



# Willow Word



We have had a busy term in Willow class completing lots of lovely pieces of work, competitions in gymnastics, craft afternoons and a movie night.

Our Maths lessons have continued to brush up on different skills of the subject. In year 4, we have been using our addition and subtraction skills using formal written methods and mainly using the column method. They had to use their problem-solving skills to unpick word problems. In year 3, we provided the children with mental addition and subtraction strategies to work out calculations and within the final week we looked over time and time-related facts.

In English this term, we have been conducting a narrative style of writing using a variety of language skills. The children were exploring the story of 'Leon and the place between' by Angela McAllister where we read the story together. It is about a boy called Leon, who is wanting to prove to his brothers and sister that magic really exists. Leon volunteers to be in Abdul Kazam's magic show and gets transported to a mysterious world known as 'The place between'. The children discussed how they could describe certain scenes and how they could interpret the story themselves. They did a small re-enactment of the story



between Leon and the magician before he went into the place between. They used lots of literary methods such as adjectives, expanded noun phrases and prepositional phrases. We then moved on to a very visual story of 'Winter's Child', again by Angela McAllister. It is about a young boy who delights in the wonders of winter and wishes

for it to last forever. He then meets a strange boy with eyes the colour of ice and hair the colour of snow. They have wondrous adventures. But the long cold winter is taking its toll at home. Firewood is nearly gone, food is scarce, and Tom's grandmother ails for the want of spring. Hoping to ease his grandmother's suffering, Tom uses his beloved skis to heat their home a little longer. The mystery boy witnesses the sacrifice and realizes as Winter's child, he must leave to allow the natural order of the seasons to be restored. The children used the illustrations from the book to create their own image of the story. Using the skills learned, they wrote a diary entry through the eyes of some of the characters in the story, showing different perspectives and descriptions of the scenes.

Our History focus this term has been the Anglo-Saxons, where we have been developing our knowledge of this period. The children have been discussing who the Anglo-Saxons were and where they came from. The children have recognised what role the Anglo-Saxons played in history, and their positioning between the Romans and Vikings. We evaluated their culture, beliefs and how they were ruled.

Finally, our concept in RE this spring term has been food in cultures. We have been looking specifically at the rituals and routines of religions, specifically Hinduism and Christianity. We treated the children to a tasting morning where they tried a variety of famous foods



from specific religions. We learned about the New Testament in which the Last Supper took place and how Christians have used this story to commemorate Jesus and use it as a ritual called the 'Eucharist'.