

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum newsletter

Class: Beech Year: 4/5 Term: Spring 2023



Dear all parents and pupils,

We do hope that many of you enjoyed your festive break and are having a good start to 2023.

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

English

- During this term, pupils will be learning to write and punctuate passages of dialogue in a range of contexts.
- They will also study the roles of different words in sentences and the use of other punctuation marks in them so they can use these as models for their own writing.
- In reading sessions, pupils will once again study pieces of poetry, fiction and non-fiction writing, considering an author's choice of vocabulary for effect. They will continue to develop their explanation skills when answering questions or sharing ideas, alongside summarizing and inferring further meaning when reading words or phrases chosen by an author.
- All pupils will carry on learning to spell sets of age-related words, including the statutory words and those with specific suffixes and prefixes. They will also spend time gaining more knowledge about other spelling rules and think carefully about the meanings of words that are used in curriculum subjects.

Maths

- Pupils will first of all focus on decimals, multiplication and division, looking at what happens to each part of a number when it is multiplied or divided by 10, 100 and 1,000. Then they will study measures in a variety of contexts and shapes including using coordinates.
- Pupils will continue to develop the speed and accuracy of their mental and written strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication & division, while also developing their problem solving skills in different contexts.
- In mental Maths sessions, pupils will be set tasks that require them to recall and use key number facts. They will also carry on rapidly recalling their times table facts, up to 12x12, along with many corresponding division facts, so they can apply them in many areas of Maths independently.

Science

- The children will be learning about electrical circuits and how to connect different components. They will also consider what materials make good insulators and conductors.
- Next half term, we will be focusing on the forces that act around us to include air resistance, gravity, water resistance and friction.

Art and Design

- Learning in Art and Design this term will be about creating textiles pieces and making sculptures. Pupils' artwork will be inspired by an artist and linked (where appropriate) to their work in PSHE and Geography.

Computing

- Pupils will continue to learn about how to keep themselves safe when online and how to report concerns.
- Pupils will also create a flat file database and explain why it is helpful for a database to be well structured.
- They will also learn to plan, modify and test commands to create shapes and patterns when making programs.

Design Technology

- The pupils will be understanding and using computing to program and control products with electrical systems. This work will also be linked to our work in Science.

Geography

- Pupils will answer the question Why are jungles so wet and deserts so dry?
- They will learn about the climate and average rainfall of the UK and of other key areas in the world.
- They will also further develop their map and atlas skills when locating rainforests and deserts.

History

- Pupils will revisit the unit of work they studied in the autumn term and recall facts when quizzed.

Religious Education

- In RE lessons this term, pupils will identify ways that Jews show their faith, understand differences in how people put their faith into action and express their views on how to make the world a better place.

Languages

- Pupils will be learning about the shopping experience in France. They will learn specific vocabulary about fruit, clothes and vegetables and role play conversations with other children.
- The children will also be learning about countries, continents and animals found across the world.

Music.

- Pupils will listen and respond to pieces of music when considering how music improves our world and what it can tell us about a community.
- Pupils will find a pulse and show they are able to move and clap in time to a variety of musical pieces.
- They will also look at how pieces of music are structured when learning to sing or play parts of them.

Physical Education

- PE lessons this half term will generally take place on Mondays and Thursdays each week, as we go to swim at Sidmouth pool. The following half term we will return to Tuesdays but may sometimes need PE to take place on other days, so please could your child have their **full PE kit** in school each day.
- Pupils will continue to follow the units from Real PE and GetSet4PE, along with having their swimming sessions. This term they will learn dynamic balances, develop key ball skills and create movement sequences.

Home Learning

- Spellings will usually be issued each Wednesday to allow children several days to learn and remember words. There will be a spelling test the following Wednesday to see how pupils are progressing with learning them.
- Times table and Maths activities will once again be set via Google Classroom, please let us know if you are having any problems logging in.
- Occasional topic homework will be set linked to a subject area & there will be a return date on each activity.
- Please encourage your child to read each night (for at least 15 minutes) and please do use the comprehension questions on your child's bookmark to discuss parts of their book with them. Your child can select a book from the school library to read and talk about at home. A reading comprehension will also be set on Google Classroom or issued on paper each week to be completed and handed in the following Tuesday.

P.S.H.E

- 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 stay positive along the way. 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.
- Our class assemblies will also have key aspects of PSHE and Skills Builder as their focus.

All the pupils seem positive about their learning at present and have made a good start to this spring term. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please make an appointment to see us at the end of a school day.

And finally... thank you all for your ongoing support of all we are doing in school to help them. The pupils are coming in calmly and independently each morning which is great and helps everyone to be ready to listen and learn in class.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss H Clarke and Mrs H Boyd