



## Willow Class Newsletter

### Spring Term

#### Our Theme

Our theme for Autumn 1 is "Homes and Habitats".

Have a look below at how we will be learning about all things toys across our curriculum!



#### My Communication

In My Communication we will be exploring our favourite toys and developing a bank of preferences so that we can make requests to play with these in class. We will be learning to recognise the symbols and signs for these toys. We will also be extending our repertoire of play skills so that we can learn to play with new toys. We can't wait to read our new sensory story "In the Toy Box"!

We will be working on reading, writing and communication and interaction ALI's across the timetable.



#### My Thinking and Problem Solving

In My Thinking and Problem Solving we will be learning to choose our favourite toys, recognise when there are missing pieces and know where to find them. We will be using money in our pretend play toy shop and learning how to give a coin in exchange for a toy. We will be applying our number skills when we make our very own vehicles.

We will be working on number and cognition and learning ALI's across the timetable.



#### The World about Me

In The World about Me, we will be exploring toys from the past and looking at how they are different from toys we have now.

We will be practising our dressing skills during swimming, PE and even dressing and undressing our dolls in class.



#### Me and My Body

In Me and My Body, we will be taking part in lots of physical activity across the timetable including sensory circuits, riding bikes and playing on the playground equipment. We will be learning to dance and move like toys in our PE lessons.

We will be thinking about our mental health and what makes us happy by exploring our preferences and thinking about the people around us.



#### My Community

In My Community, we will be growing our independence in travel around the school and local community. We will be learning to walk safely with adults into Chorley town centre and visiting some toy shops. We will learn shopping routines and practice exchanging coins for toys in real life!

In school, we will be developing our social skills and learning to play with each other.



#### My Creativity

In My Creativity, we will be creating lots of different toy-based art and exploring different textures with our hands! We will practice our fine motor skills by printing and painting to make beautiful creations and We will be listening to different music and dancing like our favourite toys.



## Things to remember

- ✓ We have PE on a Monday. Please send in PE kits for us to keep in school.
- ✓ Swimming is on a Tuesday. Please send in swimming kits on Tuesday each week.
- ✓ We will be going on visits to the toy shops on Thursdays. Please send in warm coats and appropriate footwear for walking.
- ✓ Please remember to check Evidence for Learning on a weekly basis to see your child's learning across the curriculum.
- ✓ Parents Evening will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> October 23. More details to follow.
- ✓ Sharing Our Learning will take place on ...

## Key Vocabulary

Toys  
Play  
Teddy  
Dolls  
Bricks  
Playdough  
Paint  
Draw  
Cars  
Trains  
Bike

Here are the **Makaton signs and symbols** to support our key vocabulary - [Toys and Activities.pdf](#)



## How can you help at home?

There are lots of ways to support your child's learning at home. Have a look at the suggestions below for some ideas:

- ✓ Reading with your child using the resources provided in their Reading Pack.
- ✓ Using key vocabulary, Makaton signs and symbols when communicating with your child.
- ✓ Incorporating your child's Aspirational Learning Intentions into your routine at home.
- ✓ Showing your child how to play with different toys.
- ✓ Taking your child to the shops where possible, to practice exchanging coins for items.



## Home-School Communication

Home-school communication is important to us and helps us to support your child the best that we can. Here are some different ways to keep in touch...

- ✓ Writing in the home-school diary
- ✓ Emailing me at [mellingl@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:mellingl@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk)
- ✓ Coming into school for parents evening and sharing our learning sessions
- ✓ Commenting on your child's Evidence for Learning posts