



**Last half-term, we enjoyed...** Welcome to Red Class and welcome to Willow Lane School!

The children are settling in beautifully. What a wonderful start! Last half term, we loved the Stay and Plays. Many children in the class loved to play outside with mums and dads. The mud kitchen, marble run and construction areas were very popular. Inside, some children loved to play with the lego and others loved making different flavours of ice cream with the playdough! We also loved our new teachers Miss Frankland and Mrs Turner visiting us at home and at nursery where we made them both proud showing how clever we all are. Well done Red Class!

**This term, we are looking forward to...** This term our topic is 'Busy Being Me' where the children can learn about what makes them unique and wonderful, their own personal history and how their family and their community also makes up who they are. To help with this, I would appreciate if you could send in a photo of your family, or just a favourite photo that the children could talk about. We will take photocopies and send this back straight away. Or you could email them to [s.frankland@willow.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.frankland@willow.lancs.sch.uk). It would also be lovely to see a baby photo of your child so we can talk with the children about how they have changed and how they will continue to grow and learn more. We will discuss this topic in more detail with the children as the term progresses and follow the interests of the children. The following half term we will be looking at celebrations. This will end with our Christmas performance, but it will also feature other festivals like Halloween, Bonfire night, Winter solstice and New Years as well as Diwali, the festival of lights. If there are any particular celebrations from your culture or your religion, we would love to hear about them so we can plan for these too. We can't wait to get to know all the children better and find out all about them. It's going to be a brilliant term!

### Key Vocabulary

- Topic words: **Family, community, unique**
- Behaviour for learning vocabulary: **confident, brave, resilient**
- Maths vocabulary: **match, sort, compare**
- Soon, we will be learning the phonic sounds and graphemes, **s,a,t,p,i,n**
- Book words: **front cover, pages, characters, title**
- We are working on speaking in full sentences e.g. '**Please can I...**', '**I would like...**', and using people's names when talking to others.
- If your child watches TV, *Numberblocks* is an educational programme that helps mathematical understanding, and later, *Alphablocks* is good for phonics

### Important days and dates

PE is on a **Thursday**. Please continue to wear active uniform (see the website for more details.)

All children will be taking books home next week. These will initially have no words but soon, we will be learning letters and their corresponding sounds. When children develop confidence with this, we will send home some decodable books. For now we will concentrate on developing vocabulary relating to stories by looking at wordless books.

Reading books will be changed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. This is to encourage re-reading books to help build fluency and comprehension. Thank you for reading with your child as much as possible and recording it in your communication books. Remember to bring these in everyday so we can pass on messages easily. Thank you.