

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum Newsletter

Class: Oak

Year: 3/4

Term: Spring 2024



Dear parents and pupils,

Happy New Year! I am very much looking forward to another exciting term in Oak class.

English

- Nonfiction writing- To write a chronological sequence of reports on an historic event using 'The Great Fire of London' by Emma Adams.
- Fiction writing- To write a story based on a voyage and return story pattern using the story 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett.
- To continue to work on the structure of writing, including paragraphs.
- Topic based writing activities- describing what you do when there is an earthquake warning.
- Poem- Performance poetry and continue looking at a range of styles of poetry.
- On-going spelling patterns and rules.
- To make sure to use full sentences when answering comprehension questions in reading.

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- Read with your child every day for 5-10 minutes. There is extensive evidence to show that reading to, and listening to children read has significant impacts on their learning across the curriculum.

Maths

- Place value and fractions
- negative numbers
- equivalent fractions
- Addition and subtraction written strategies
- Continuation of mental arithmetic strategies
- Length and weight measures
- Continuation of times tables and corresponding division facts
- Telling the time

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- Year 3 and 4 children will now be having regular times table testing. Any practise at home is appreciated. Please get in touch if you need any advice on activities.
- Logging on to 'Doodle maths' at home.

Science

- Physics: Rocks and Fossils
- Physics: Light

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- If you spot any rocks out on walks or in your garden, pick them up and have a go at describing them. Does the rock have layers? Does it have a shine? Where has it come from?
- Create shadows with their hands by blocking the light. What happens when you move your hands around the area?

Art and Design

- Drawing- Hokusai
- Printing- Rosie Lee Tompkinson

Computing

- Desktop Publishing
- Branching Databases

Languages (French)

- All about me- teaches children to follow instructions in French, identify colours, say what they are wearing and name body parts in French.

Music

- How does music make a difference to us everyday?
- How does music connect us with our planet?

Geography

Earthquakes- Why do some cause more damage than others?

- Identify and explain some causes of earthquakes and volcanoes
- Locate and describe some effects of the Christchurch earthquake of 2011
- Observe and record the distribution of earthquakes in New Zealand over the past two hundred years
- Describe and explain why New Zealand experiences earthquakes when they don't occur in other areas of the world

Religious Education

Judaism

- Recall and discuss the story of Moses and the Exodus.
- Describe how Jews remember Pesach.
- Make links with personal reflection - forgiveness, gratefulness, freedom and justice.

Physical Education

Children need to have a PE kit in school at all times.

- Gymnastics
- Netball
- Real PE: cognitive and creative modules. Children will learn to recognise their developments over a period of time and be able to adapt in different tasks or activities.

Personal Development

- Pupils will be following Jigsaw unit 3, Dreams and Goals, and thinking about their future aims, how to go about achieving them and how to keep going when it gets tough. They will then study unit 4, Healthy Me, that focuses upon how to form healthy relationships with others and also look at how to keep our body healthy.
- Using the schools 6Rs to inform personal development.

Skills Builder

- Spring term 1: Aiming High
- Spring term 2: Staying Positive

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- Encourage children to try something different and keep practising their goals.
- Continue to build on being resilient when finding things tricky or different.

Home Learning

- **Spellings:** children will be given a set of spellings **every week**. These will be set and tested on a Wednesday. These are sent home in purple books which need to be in school every day.
- **Homework activities:** all children will be given homework activities based upon our week of learning, every Thursday.
- **Reminder:** to be reading daily for 5-10 minutes and practising maths skills through using Doodle Maths or looking at times tables activities.

If you have any further questions regarding any of this information, or have any queries regarding your child's time in Oak Class in general, please do not hesitate to ask. I really appreciate all of your support and respect. I look forward to my final term with this wonderful group of children.

Many thanks,

Miss Dunsford

