

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum newsletter

Class: Oak Year: 3/4 Term: Summer 2022



Dear all parents and pupils,

We do hope that all of the pupils have had a good start to the new term and we are pleased to report that they have settled well back into school life.

Staff in Beech, Oak and Willow classes will once again be working with each other on a range of curriculum areas this term to plan and resource a variety of learning opportunities for the children in KS2.

Here at Whimble School, we are committed to ensuring that the children we teach make good progress and achieve their full potential, whilst also enjoying their learning and being enriched by all we have on offer at our school.

English

- During this term, pupils will be learning to use a range of similes, adverbs, adjectives and conjunctions. Also they will be looking at sentence structure and how they can use punctuation effectively to support their writing.
- In reading sessions, pupils will be analysing pieces of poetry, fiction and non-fiction writing. They will further develop their inference skills and also learn the importance of predicting, questioning and clarifying when reading words or phrases chosen by an author.
- All pupils will continue to learn to spell sets of age-related words, including the statutory words and those with specific digraphs. They will also develop their confidence with suffixes, prefixes and different word families. To further support them, we will spend time gaining more knowledge about the meanings of words that are used widely in curriculum subjects.

Maths

- Pupils are continuing to develop their understanding of fractions, consolidating their understanding of fractions in different contexts, equivalent fractions and learning how to add and subtract fractions.
- This term pupils will also develop an understanding of time, properties of shape and mass and capacity. In preparation for this, it would be great if you could practice telling the time and have a go at measuring, so they can understand maths in different contexts.
- In mental Maths sessions, pupils will also carry on improving their key number fact knowledge and their rapid recall of their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables and many corresponding division facts. Furthermore they are consolidating their understanding of number sense, which underpins all their mathematical understanding.

Science

- In the first half of term, the children will be learning about animals including humans. This unit recaps the children's learning from year 2 about how animals survive and stay healthy, and helps children to learn more about what makes a healthy, balanced diet. Children also explore the different types of skeletons that animals have and compare these. They discuss how to plan a fair test and measure and record accurately.
- In the second half of term, the children will learn about plants. They will learn the names of different parts of plants, and the jobs they do. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate what plants need to grow well, and will present their findings to their classmates. Furthermore, they will have chance to predict what will happen in an exciting investigation into the transportation of water within plants. They will work in a hands-on way to identify the parts of a flower, and will explore the different stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant.

Art and Design

- Learning in Art and Design will be about textiles and 3D sculpture. Initially we will explore different famous sculpture artists, with a focus on Brian Rochefort. Children will learn how to join two parts successfully and produce more intricate surface patterns and textures using clay.
- In the second half of term, our art focus will be textiles. Pupils will learn how to show an awareness and name a range of different fabrics. They will use a variety of techniques, e.g. printing, dyeing, weaving and stitching to create different textural effects, and apply decoration using beads, buttons, feathers etc. To help develop their subject knowledge we will look at fabrics from other countries.

Computing

- The pupils will spend time learning how to use the Chrome Books safely and responsibly. They will become familiar with the concept of sequencing in programming through Scratch. They will be introduced to a selection of motion, sound, and event blocks which they will use to create their own programs, featuring sequences. The final project will be to make a representation of a piano.
- In the second half of term, pupils will begin by moving a sprite in four directions (up, down, left and right). They will then explore movement within the context of a maze, using design to choose an appropriately sized sprite. This unit also introduces programming extensions, through the use of pen blocks. Learners are given the opportunity to draw lines with sprites and change the size and colour of lines. The unit concludes with learners designing and coding their own maze tracing program.

Design Technology

- The pupils will be taught how to cook and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating. Instilling a love of cooking in pupils will also open a door to one of the great expressions of human creativity. Learning how to cook is a crucial life skill that enables pupils to feed themselves and others affordably and well, now and in later life.

Geography

- Pupils will learn about why so many people live in Mega Cities. Exploring different cities around the world, children will be introduced to how people live and explore the advantages and disadvantages.
- Pupils will be taught to use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.

History

- Pupils will be developing skills, finding out information and analysing sources so they can work towards answering this enquiry question: How did the lives of ancient Britons change during the stone age?

Religious Education

- In RE lessons this term, pupils will be exploring what kind of world Jesus wanted. Children will learn some examples of stories from the gospels and their meaning, recognise what Christians learn from these stories and how it influences their lives, and make links between the stories and what life is like today.

Languages

- Pupils will learn key French vocabulary and phrases so they can then carry out simple conversations in French. They will learn how to say the days of the week, months and dates and also count on from 11 to 31. The 'Our School' unit will teach the children key vocabulary and phrases around the theme of school. They will learn vocabulary of school places and objects, they will take part in a PE lesson conducted mostly in French and will combine learning to express preferences.

Music.

- They will listen and respond verbally to questions about pieces of music performed by musicians.
- Pupils will find a pulse and move or clap in time to a variety of songs and musical pieces.
- They will also look at how pieces of music are structured and learn about different musical instruments.

Physical Education

- PE lessons will generally take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week, but may sometimes need to take place on other days, so please could your child have their **full PE kit** in school each day.
- Pupils will usually follow the units from Real Gym and GetSet4PE. The focus will be on invasion games and rounders this term while also encouraging pupils to be creative, social, healthy, confident and evaluative.
- Also this term we will be going swimming on occasional Wednesdays. Please ensure you have made a note of the dates we are swimming, so you can ensure your child has their swimming bag in school.

Home Learning

- Spellings will usually be issued on a Wednesday and lists will change weekly in order to allow children several days to learn and remember how to spell a particular group of words. There will be a spelling test each Wednesday to see how pupils are progressing with this. Lists can be found on Google Classroom to support practice at home. Whilst you are practising, it would be great if you could explore the meanings of each word. The more they understand the meanings of the words, the more likely they are to use them in their own vocabulary and writing, making their spelling tests worthwhile and more successful.
- Times tables activities are set on Times Tables Rockstars and Doodle Maths. Children can also log in to their Stick and Split account to further practice their multiplication and division facts. Usernames and passwords can be found in their reading record books.
- This term we are continuing to use knowledge organisers to help your child revisit their learning at home. Your child has been given one for maths, science and history/geography. Please encourage them to read these often and hold fun quizzes, to help them to gain a deeper understanding of the topic. Occasional topic homework will be set that will be linked to a specific subject area and there will be a return date on each activity.
- Please encourage your child to read every night, even if it is just for 15 minutes. We are trying to encourage all children to read at least 5 times a week. They can read their reading book, but can also be reading things like recipes and instructions, which can be recorded in their reading record book. There are so many ways to help children see the importance of being able to read and nurture a love of reading.

P.S.H.E

- Pupils will be following Jigsaw unit 5, relationships. In this unit they will develop their understanding of the relationships in their lives including family and friends. Unit 6, Changing Me will help pupils understand that animals and humans go through lots of changes between conception and growing up, and that usually it is the female who has the baby. Towards the end of the unit, they will identify what they are looking forward to when they move to their next class.
- Our class assemblies will also have key aspects of PSHE as their focus.

The clubs available to pupils are breakfast club (run by Mrs Large), the after-school club (run by Mrs Batten).

All of the pupils are showing a great keenness to learn and have made a pleasing start to the term. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please make an appointment to see me after the end of a school day at 3:30 p.m.

And finally... thank you for your continued support of the school's arrival and departure systems. The pupils are coming in calmly each morning which helps them to be ready to listen and learn in daily lessons.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss S Chalmers