



# Willow Class

*E-Newsletter*



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## IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 1st - Chinese New Year (Year of the Tiger)
- February 6th - 10th - Children's Mental Health Week
- February 13th - 17th - Bahrain Sports Week
- February 14th - Valentine's Day
- February 20th - 24th - Half Term Break

## Willow Class

Teacher: Laurie Waldhauser

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you have all had a wonderful break and are fully refreshed and ready for another wonderful term in Willow Class.

I was thrilled to see my lovely children come bouncing back into class after a long break as I had missed them all very much.

To kick off Term 2 we will be discovering "How the World Works" by learning about different animals and their habitats. So far this month we have enjoyed discovering animals that live in the desert, under the sea and deep in the jungle.



By engaging in various activities such as sensory trays with sand, rice and water, creating habitats and our own animals using our homemade play dough, working with shapes to complete puzzle pictures of different animal scenes and getting messy and creative in our Atelier with many different arts and craft projects.

Popular songs this month have been “Down in the Deep Blue Sea” and “Walking in the Jungle”, both of which can be found on Youtube if you would like to enjoy these action songs with your children at home together.

During our daily circle time, we have been working further on our recognition of numbers 0-10, basic shapes and colours. Circle time has also been a great opportunity for the children to learn more about different kinds of animals including some they may never have seen before. We have enjoyed lengthy discussions about everyone’s favourite animal and talked about why we liked those ones in particular.

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I have heard some amazing stories and facts from the children about animals they know a lot about and it has been fantastic fun to learn more together.

With the weather turning colder and a little wetter I would like to remind all parents of the importance of sending your child into school wearing suitable clothing, for example having longer trousers and a jumper or cardigan if necessary. Please also be on the lookout for any coughs, runny noses or fevers as it is the season for colds. If your child shows any signs of having any of these symptoms please inform us as soon as possible and let them rest well at home to ensure we keep the health and safety of all the students a top priority. In addition, if your child has a cough or a cold and is feeling well and would like to attend school then please bring a note from a doctor to ensure that it is not contagious.

### **What's Next?**

February will see us enjoying many different activities alongside our array of celebratory days such as Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Sports Week and Children's Mental Health Week of which the theme is Growing Together. For our Growing Together theme we would really appreciate your support in bringing in some seeds from home. Any kind of seeds would be fantastic and very much appreciated.

We will be focusing more closely on our fine motor skills by enjoying activities such as threading, puzzles, playdough and using one handed tools such as tweezers, tongs and paint brushes. Our fine motor skills are of utmost importance as by engaging in these different activities the children are strengthening the muscles in their hands needed to perform writing. As well as our celebratory days, we will also be learning about Transport & Occupation. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to have fun with role play and learn more about what their mummies and daddies do everyday at work, as well as thinking about what they would like to be when they grow up.

### *Arabic*

January was fantastic with the willow class , children are back to school again after the holiday, and we are all happy to be back to our Arabic classes routine. We were reviewing our Arabic learning and adding more to it, this month we were learning a new shape : ( mothalath - Triangle .with all the songs that we love to sing ( ٣ - ) new number (thalatha 3

Next month we will be adding more further to our numbers, shapes and colours with lots of art and crafts.

