Willow Class
Autumn Term 2026

How were families in Europe impacted by the events of WWII?

Maths
This term, the children will explore a number of key topics to develop their understanding of 'number' and the use of efficient methods of calculation. These blocks of learning will encompass: place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division as well as fractions.

RE/PSHE
In R.E. this term, children will explore the concepts of 'Belonging' and 'Interpretation'. In both units, children will have opportunity to reflect on what these concepts mean personally to them and consider their importance in other cultures. In PSHE, children will take a mindful approach to work on the themes of 'Being in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.

History/Geography
This term, the children will discover how and why families in Europe were impacted by the events of WWII, with a particular focus on persecuted groups on the continent. We will use a wide range of sources, including Anne Frank's diary, photos and documents, to discover how families tried to keep safe using the Kindertransport or by going into hiding. The children will develop their skills as historians as well as examining maps of Europe during the war. After half term, we will learn about Anne Frank's story in detail.

Music
We'll be listening to and using the works of Gideon Klein, a Jewish Czechoslovakian pianist and classical music composer to inspire our musical learning. He created a lot of his work after being deported to Terezin Camp in German-occupied Czechoslovakia.

French
Through the topics of 'Getting to Know You' and 'All About Ourselves', children will learn to express their emotions, talk about the future using two different tenses and describe their own appearance in French.

Home Learning
Home Learning will continue to be due and set each Friday. Children are expected to read to an adult at least *three times weekly*; complete spelling and times table assignments as a minimum; and are encouraged to complete the optional activities. See separate letter.

PE
The class will continue to take part in PE sessions on Mondays and Fridays. They will participate in game, team and skill-building within a variety if sports. Please ensure your child has appropriate PE kit and footwear with them on these days.

English
We will use 'Talk 4 Writing' to support us in writing a variety of different texts including non-chronological reports and narratives, all of which will be inspired by our learning in History. To begin the term, children will write diary entries from the perspective of a child who fled Nazi Europe on the Kindertransport. Children will develop their reading skills through daily guided reading sessions, class novel time and independent reading. Please ensure you read with your child regularly at home.

Science
This term the children will be revisiting their electrical knowledge by consolidating their use of scientific notation of simple circuits and components. They will see the effect of additional cells or components within a circuit and be able to identify current as a 'push' of electrons around a complete circuit. They will measure current and use their knowledge of making circuits to complete a practical challenge related to Anne Frank's annexe. In the second half term we will be learning about how light travels and enters our eyes and how we can use reflection from certain surfaces to aid sight.

Computing
This unit will allow children to learn about what networks are, what they do and how they connect devices through the software, Purple Mash. As part of their learning, children will consider the safety aspects of networks, including the possible positives and negative uses of networks.

Art/DT
Children will explore the work of British graphic designer, Abram Games, who created wartime posters for the British government during WWII. Children will compare this with the work of pseudonymous England based artist and political activist, Banksy. The class will use digital software programmes to recreate the artwork of Games in the style of Banksy or vice versa.