper Class. We have an exciting term ahead, filled with engaging learning opportunities, and special visitors coming into school. Please keep an eye on our home communication booklets/social media and newsletters for more information.

## **FOCUS SESSION - Emotional Literacy**

This year we are introducing emotional literacy without our weekly timetable, to support this we use 'Motional' to assess and support the learner's social, emotional and mental health needs. This helps staff to identify specific areas of development and plan targeted activities or interventions within the classroom to support emotional well-being and positive behaviour. Motional literacy refers to the ability to understand, express and manage feelings and emotions, and plays a vital role in the well-being of children at Doubletrees School. Emotional literacy plays a key role in helping learners develop the social and emotional skills they need to thrive both in and out of the classroom. For many learners, recognising their own feelings and those of others can be challenging, through targeted activities, visual supports and structure routines, staff help learners build their emotional vocabulary, learn calming strategies and develop empathy. In Willow, emotional literacy is supported through tools such as emotion check-ins, sensory stories, sensory breaks, art and group activities. These approaches help create a safe and supportive learning environment, enabling our learners to feel more in control, build positive relationships and engage more confidently in their learning.

## **Key dates and reminders this term:**

**Tuesday:** swimming - please provide a named swimming kit

**Thursday:** PE - please provide a t-shirt, shorts and trainers

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September** - National Fitness Day

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October** - Wizard of Oz Pantomime

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October:** World Mental Health Day

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** - Bikeability



# Reminders

## Willow Team!



Lisa - midday supervisor

We also have Lisa, our midday supervisor and Jake who covers Tamsin's PPA on a Thursday afternoon.



## Key vocab this term

- Finished
- Thank you
- Please
- Toilet
- Help
- Kind
- Happy
- Sad
- Angry
- Now
- Next
- Today
- Tomorrow

## Supporting Learning at Home:

- **Reading:** Please encourage your child to read their school reading book at home and record this in their reading diary.
- **Home-School Communication:** You can use your child's home-school book to share messages with us. We also welcome updates via *Evidence for Learning*—if you need help accessing this, please let us know through your child's diary.
- **Water Bottles:** Ensure your child brings a *named* water bottle to school each day.
- **Labelling Belongings:** Clearly labelling clothing and equipment makes it much easier to return lost items.
- **Snacks:** Please provide your child with a healthy snack to bring to school each day.

**Personal Learning Goals (PLGs)** Over the next couple of weeks, you'll receive your child's updated targets. These are linked to their EHCP objectives, as well as key curriculum goals in Maths and English. If you have any questions—or if there's a particular area you feel we should focus on—please feel free to get in touch.

For updates, information and useful contacts, please check our school website and Facebook pages.

[www.doubletrees.org.uk](http://www.doubletrees.org.uk)