

Whimble Primary School
Spring Curriculum Newsletter
Elm Class Year 1



Topic: People Who Help Us/Once Upon a Time

English

Phonics:

- Children will continue their daily phonics lessons following the 'Little Wandle' program. They will continue to develop their knowledge of Phase 5 sounds and to 'grow the code'. They will revise and consolidate phonemes and tricky words covered last term as well as learning new spelling patterns for specific sounds.
- The children will begin their preparation for the year 1 Phonics Screening in the Summer Term.

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 group reading sessions with books selected to match their phonic knowledge and these books will be sent home for you to look at with your child
- A library book will be sent home weekly on a Friday for you to share with your child

Writing:

- We will focus on correct letter formation during our weekly handwriting sessions and throughout our curriculum learning.
- We will learn how to write simple sentences and captions, using spaces in 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.
- We will look at adding adjectives (descriptive words) to our writing to make it more exciting.

Maths

- We will be delivering daily Number Sense sessions to the children to help consolidate their basic understanding of the number system, to develop number fact fluency and to increase mathematical confidence.
- We will continue to work with numbers within ten, learning a number of strategies to know addition and subtractions facts automatically; strategies will include one more and one less, two more and two less, number ten fact families, five and a bit, knowing about zero, doubles and near doubles.
- We will also be exploring capacity and telling the time to the hour and half hour on analogue and digital clocks.

Science

- During the first half-term, we will learn about materials and their properties. We will be making the distinction between objects and materials. We will be testing the suitability of materials according to their properties focusing on flexible, rigid, absorbent and waterproof.
- In the second half-term we will learn about plants. We will be planting and observing seeds and bulbs. We will be identifying and classifying local trees as deciduous or evergreen and finding out how plants stay healthy in hot, dry or cold places.

Art

We will learn about the artist Paul Klee and develop our skills to make our own collage in this style of this artist. We will also develop our printing skills using a variety of tools and media.

Design Technology

Linked to our topic topics we will design, make and evaluate a house using a variety of tools and materials, thinking about how to make a structure stronger and more stable.

Music

We continue to follow the 'Charanga Music' programme and we will be 'Exploring sounds' and 'Learning to listen', explored through the following themes:

- How does Music make the world a better place?

We will listen to a variety of styles of music, find and enjoy moving to these pieces in different ways and explore tempo and dynamics. We will learn to describe music (e.g fast/slow beat, loud/quiet sounds) and learn to sing some new songs together.

- How does Music help us to understand our neighbours?

We will explore combining pulse, rhythm and pitch. We will respond to the pulse through movement and perform copycat rhythms.

Religious Education

- We will explore Judaism and how stories influence how Jews celebrate festivals.
- We will learn about how Easter represents new life.

Computing

- Programming: Moving a Robot - giving sequences of commands to program a Beebots.
- Creating media: We will use different digital painting tools to create a picture and compare this to one on paper.
- Use computer programs such as Purple Mash.

History

Linked to our Once Upon a Time topic, we will explore what a monarch is and where monarchs live. We will compare and contrast between different monarchs and how they ruled.

Languages

In the morning, we will continue to greet each other in a variety of languages, including British Sign Language. We will also practise simple vocabulary, phrases and songs in French.

Physical Education –

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

Cognitive - To understand and follow simple rules through the fundamental skills of dynamic and static balances.

Creative - To explore and describe different movements through the fundamental movement skills of moving and controlling a ball using different parts of the body.

Fundamentals- To balance, jump, hop, run, speed, agility, dodge, skip, co-ordination. To show collaboration, working safely and supporting others. To show determination, self-regulation, honesty, perseverance.

Games - To work safely and develop running and stopping, throwing and learning how to keep score, playing games and understanding the different roles within the games, to work cooperatively and learn how to take turns, to work with others to play team games.

PSHE –

We will discuss the following areas during the term based upon ‘Dreams and Goals’ and ‘Healthy Me’:

- I understand that if I persevere, I can tackle challenges.
- I can tell you about a time that I didn't give up and I achieved my goal.
- I can set a goal and work towards it.
- I understand that I need to exercise to keep my body healthy.
- I understand how moving and resting are good for my body.
- I know which foods are healthy and not so healthy.

We will continue to link our learning to our Skills Builder program to further develop the children’s understanding of our classroom rules and procedures, and how the Apple characters of Whimple Primary School, and the 6Rs help us to be part of our class and the wider school community. This term we are focusing on reflection and resilience.

How to help:

- Listen to your child read their group reading book at home and enjoy sharing other books with your child, including their library books. Instilling a love of reading will further support the children with their reading.
- 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 Purple Mash from a computer if you have a device at home – there are activities on this platform which will directly support the children’s learning in school. Helping them to learn their passwords and enabling them to log on independently would also support them with computing lessons at school.
- Practice Phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds at home – There is a fantastic website called Phonics Play which has free games such as Buried Treasure and Obb and Bob. These games help the children develop their blending skills and to recognise real and fake words.
- Help your child to learn their spellings each week. These are in the purple spelling book.
- Regularly practise reading and writing the tricky words in their blue books.
- Get outside and go for a wellie walk, talk about what you can see/smell/touch. Encourage children to use new words and vocabulary when out and about and at home.

Thank you for your continued support. Remember we are always available to answer any queries or concerns.

We look forward to a fun and successful Spring Term.

Miss Corwood & Mrs Handley

