

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum Newsletter



Class: **Elm Year 1** Term: **Summer 2026**

Topic: **Farming/Where does our food come from? Minibeasts**

English

Phonics:

- Daily phonics lessons following the 'Little Wandle' program developing 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.
- Continue to prepare for the year 1 Phonics Screening including 'Alien Words'.

Reading:

- Daily story time includes listening to a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to help to build understanding and comprehension skills.
- Group reading sessions with books selected to match their phonic knowledge and these books will be sent home on a Wednesday 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:

- Focus on correct letter formation
- Learn how to write simple sentences and captions, using spaces in between words, capital letters and full stops.
- Learn how to use the word 'and' to join clauses and how to punctuate a sentence with a question or exclamation mark.
- Adding adjectives (descriptive words) to our writing to make it more exciting.

What can we do at home to support?

- Read with your child every day for 5-10 minutes. There is extensive evidence to show that reading with, and listening to children read has a positive impact on their learning in all subjects. Please encourage your child to read regularly.
- Practice Phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds – Phonics Play 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 weekly spellings – this can be written and verbal
- Re-read group reading books and then ask questions about what they have read. Encourage good expression.

Maths

- Continue to learn a number of strategies to know addition and subtraction facts automatically; strategies will include revision of the ones learned previously and also include 7-tree and 9-square.
- Start to look at numbers to 100, including counting in 10s and what each digit represents.
- Money – coin recognition

What can we do at home to support?

- Counting forwards and backwards in ones from different numbers to 100.
- Count everything and anything! Stairs, steps, money, food, etc. Play games, e.g. dominoes, cards, board games.
- Identify coins

Science

Everyday materials and exploring changes:

- distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made;
- identify and name a variety of everyday materials including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.
- explore how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching

Living things and their habitats:

- explore and compare differences between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive.
- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited:
- describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other.

What can we do at home to support?

- Identify and name a variety of common materials at home or out and about
- Look at plants and animals living in gardens and local habitats

Art and Design 'Sculpture' and 'Textiles' - look at the work of artists Pui Lan Wim and Sandra Meech.	Design Technology Food technology - make a 'fruity' face using a variety of fruits.
Music 'Charanga Music': 'Having fun with improvisation' and 'Let's perform together'. Continue developing musical skills previously explored whilst introducing improvisation, delivered through songs exploring the social theme of helping us through daily routines. Explore sounds and create stories. Learn different notes and songs on the glockenspiels.	
Religious Education Pilgrimages - Explore religious and non-religious pilgrimage. Recognise that there are special places where sometimes people go to get closer to God.	
Computing Digital Writing: recognise the keys on a keyboard, add and remove text and identify that the look of text can be changed. Introduction to Animation: Using Scratch Jr to explore a range of commands and create a simple program. What can we do at home to support? • Use computer programs such as Purple Mash • Practice finding letters on a keyboard, type their name etc.	
Geography Non-European country; Kenya. Locate Africa on a world map, identify the country of Kenya, explore their climate, weather and animals.	Languages Morning greetings in a variety of languages, including British Sign Language. Practice simple vocabulary, phrases and songs in French.
Physical Education – We will focus on the following four areas over the course of the term: Applying physical skills - To perform a small range of skills and link two movements together. To perform a simple skill or movement with some control. Health and fitness - To be aware of the changes to the way I feel when I exercise. To be aware of why exercise is important for good health. Dance- To negotiate space safely with consideration for myself and others. To follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. Sending and receiving - To understand how to work as a team, take turns, keep the score, play against an opponent and play by the rules.	
PSHE – We will discuss the following areas during the term based upon 'Relationships' and 'Changing Me': • I can identify some of the jobs I do in my family and how I feel like I belong • I can think of ways to solve problems and stay friends • I can use Calm Me time to manage my feelings • 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 We will continue to link our learning to our Skills Builder program and further develop the children's understanding of the 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 reasoning and resourcefulness.	

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 summer term.

Miss Corwood & Mrs Handley

