



# Willow Newsletter Spring 2024

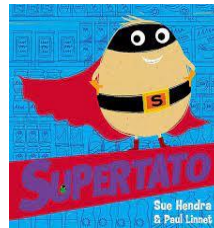
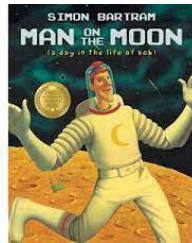
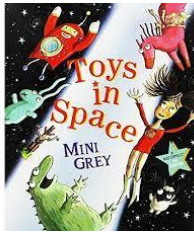


We wish all families a Happy New Year and look forward to working with you over the coming term.

If you need to pass on any information or have a question or concern, then please do approach one of us at the gate.

You can also message me via email or through Class Dojo. Anything urgent should be sent via the office.

Our topic this term is **“SPACE AND SUPERHEROES.”** Some of the texts we will be using in class are ...



## Reminders

Children must have a bottle containing water, NOT squash.

Bookbags are just for books, they do not fit inside children’s trays if they are full of jumpers, hats or covered in accessories.

We encourage children to be independent at school. If your child cannot yet dress themselves and zip up a coat please help them practise these skills at home.

Subject	How you can help at home
<p><b>English</b></p> <p>Reception will be working hard on developing their ability to write individual words using their knowledge of phonics.</p> <p>Year 1 children will be working on their sentence construction.</p>	<p>Reception. Learning to write requires lots and lots of practise. Please support your child by encouraging them to have a go at writing words. Emergent writers may need support with correct letter formation. If your child is reluctant then any mark making activities such as colouring or painting will help develop pencil control.</p> <p>Continue with completing the phonics worksheet homework. This is something that children should be able to do independently.</p>
<p><b>Phonics</b></p> <p>Phonics lessons are taught daily using the scheme Supersonic Phonic Friends.</p>	<p>Please continue to use the pink books that are sent home. This helps reinforce the learning that is taking place in school. We do ask that books are read 5 times. We will record when this is done in school. Don’t forget to write in children’s reading logs so they can receive a tick on their reward chart.</p>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>How you can help</b>
<p><b>Mathematics</b> Reception. Children will develop their understanding of numbers to 5 and will explore the composition of numbers. There will be lots of opportunities to practise counting and subitising (recognising amounts without counting). Year 1. Children will develop their understanding of place value with numbers up to 50.</p>	<p>With both year groups practise counting both forwards and backwards. Year 1 children should also practise counting in 2s 5s and 10s. Encourage children to look at groups of objects and to recognise smaller amounts within the group. White Rose Maths have a free app which has lots of activities. Search for 1-Minute Maths.</p>
<p><b>Science</b> This term we will explore materials and discover what their individual properties are. Children will have the opportunity to carry out simple tests and experiments. We will also look at how we can save resources by recycling. Later on, we will use our knowledge to design a costume for a superhero.</p>	<p>Help children distinguish between an object and the material it is made from. Go on a material hunt around the home and challenge children to find objects made from two or three materials. Encourage your child to place recyclable items in the correct bin.</p>
<p><b>History</b> We will explore the history of space travel and find out why Neil Armstrong is a significant person. Is there anyone in your family who can remember the moon landings? It would be lovely to hear any stories and it would help the children begin to understand what we mean by past.</p>	<p><b>Geography</b> This term our focus is on naming the continents and locating them in an atlas. We will explore the planet from the viewpoint of an astronaut using google earth. Children love using technology to explore so please help them to do so if you can.</p>
<p><b>Art</b> Our focus artist this term is Peter Thorpe. Using his work for inspiration, children will create their own piece with oil pastels.</p>	<p><b>DT</b> We will be making junk model rockets later on this term. Please save us any cardboard tubes such as pringle pots or similar.</p>
<p><b>PE</b> This will continue with our specialist sports coach on Friday afternoons. This term children will participate in gymnastics and dance. Please send children in wearing PE kits. If they have laces ensure they are able to tie them.</p>	<p><b>Music</b> Children will investigate pitch and tempo linking to our topic of superheroes. We will create patterns and superhero theme tunes, performing these in small groups.</p>
<p><b>RE</b> We will try and find answers to the following questions. How can we help others when they need it and why do Christians put a cross in the Easter garden? We will have our own mini Chinese New Year celebration in class and of course try pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.</p>	<p><b>PSHE</b> Children will learn about the importance of rules and practise communicating effectively with each other. They will learn new skills that help them develop perseverance and resilience in the face of challenge.</p>
<p><b>Forest School</b> Forest School sessions will move to Tuesday afternoons. If the weather is particularly bad we will do indoor activities.</p>	

Monday PM	Tuesday PM	Wednesday PM	Thursday PM	Friday PM
RE PSHE	Topic Forest School	Science Music	Art/DT ICT	PE Reading or Philosophy

