

16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

# Willow

Happy New Year To You All!

It feels so long ago but I hope you all had a lovely Christmas. Your children have returned to school full of exciting news about their Christmas and New Year celebrations. I have really enjoyed listening to and reading all about their Christmas holiday. It sounds like there are some extremely lucky children in our class!! We have a busy but quite short Spring term ahead with lots of new learning and exciting activities to pack into the next weeks.

English: In our Talk for Writing sessions, we have been exploring how to write clear and effective instructions. We began by studying the text *How to Care for a Pet Elf* before Christmas, thinking carefully about structure, bossy verbs, punctuation and helpful tips for the reader. The children have thoroughly enjoyed choosing their own fictional, magical creatures to keep as pets and this creativity has really shone through. They have produced some fabulous sets of instructions, showing imagination as well as a growing understanding of how instructional writing works.

Maths: In Maths we have now started our unit on multiplication and division.

Year 4

- **Step 1** Factor pairs
- **Step 2** Use factor pairs
- **Step 3** Multiply by 10
- **Step 4** Multiply by 100
- **Step 5** Divide by 10
- **Step 6** Divide by 100
- **Step 7** Related facts – multiplication and division
- **Step 8** Informal written methods for multiplication
- **Step 9** Multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number

Year 5

- **Step 1** Multiply up to a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number
- **Step 2** Multiply a 2-digit number by a 2-digit number (area model)
- **Step 3** Multiply a 2-digit number by a 2-digit number
- **Step 4** Multiply a 3-digit number by a 2-digit number
- **Step 5** Multiply a 4-digit number by a 2-digit number
- **Step 6** Solve problems with multiplication
- **Step 7** Short division
- **Step 8** Divide a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number

Additional Information:

- P.E. – Outdoor kit or swimming kit for Wednesday and indoor kit for Thursday sessions
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Hindu Temple Visit.

That's it for now! I hope you have a fun weekend!

Miss Fisher