Willows Weekly Update – Week Ending 5th February 2021

February is always a favourite month of mine! It means that austere January is over, February is lovely and short, the days are getting longer, the signs of Spring are arriving and we always have a half term holiday!!

As we draw closer to the end of this half of term we would like to help the home learners connect with their friends in school. We are, therefore, going to facilitate an additional Zoom call during the week. These will take place on Wednesdays and will be open to all children in each year group. The 'in school children' will attend via Zoom from their classrooms, home learners will be sent Zoom call codes via Tapestry and Seesaw. They will take place at the following times:

9.30am	Year 3
10.00am	Nursery
10.30am	Year 4
11.00am	Reception
11.30am	Year 5
1.15pm	Year 1
2.00pm	Year 2
2.30pm	Year 6

(We have designated different times for each year group on each of the 3 Zoom calls, so if families find 1 time a challenge to make then hopefully they will be able to attend the other 2.) If any parent of a child in school does not want their child to take part on the Wednesday call, please inform the office by 9.00am on Wednesday 10th February 2021.

Thinking about connections, we are hearing of a number of children who have formed their own 'home learning buddies.' They are 'meeting' on Zoom and collaborating on home learning tasks together. This is proving extremely beneficial for the children as they learn from each other and continue to develop their social interaction. Parents love it too, as it can free one household to get on with alternative jobs while the other supports the learning. It is also great for everyone's emotional wellbeing, sessions are reported to be calm and happy, with learning being fun and enjoyable. Why not give it a go?

In these challenging times I am trying to look for positives every day. Friday is a day when it is slightly easier to do so being the end of the week! Did you know it is World Nutella Day today? World Nutella Day was first celebrated in 2007. The idea for the day came from Sara Rosso, who was an American blogger who was living in Italy at the time. Her love of Nutella led her to celebrate its deliciousness! The fans of Nutella embraced the day with gusto and took the joy of the day to social media around the world! 2015 saw the transfer of the Day from Sara to the company that makes Nutella, Ferrero. Making this transfer allowed for the day to become even larger and ensured its longevity. The company has done some pretty creative things to support World Nutella Day. Visit https://www.nutelladay.com/ to find out more. There is really no wrong way to celebrate World Nutella Day. No matter how you spread it, melt it, share it or horde it, the joy that comes once you taste it makes it the *best* World holiday ever! To truly make the day special, why not try something new with your jar of Nutella? Have a look at these recipes https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/g2762/ways-to-use-nutella/ Just pick the one that wakes up your taste buds and give it a try. You could even enter the World Nutella day competition. Have fun!! https://www.nutella.com/us/en/xp/worldnutelladay2021/

So on that frivolous note I will sign off, wishing you a safe and healthy weekend.

Take care Mrs Warren