

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum Newsletter



Class: Elm Year 1 Term: Spring 2022 Topic: Where Does Our Food Come From/Rainforests

English

Phonics:

- During the first half term we will continue to have Daily Phase 5 letters and sounds sessions, focussing on the sounds which the children are not yet confident with, in preparation for the Phonics Screening in June.

Reading:

- We continue to have a daily story time where children will be encouraged to listen to a range of fiction non-fiction texts to help to build understanding and comprehension skills.
- Children will continue to access the school reading scheme; teachers and teaching assistants will support this during the school day, reading individually with each child once per week.
- The children will also take part in 3 group reading sessions in school per week, these books will be sent home for you to look at with your child, along with their individual reading books.
- A library book will be sent home weekly for you to share with your child and you can access a weekly electronic book on Google Classroom, designed to be shared together.

Writing:

- We will focus on correct letter formation during our weekly handwriting sessions and throughout our curriculum learning.
- We will learn about writing short stories while continuing to focus on using spaces in between words, capital letters and full stops.
- We will look at adding adjectives (descriptive words) to our writing to make it more exciting.
- We will work on using conjunctions such as and and because to join sentences.

Maths

- The children will continue to work through the Number Sense Scheme, to help consolidate their basic understanding of the number system, to develop number fact fluency and to increase mathematical confidence.
- Our work on measure will include capacity, time and money. We will compare capacity using direct comparison and non standard units. We will use analogue and digital clocks to tell and show the time to o'clock and half past the hour. We will learn to recognise and name coins, total amounts, find ways to pay for items up to 20p and begin to give change.
- We will also learn about counting in 10s, adding two numbers together in context, comparing and ordering numbers, time, finding numbers 10/20/30/40 more and less, number bonds to 10/20 and beyond, 3D shapes, counting in 2s and odd/even numbers.

Science

- During the first half-term, we are looking at everyday materials and exploring changes. The children will observe and record the changes to a block of ice as it melts, consider ways to release frozen small world play animals from a block of ice, explore the properties of water by observing changes to puddles on the playground over time and begin to understand that water is a material, explore what happens to materials when they are heated up and why they change shape and explore water-proofing materials using wax resist painting.
- In the second half-term we will learn about living things and their habitats by exploring the school garden and observing and recording the different creatures living there. We will consider what kind of habitat different invertebrates choose to live in, then design and make a bug hotel to reflect the needs of these animals.

Art

During the second half of the Summer Term, we will be creating a Shoe Box Diorama to link with the theme of the rainforest. We will look at the works of Artist, Pui Wam Lim who specialises in miniature worlds.

Design Technology

During the first half of the term, we will be exploring different types of foods and where the foods come from based on the three main areas: farmed, caught or grown. We will taste and explore different picnic foods, make biscuits and finally, we will design, make and evaluate food skewers.

Music

We continue to follow the 'Charanga Music' programme and this term's themes are:

- What songs can we sing to help us through the day?
- How does music teach us to look after our planet?

The children will continue to develop musical skills previously explored whilst introducing improvisation delivered through songs that explore these social themes.

Religious Education

During the first half term we will be looking at what we can learn from stories:

- We will talk about some religious stories.
- Identify some of the feelings in the stories.
- Talk about some of the things that the stories teach believers.

We finish the term with looking at Judaism, and asking: What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God?

Computing

Creating Media - digital writing - using a computer to write and manipulate text, (swapped from last term).

Programming: Introduction to Animation - Moving on with early programming concepts. Using knowledge of commands and introducing algorithms as specific instructions; debugging when things do not work as was expected. Coding will be introduced using Scratch Jr and we will start to explore how programming works with blocks of code.

Geography

Our focus this term will be based on Kenya, looking at the people, landscapes and wildlife and comparing them to that of the UK. We will also look at Australia and explore its famous features and culture.

Languages - In the morning we will continue to greet each other in a variety of languages. We will also practice simple vocabulary and phrases in French.

Physical Education -

We will focus on the four areas below over the course of the term:

Applying physical skills - Perform a small range of skills and link two movements together and perform a simple skill or movement with some control.

Health & Fitness - Learning to be aware of the changes to the way they feel when they exercise and be aware of why exercise is important for good health.

Ball Skills - Children will learn to negotiate space safely with consideration for themselves and others, follow instructions involving several ideas or actions, persevere when trying new challenges, play ball games with consideration of the rules, play cooperatively and take turns with others, use ball skills with developing competence and accuracy.

Games - Children will practise and further develop their fundamental movement skills through the topic of 'around the world'. We will learn and develop these skills by playing a variety of games. They will also start to understand how to work as a team, take turns, keep the score, play against an opponent and play by the rules.

PSHE

Our topics this half term are Relationships and Changing Me. During these topics we will discuss the following:

Relationships

- I can identify some of the jobs I do in my family and how I feel like I belong.
- I know how to make friends to stop myself from feeling lonely.
- I can think of ways to solve problems and stay friends.
- I am starting to understand the impact of unkind words.
- I can use Calm Me time to manage my feelings.
- I know how to be a good friend.

Changing Me

- I can name parts of the body.
- I can tell you some things I can do and foods I can eat to be healthy.
- I understand that we all grow from babies to adults.
- I can express how I feel about moving to year groups.
- I can share my memories of the best bits of this year.

How to help:

- Practise Phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds and words at home - It is important for the children to practise reading these words as similar words will be used for the Phonics Screening in June. Phonics Play is still recommended, the free games such as Buried Treasure and Obb and Bob will support your child and build their confidence with reading words containing these graphemes.
- 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.
- Access Google Classroom and Purple Mash from a computer if device at home - there are activities on these platforms which will directly support the children's learning in school.
- Help your child to learn their passwords and enable them to log in independently, in Year 2 they will be expected to do this with ease.
- Continue to listen to your child read their individual reading book at home at least twice a week and discuss the text, please leave us a note in their reading record to let us know how it is going. Enjoy sharing other books with your child, including their group reading books and library books.
- Help your child to learn their spellings each week. These are sent via Google Classrooms as well as in the purple spelling book.
- Enjoy some sunshine! Getting outside and enjoying nature is fantastic for our health and well-being. The children all love going outside, even if the sun isn't quite so shiny!