

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum Newsletter



Class: Elm Year 1 Term: Autumn 2023 Topic: We are Britain/People who help us

English

Phonics:

- Children will take part in daily phonics lessons. They will continue to develop their Phonic knowledge and revise and consolidate phonemes covered last year from phases 2, 3 and 4 and common exception words. We will continue to use the systematic phonics programme, 'Little Wandle'.
- Phase 5 sounds and their alternative pronunciations - ay, ou (cloud), ie, ea (sea), oy, ir, ue, aw, wh (whisper), wh (whole), ph, ew, oe, au, ey, split digraphs - a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e. Apply Phase 5 sounds and common exception word spellings within correctly punctuated sentences.

Reading:

- We will continue to have a daily story time where children will be encouraged to listen to a story and join in with predictable phrases and to discuss the story, helping to build their understanding and comprehension of different types of texts.
- The children will take part in group reading sessions in school using the Little Wandle scheme, where books are selected to match to each child's phonic knowledge. These books will be shared in group reading sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and sent home with your child on Wednesday.
- A library book (selected by your child and not matched to their phonic knowledge) will be sent home weekly on a Friday for you to share with your child.

Writing:

- This term we will focus on letter formation, we will write simple sentences using spaces between words, capital letters and full stops. The children will learn how to use the word 'and' to join clauses and how to punctuate a sentence with a question or exclamation mark.
- The children will continue to develop correct letter formation through the Letter Join programme and daily writing activities. They will focus on a different group of letters every few weeks.
- Year 1 will have weekly spellings to learn which all focus on a particular spelling pattern, e.g. 'nk' words. These will go home on a Friday and children will be tested the following Friday.

Maths - We will follow the Hamilton Trust scheme for maths. We will learn about Number, Place Value and Partitioning Numbers before moving on to Addition and Subtraction. We will also explore 2D and 3D shape, measuring height and length using non-standard units, money and time. Children will also take part in a daily mental maths programme called Number Sense. This programme develops fluency in number facts. It is a highly visual programme, teaching core facts and strategies to enable children to develop a deeper understanding of numbers.

Science - This term we will learn about Animals, including humans and Seasonal Change. We will explore which invertebrates have made a home in the school grounds and describe their habitats. We will observe a woodlouse colony and also learn about different pets and what makes a good pet. We will discuss the changing seasons and explore and measure the wind, find out about the importance of the sun, make sun catchers and explore shadows using torches and puppets. We will develop our scientific skills by asking questions, suggesting answers, using simple equipment, observing and recording what we find in different ways.

Art and Design

Painting: As part of our topic to begin with the children will complete a Self Portrait. They will explore a variety of sized brushes and tools and also begin to mix colour shades and tones. We will also focus on the artist Kandinsky and have a go at portraying some of his artwork.

Drawing: In the second half of the term, we will be focusing on drawing and the artist Jason Gathorne-Hardy.

Music

We learn about Music through the Charanga English Model Music curriculum. The first half term will explore the unit 'My musical heartbeat' The theme for this unit is looking closely at pulse/beat. In the second half term we will look at 'Dance, sing and play' where we will explore rhythm and pitch.

Religious Education

We will be asking 'Is it possible to be kind all of the time?' We will look at examples of how Jesus showed kindness, give examples of how Christians show kindness and forgiveness and think, talk and ask questions about what they can learn from the stories.

During the second part of the term, the children will be exploring Christmas and the birth of Jesus.

Computing

Children will learn about computer systems and networks, the technology around us and what it is for.

They will also begin to create media on the Chromebooks using 'Paint' and they will learn about 'grouping data' - answer questions by sorting, grouping and comparing sets of objects.

Geography and History

Geography - We will learn about the four UK countries and their capital cities. We will learn their location on a map of the UK. We will explore Google Earth and look at where we live in the UK.

History - We will learn about Florence Nightingale and how she improved the lives of soldiers in the Crimean War and influenced changes within nursing.

We will learn to describe some key differences between Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole

Languages - morning greetings in a variety of languages. We will also practise simple vocabulary and phrases in French and learn some simple French songs/rhymes. We will participate in our whole school French Day.

Physical Education - We will continue to use the 'Real PE' scheme, concentrating on personal and social skills. We will learn to work on simple tasks by ourselves, to follow instructions and to practise safely and also to work sensibly with others, to take turns and share. Children will learn a range of fundamental skills to include gymnastics and dance using the Get Set for PE Scheme.

PSHE - We follow a programme called 'Jigsaw' and use 'Jigsaw Jack' in our circle time and PSHE lessons. This term we are looking at 'Being in My World' and next half term 'Celebrating Differences'.

Skills builder - Teamwork (Respect) and listening (1st half Autumn term), Leadership (Responsibility) and Speaking (2nd half Autumn term)

How to help:

- Listen to your child read their reading book at home at least twice a week and discuss the text. Share their library book and other books they enjoy.
- Talk about habitats and the creatures that have made a home in your garden or local area. Discuss your pets and why they make a good pet. What do you need to do to look after them? Observe your local environment as the season changes and discuss the weather.
- Enable children to help with everyday maths at home, such as measuring and weighing items, paying for things in the shop, looking at the time and discussing what happens at certain times of the day.
- Play board games as a family.
- Encourage your child to write names on birthday and Christmas cards using their phonics skills.
- Start supporting your child to access Google Classroom and Purple Mash on a computer at home, help them to learn their passwords to access the accounts. Help them to type their name using a keyboard.

The children have returned to school with a positive attitude and readiness to learn. They have welcomed the new reception children and have been really good role models. If you have any questions about your child's learning, or any general queries, please do come and talk to us or make an appointment via the school office.

Thank you

Miss Corwood (Monday and Tuesday)

Mrs Handley (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)

