

Sensational Summer

Curriculum Newsletter for Whimble Primary School July 2025

Welcome to the sixth and last edition of our curriculum newsletter in which we share some of the things the children have been involved in throughout the second half of the summer term. It has been a long half-term and the children and staff have been very busy throughout.



Beech Class

On the 7th July, Beech Class pupils went on their trip to the Bristol Zoo Project. They learned a lot about the bodies, lives and habitats of brown bears and giraffes when they attended two interesting animal talks.



They also saw a range of other animals: ostriches, wolverines, wolves, geladas, zebras, two kinds of lemur and meerkats. Many of these animals need help from humans at the moment so that numbers of their species increase in the future.

The pupils also enjoyed their day and received comments from the zoo staff for their respectful behaviour towards the animals.



Willow Class

Wow! What a term! We have been incredibly busy this term and have been fortunate enough to take part in a lot of extracurricular activities alongside our learning in the classroom.



Baking Bread in DT

Our budding bakers in Design and Technology have been busy this term learning how to bake bread from scratch! From mixing ingredients to shaping and baking their loaves, the children thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on experience—and the delicious smells filled the school! It was a fantastic way to explore the science and creativity behind food.

Transition Activities at Silverton School

Children have taken part in a range of exciting transition activities to help them prepare for the next step in their school journey. From meeting new teachers to exploring their new classrooms, everyone has enjoyed making new friends and growing in confidence ready for September.



Raising Money for the PTA at Cranbrook Junior Park Run

Well done to all the children and families who took part in the Cranbrook Junior Park Run to raise money for the PTA! There was a great turnout and plenty of enthusiastic runners. Thanks to everyone's support and energy, we raised valuable funds to help support school events.

Signing Year 6 T-Shirts at the End of the Year

As the school year comes to a close, our Year 6 pupils celebrated in style by signing each other's t-shirts.



Collecting Civic Award Certificates at the Presentation Evening

A huge congratulations to our Civic Award recipients, who proudly collected their certificates at the recent presentation evening. The event celebrated their dedication, community spirit, and hard work—and we're incredibly proud of all they've achieved this year.



We are very proud of the whole class for their efforts in our school play too (including the Year 5s!) – it's been lovely to see the children really take on a range of characters. Good luck to all of our Year 6 Leavers as they move on to their secondary schools!

Beech Class

Smoothie Making for our Skills Builder Project

For Design and Technology, we have studied seasonal produce and foods from different cultures. The children chose to make smoothies with ingredients that celebrated Caribbean, Asian and British cuisines. We carried out taste testing, with children from other classes, and improved our recipes, ready to sell them in a fundraiser activity at the end of the school day. We raised a whopping £104 towards the cost of our amazing class trip. Thank you to everyone for their support and helping to make our project a success.



In their art lessons this half term, the pupils have been busy studying a female artist from Zimbabwe who is called Amanda Shingirai Mushate. She is an abstract artist and uses both lines and areas of colours to express her feelings. After looking at some of her artwork, the pupils were inspired to create some abstract prints and have enjoyed experimenting with bold colour combinations in their work.



Elm Class

Our trip to Seaton Jurassic

We had a great day out at Seaton Jurassic learning about dinosaurs and fossils. We started the day by having dinosaur stories, going on a poo trail, learning about fossils in the fossil room and playing a game of guess who. After lunch, we then had fun in the soft play and went around the dinosaur exhibition. We finished off with making our own ammonites and fossil rubbings.



In our Art lessons, we have been learning the technique of 'weaving'. The children enjoyed exploring weaving first with different resources and then practised weaving with card first and then different animal shapes.



In DT, we have made our own fruit kebabs. First, we tried different fruits including flat peaches, kiwis, sharon fruit and melon, and then we planned what fruits we wanted to use for our kebabs.



In Literacy, we have been reading 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. The children enjoyed answering questions when pretending to be different characters from the story. The Reception children have designed and labelled a lunchbox for Mr. Grinling, and the Year 1 children have written more complex sentences, including the word 'so', based on the story.



In Science, we have been learning about habitats and food chains. We have looked more closely at habitats around us by exploring the school garden where we also looked for evidence of food chains. The children recorded their work by sketching and labelling what they found.



