

St Mary's CE Primary School
Middle Site
Strafford Road
0208 2496836

Willows, Oaks and Junipers

Dear Parents,

This is an outline of the subjects we will be covering this half term.

Topic	This will be a history focus: What was it like when the Queen came to the throne in 1953? The children will be learning about the Queen's Coronation, life in the 1950s for children and what has happened since the Queen has reigned.
Science	Plants - We will be studying plants by observing and describing how bulbs grow into mature plants. We will also find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
Maths	In maths, we will be moving onto multiplication and division using the 2s, 5s and 10s times tables. After this, we will recap odd and even numbers as well as techniques to help add three 1-digit numbers. Next, we will begin our unit on measure and the children will learn how to measure, compare and order lengths and we will look into the properties of 2D shapes. Weekly mental arithmetic will continue to take place which will focus on the recognition of the four operations and how we can solve different types of sums.
English	After half term, pupils will be exploring poetry relating to bonfire night and will be writing their own acrostic and shape poems. Following this our focus will then be on the two stories 'The Queen's Knickers' and 'Me, the Queen and Christopher' and we will write a narrative story based on visiting the Queen. The children will also look at writing invitations to special occasions linked to our topic.
PE	Outdoor Games: The children will be developing a range of multi-skills including: sending and receiving, aiming, striking and fielding. They will be developing these skills with control and choosing and using tactics to suit different situations. Indoor P.E: In dance, the children will be exploring ideas, moods and feelings by experimenting with actions, dynamics, directions, levels and a growing range of movements. We will teach the children a range of dances from the 1950's as well as themes related to the seasons and colours.
RE	Why are Saints important to Christianity?: We will look at a range of saints, what qualities they have as a saint and how we can use those qualities in our everyday life. Where is the light of Christmas?: Children will look at Jesus being the light of the world and understanding that light can guide us in the dark.
PSHCE	The children will be discussing their relationships and how to cope in difficult situations with friends.
COMPUTING	We are journalists – creating a postcard. Targeted skills will include research and word processing. This will tie in with our work on the Queen's coronation.
D.T.	The focus will be design and technology. The children will be designing and making a moving vehicle to transport the Queen in the 1950s.
Music	The children will be continuing to develop their knowledge and understanding of the interrelated dimensions within music. This unit, 'I want to play in a band', will teach the children to sing and play together as part of an ensemble.
Trips/Special Events	Windsor Castle – Monday 29 th October (Oaks), Wednesday 31 st October (Willows), Thursday 1 st November (Junipers) Parents consultation evening – Wednesday 7 th and Thursday 8 th November Individual Photographs – Thursday 15 th November Christmas Performance – 13 th and 14 th December FoSM Christmas Fair – 8 th December

PE days remain the same for all three classes.

Reading at home should continue to be a focus. Children will now start to receive weekly homework as well as spelling words.

We really appreciate parent helpers, but in order to plan effectively we find it works best if parents can commit to a regular slot, preferably on a weekly basis. We are now welcoming parent helpers, we will be in contact very shortly to those that have already emailed in with their support – many thanks.

Please note: you will not be allocated to your child's class in compliance to the school's parent helper policy.

We are available between 8.15am and 8.30am and after school on most days (apart from Mondays) if you have any queries or issues to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Egan (Oaks), Samantha O'Sullivan (Willows), Helene Curwen (Junipers)