



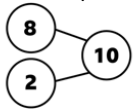
# Willow News

November 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all enjoyed the half-term break and enjoyed seeing the bright autumnal colour outdoors.

This term in **Maths**, the focus for **Year 1s** is to consolidate their knowledge of number bonds to 10 and writing the matching addition and subtraction sums. We will develop our reasoning skills by asking questions: What number do we need to start from? How many jumps do you need to make? How can you show this, in a part-whole model? (the 2 numbers which then total the sum).



The **Year 2s** will consolidate their understanding of place value to 100 and subtraction from a 10 (subtract a 1-digit number from any multiple of 10 within 100; eg,  $40-8=[ ]$ ). We will learn to answer: How many do you start with? How many do you need to take away? How can I use the bonds to 10 to help my learning? Future learning will be to add and subtract a 2-digit number (eg,  $63-35$ ,  $45-26$ ,  $82-24$ ) using the resources, such as Dienes cubes, to support our learning.

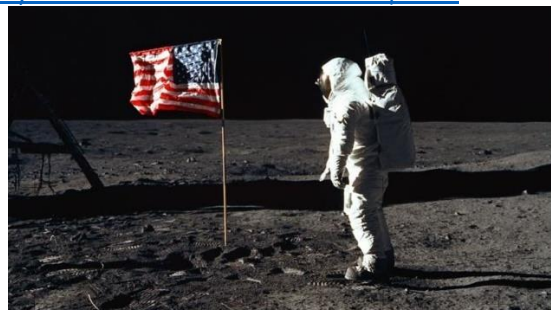
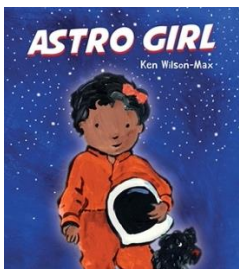
We encourage all the children to problem solve and to independently select use the class resources to help them with their learning.



In **English**, we are encouraging all the children to become more independent with their writing; learning to think and apply 'How can I get myself unstuck with a spelling?' (eg. use a phoneme mat, segment to spell skills, count phonemes or syllables). We have been enjoying our new story book '**Astro Girl**' by **Ken Wilson-Max**; the focus is writing commands and using 'bossy actions verbs' and developing inference skills to make predictions. Next, we will find out about some well-known astronauts (such as Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake) and how they 'made history', in order to create our own fact-file about space and astronauts.

YouTube: Astro Girl story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhxSX-GZgso>

Neil Armstrong Moon landing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwZb2mqIdOA>



We will expect the **Year 1** children to re-read their writing and explain what they have written to the adults and other children. This will help them to check that what they mean to communicate is clear to an audience. The **Year 2** children are learning to peer-mark their writing and to check that it makes sense, not forgetting capital letters, full stops and question marks!

We will continue to send the **reading** books home; we value the comments that you share with us that show how your child interacting with the book and any interesting conversations that you have. It is helpful for us to see if children get stuck on particular words. We hope that you are enjoying the new reading scheme that the school has purchased. The intention is that the children read each book several times in order to develop familiarity with the story and to build fluency as they re-read.

Our **Science** topic is '**Animals including Humans**', we will be developing scientific enquiry to raise questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways. We will begin to identify and name a variety of common animals and discuss what they eat (grouping them into herbivore, carnivore and omnivore). We will draw and label different parts of the human body and talk about how our senses help us understand the world about us.

Our **History** topic '**The Gunpowder Plot**' will encourage us to be curious about the past and show awareness of the differences of life in 1605 to life now. We have begun to explore how the Gunpowder plot is remembered, through the celebration of Bonfire night, and how to be safe around fireworks. We will find out about who Guy Fawkes was and how the Gunpowder plot happened, through role play looking at pictures and videos which encourage visual literacy.



Our **P.E sessions** this term are on a **Monday and Thursday** afternoon, please leave your child's P.E. bag on their peg during the week. Thank you for your support to encourage your child to dress and undress independently as this is helping to speed up class changing times and therefore give more for active P.E.

It was great to meet with you at parents' evenings, just before the end of half-term, and to chat about how your child is settling into class. We are always available in the morning before registration and at the end of the day.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Thomas, Class Teacher  
Mrs Hale & Miss Parton, Teaching Assistants