

# Welcome back to Willow class!



## Theme for the term: Arctic Adventures

We'll be exploring life in cold environments and learning about the animals and people who live there. In PSHE, we'll be learning about keeping well. Our PE lessons will cover Gymnastics and balance, and in DT we'll be exploring foods that come from both plants and animals.

## Key texts

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

**The Arctic Fox by Holly Webb**

**Arctic Adventure**

**Arctic Animals**

**Winter Snow—Sensory story**



**Welcome back to Willow Class!** We hope you all had a lovely break and a happy New Year. This Spring Term 1, we have an exciting term ahead at Doubletrees, with engaging learning opportunities and trips out into the community. Our teaching assistants: Claire, Amie (who joins us from Elm class) and Megan (who is new to the school and brings lots of enthusiasm and creativity) - will be supporting the children throughout the term, alongside myself, Lucy.

Please keep an eye on our home communication books, social media, and newsletters for updates and more information.

## **FOCUS SESSION - Communication**

At Doubletrees School we understand that many of our students benefit from additional support with speaking, understanding and interacting with others.

Communication is embedded throughout the daily timetable. We tailor communication strategies to each child, helping them build confidence to express themselves effectively. Our approach uses a wide range of tools, including simple speech, Makaton signing, pictures, symbols, choice boards, communication books and real objects, depending on individual needs.

For some learners, AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) devices provide an essential means of connecting with others. This is all part of our 'total communication' approach, ensuring every child has the opportunity to engage with the world around them, both now and in the future.



**Key dates and reminders this term: Inset day - Monday 5th January (Back to school Tuesday 6th January)**

**Tuesday:** swimming - please provide a named swimming kit    **Thursdays:** PE - please provide a t-shirt, shorts and trainers

**Thursday:** Rugby sessions with Cornish Pirates (weekly for this half term starting Thursday 8th January)

**Wk. Bg. 2nd February:** National story telling week    **Monday 9th February:** Eden Ice skating trip

**Tuesday 19th February:** Safer Internet Day



# Reminders

## Willow Team!

Tamsin



Jake



Amie



Megan



Claire



Lisa - midday supervisor



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

**Home communication books**—please leave a message in the books in the morning, we check these as soon as the class arrive

**Email:** enquiries@doubletrees.org.uk—send a message to this address and it can be passed on to the right person

Please feel free to contact us about anything at all to help support you and your child in Willow class

## Contacting Willow team:

## Key vocab this term

- Angry
- Sad
- Now
- Next
- Finished
- Thank you
- Please
- Toilet
- Help

## How to support your child:

**Water bottles** - Please send your child in each day with a filled drinks bottle.

**Class fund:** thank you to those who contribute £5 to our half-termly class fund as this supports us in our Cooking/Design and Technology lessons. If you are able to contribute, please do so through Parent Pay.

**Labels** - Labelling your child's belongings really helps us make sure everything is returned to the right learner.

**Home books** - Feel free to communicate with us through your child's home-school book - any messages or updates you can share are always greatly appreciated.

**EFL** - We'd love to see what you get up to on Evidence for Learning! If you need help setting it up, just let us know via your child's home-school diary and we'll be happy to support.

**Snacks:** Please provide your child with a healthy snack for the morning.



**Personal Learning Goals (PLGs)** Please keep an eye out for the new targets and feel free to ask any questions about your child's PLG targets. These targets link to your child's EHCP as well as key curriculum goals in Maths and English. If there's anything specific you'd like us to focus on, just let us know.

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

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