Oak Class

Oak Class have been busy creating their own fantastic comic strips, combining storytelling with art and humour. They've worked hard on developing characters, dialogue, and action-packed plots. You can view their brilliant creations by following the link below:

<https://read.bookcreator.com/etq8C9wPuvUvw1mLI5SW0rruzGL2/TeH0wrYOSbyglVHWGYda1w>

QR Code:

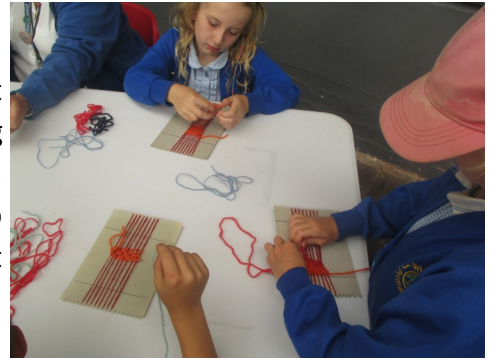
BOOK CREATOR



Oak Class Comics
Miss Dunsford

Oak Class

Oak Class had a fantastic trip to Coldharbour Mill, learning all about the wool-making process and enjoying a hands-on weaving workshop. The children made bookmarks and friendship bracelets, showing great resilience and focus. The workshop organisers were so impressed with their weaving skills! It was a fun, educational day that brought our learning about materials and local history to life.



In DT this term, Oak Class have been exploring pneumatics! The children designed and built their own moving models using air pressure — from lifting arms to popping creatures. They learned how air can be used to create movement and worked brilliantly in teams to bring their ideas to life. A fun and hands-on way to explore forces and design!



Ash Class

The children in Ash Class had a lovely trip to Exmouth where we learned about the items that should or should not be left on the beach and took part in a beach litter pick with the staff at Charlie's Beach School. After lunch and a play in the park, we walked to the RNLI Lifeboat station and took part in a tour and visited the shop. It was a fantastic day and we were very proud of the positive and polite conduct shown by all. Well done Ash Class!



In PE, the children in Year 1 and 2 have had a great time developing their speed, strength and agility with the Scrum Kids Coach through a mixture of teamwork and competitive games.



This term's Design and Technology project was to design and make a smoothie! We used a range of fruits and vegetables to make the smoothies with some being more successful than others in terms of taste! We learned a range of preparation techniques including peeling, slicing and chopping. Even if the final product was not to our liking, we still enjoyed the process!



In Art, we completed our printing project with these fantastic press prints. We drew a pattern onto a polystyrene tile, coloured in felt-tip and then painted water onto the paper. We had to lay the tile on top of the water to create the print.



Our most recent art work was all about textiles. We looked at the work of Rosie Lee Tompkins who was famous for her beautiful quilts. We created our own quilt style patch using cut out pieces of paper. We had to decide on the shapes and patterns and could be quite free with our choices. We then used applique to create a quilt patch with fabric. We chose a shape to attach to the square patch with glue and added a button for decoration. We then used our sewing techniques to make the patch into a small cushion. This required a lot of resilience and perseverance! We added a pouch of lavender inside the cushion to make it smell nice.



In Music, we have been listening to a variety of different musical genre from classical to jazz. We have learned to sing lots of songs and have used the glockenspiels as well as untuned instruments to accompany them. This culminates in a whole class performance with singers, dancers and musicians all playing their part.



We took part in a lovely workshop run by Lou from Recycle Devon. She taught us all about what we should do with our rubbish and, in particular, how we should try to keep plastics out of our seas and oceans. With help from a very knowledgeable 'pirate' (Lou in role), we learned about the types of plastics that get into our seas and how this can be very harmful to both the environment and the creatures who live there.



The children were very excited to share all they had learnt about plastic pollution in our oceans by hosting an Eco Fair for members of their families. Over the previous half term, they have been working in groups to complete our Skills Builder project. This involved developing problem solving skills to design and make badges, working as a team to create eco superheroes, and practising their speaking and listening skills to share our eco message. Thank you to all who were able to attend and for your generous donations to our adopt a sea turtle collection for WWF.



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